

GCASA's Opioid Treatment Program

Know the Facts: Frequently Asked Questions

Why is this going into Batavia instead of the other locations?

Batavia is an ideal location to serve individuals from Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming Counties. It's central and much closer for people to travel than Buffalo or Rochester.

Why is there a new/separate site – why can't these services be done at GCASA outpatient?

Methadone treatment is highly regulated. Special licenses must be obtained from NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the Drug Enforcement Agency to provide methadone treatment.

Is this going to attract drug users to Batavia?

No, GCASA is expanding our current opioid treatment services to include methadone. There are people living in our communities (Genesee/Orleans/Wyoming) who need these services. We will be helping people already living here.

Will the clinic increase illicit opioid use?

The Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)/Methadone clinic should actually decrease illicit opioid use and crime. 25-30% of people who suffer from addiction to illicit drugs return to use if appropriate treatment is not available.

Will the clinic increase criminal activity in the area?

No, it's actually been demonstrated in other communities that criminal activity actually decreases by having methadone treatment available. Because patients will have more treatment options, they will be more likely to seek treatment. Fewer crimes will be committed to get drugs or money for drugs.

Isn't the clinic trading one addiction for another?

Addiction is a brain disease. Just like other diseases, medication may be part of the treatment protocol. Patients with diabetes use insulin. Patients with heart disease take a variety of medications. Patients with addiction are also helped by medication. Using methadone to treat heroin addiction is not trading one drug for another because methadone is a long-acting medication and does not produce the same euphoric effects. Also, it is prescribed as part of a comprehensive treatment plan including counseling if needed.

Does methadone make people high?

No, methadone treatment is highly regulated to ensure the appropriate dose. Patients who use methadone are able to attend school or work and not be "high."

How will GCASA keep our community safe?

GCASA will follow federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) licensing requirements for safety and security. Alarms will be in place on the dispensing room, medication dispenser, and safe where methadone will be stored. In addition, the safe and dispensers will be located on an internal wall and there are security cameras on site.

What will the clinic do to the value of my property?

GCASA moved to 430 East Main Street in 2003 and has been a good neighbor. Property values will likely stay the same or maybe even increase.

How will GCASA keep my children safe?

People who suffer from substance use disorders and do not get treatment for their addiction are more likely to commit crimes than those who are in treatment. Our patients are not dangerous individuals.

When is the clinic going to open?

GCASA plans to open the OTP/Methadone clinic in April 2018.

What is the maximum number of patients you will have at any time?

GCASA will serve up to 150 individuals in the OTP/Methadone clinic.

Are patients kept in the clinic or are they free to roam?

The OTP/Methadone clinic provides services on an outpatient basis. Patients are not housed in the clinic.

How do I complain if there are issues?

If there are issues or concerns related to the general operations of the OTP/Methadone clinic, contact Shannon Ford at 585-815-1803 or John Bennett at 585-815-1800. If there are issues with any of GCASA's patients, there is always a Director or Assistant Director available to talk to during business hours at 585-343-1124.

Where is the next nearest clinic?

Other OTP/Methadone clinics are in Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and Rochester.

Does GCASA plan to put in more than just this one?

No, GCASA only plans to open this one OTP/Methadone clinic.

Does GCASA have plans to expand to handle more patients?

There are currently no plans for expansion.

Batavia Office
430 East Main Street
Batavia, NY 14020
585-343-1124

LeRoy Satellite Clinic
5 East Main Street
LeRoy, NY 14482
585-768-4390

Albion Office
249 East Avenue
Albion, NY 14411
585-589-0055



The path to recovery begins here. Prevention. Treatment. Recovery. Support.