

# THE GARFIELD LAWNDALE VOICE

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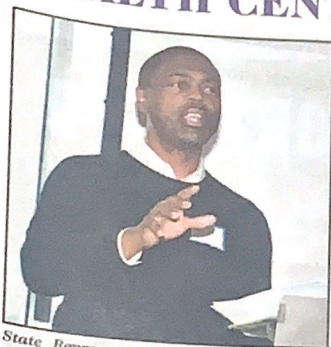
Chicago's Largest West Side Newspapers

Week of May 11, 2022

**BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER**

## WEST SIDE HEROIN/OPIOID TASK FORCE HOLDS MEETING AT LAWNDALE CHRISTIAN HEALTH CENTER

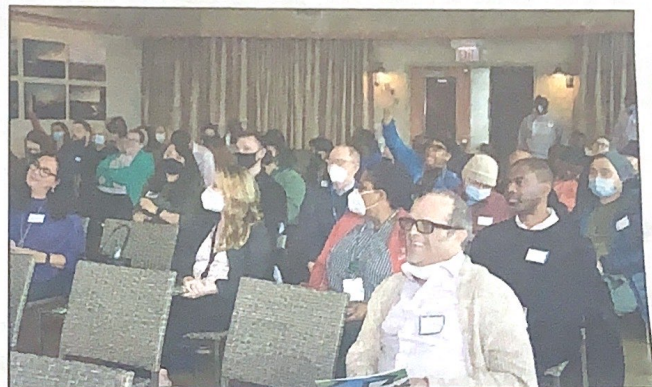
More on pgs.10-11



State Representative La Shawn K. Ford, Convener & Chairman of the Heroin/Opioid Task Force, congratulated agencies & their staffs on the front lines for truly making a difference and saving lives on the West Side. But, he declared there is still much to do because 30,000 people are misusing opioids, costing Illinois \$41 billion, and deaths from opioids is greater than gun deaths and auto accidents. (Photo by Brad)



Brittany Buckner, LCPC, CADC, member of the Drug Treatment Team explains that their philosophy is to meet their patients where they are and provide care services least disruptive to their lives. She said they work with St. Anthony Hospital to provide needed clinical services, they promote a 3-day stabilization program instead of an inpatient detox program, and are willing to work with families on an individual and informal basis as requested. Their method is Medicine Assisted Treatment with counseling. (Photo by Brad)



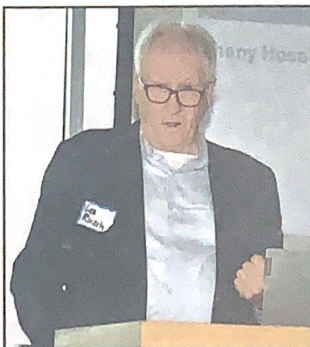
About 75 representatives of West Side Task Force member agencies filled the Skyline Room of Lawndale Christian Health Center for an in-person general meeting on April 20. (Photo by Brad)



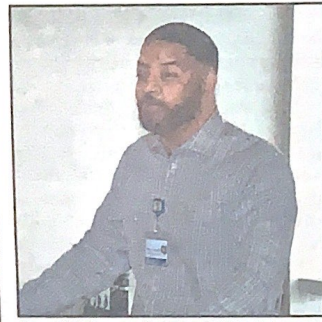
Dr. Benjamin Preyss, member of the acclaimed Lawndale Christian Drug Treatment Team, reported their approach is unique & advanced with no standard outreach services, no methadone clinic, no recovery home system, no standard drug detox program, and no family support groups. (Photo by Brad)



Dr. Wilnise Jasmin of the Chicago Department of Public Health presented a pharmacology report on Zylazine, an addictive veterinarian prescription drug showing up more often as an additive to street drugs and carrying a growing risk for overdose fatality. (Photo by Brad)



Lee Rusch, Director of the West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force, reported the activities of the Task force and its committees, and addressed the recent tour of the New York City Overdose Prevention Centers. (Photo by Brad)



Rev. Dr. James Brooks, CEO of Lawndale Christian Health Center, welcomes about 75 representatives from member agencies of the West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force for the first in-person meeting since onset of the pandemic to share reports on progress in preventing drug overdose deaths. (Photo by Brad)



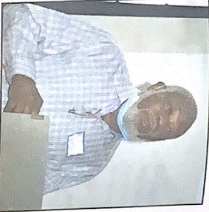
### U.S. REP. DANNY K. DAVIS ASSISTING WITH EXPUNGEMENT FOR NONVIOLENT OFFENDERS

Mary Reed, Constituent Services K. Davis, is assisting nonviolent or Representative for Congressman Danny offenders to clear their records. Recent

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changes in state law make expungement available to more people and easier to accomplish. For information on eligibility, required documents, and how to apply, call Mary Reed for an appointment weekdays, 1:00-5:00 PM, at 773/535-7520.

Week of May 11, 2022



Lathier Syta, Task Force Director of Street Outreach & Oversight, Presentation, Training, and Planning, and planned summer schedule. (Photo by host)



Yvonne Hernandez, Executive Director of Phoenix Recovery Support, and the Silver Lining Enforcement program. (Photo by host)

Week of May 11, 2022



Miranda Smith, Public Policy Associate for Threshold, gave an update on her agency's programs. (Photo by host)



Gail Richardson, Lead Outreach Specialist for The Presentation Partnership, Inc., introduced herself and explained her function. (Photo by host)

For information on the West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force, its programs and services, email [westsidetaskforce@yahoo.com](mailto:westsidetaskforce@yahoo.com) or [lathiersyta@yahoo.com](mailto:lathiersyta@yahoo.com).

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### DR. CHARLES BROWN IS SCHEDULING FREE OVERDOSE PREVENTION TRAININGS

Churches, organizations, and prevention trainings in-person and via ZOOM.

to provide emergency information to aid people suffering heroin or opioid overdoses and perhaps save lives may call Dr. Charles C. Brown, administrator of the overdose prevention training, to schedule free in-person or ZOOM trainings, call Dr. Brown at 773/535-7520. Dr. Brown is a certified trainer and psychology professor at Malcolm X College. Dr. Brown is also a certified addiction specialist and has been a speaker at various events. For more information on the West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force, please learn the steps to help a person on how to administer Naloxone, the overdose reversal medication. To schedule free in-person or ZOOM trainings, call Dr. Brown at 773/535-7520. Dr. Brown is a certified addiction specialist and has been a speaker at various events. For more information on the West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force,