Call for LCOTF Harm Reduction Rover Volunteers

We are currently seeking to expand our volunteer capacity with the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force's Harm Reduction Rover program.

Harm Reduction is a set of practical strategies designed to reduce the negative health consequences associated with drug use. The goal is to meet individuals where they are, without judgement, and provide them with services and resources. Harm reduction empowers individuals and affirms they are the primary agents of their health and personal change.

The ***Rover*** is a toolkit that contains supplies and informational resources for safe use. This includes Naloxone, wound care, a syringe exchange program, etc. In addition to supplies, volunteers offer training to clients in these different areas. Volunteers that accompany the rover are also prepared to connect the individual to community support services or treatment if the individual is ready.

There are two areas of need for volunteers:

1. Regular Rover hours, where volunteers are stationed at local soup kitchens or other community access points to provide these services on a regular basis. Currently, the Rover has regular hours in Winsted and Torrington with plans to expand.
2. Spike Alert response, where volunteers are needed to assist in a quick deployment of the Rover to areas that have been impacted by a sudden increase in fatal or nonfatal overdoses.

During COVID-19, volunteers have access to masks and gloves. Tables and cones are used for social distancing. Individuals who visit the rover are given a mask to wear.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like to discuss the opportunity further, please reach out to Lauren Pristo at (860) 626-3194 or Lauren.Pristo@McCallCenterCT.org