



January 25, 2024

PURPOSE:

To familiarize Belmont Abbey students and other area college and high school students, particularly those in health fields, with issues surrounding opioids and fentanyl and to encourage and empower students to continue educating fellow college and high school students about opioid issues through peer learning.

Honorary Guests:

**Bill Thierfelder
Lee Ann Kenny
Phil Brach
Thomas Hunter, III
Laurel Morris
Debra Corbett
Ted Hall
Dr. Todd Davis
Melanie Lowrance
Dr. Gregory Grier
Abbott Placid Solari
Margot Rhoades
Emma Pherson
Bill Gross**

OPIOID FORUM

Key Sponsors: Rotary Clubs of Gaston County District 7680

Dinner: 6:00 pm (Honorary Guests Only)

Event Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Belmont Abbey College

Gallagher Room – Pre Event Dinner/Haid Room – Opioid Event

Opening Remarks:	Whitney Norton, Belmont Abbey College Graduate, Past President Belmont Rotary Club
Master of Ceremonies:	Judge Jesse B. Caldwell, III, Gaston County, Ret. Senior Resident Superior Court Judge
Speakers:	Diana M. Elliott, Ph.D., Chair - Human Services & Sociology Associate Professor of Psychology Belmont Abbey College Michelle Mathis, Chair of the Gaston Controlled Substance and Director of Olive Branch Ministries Overview of Opioid Epidemic Delton Russell, Recovery Specialist, Partners Health Management - Mental Health Issues Maceo Mayo, RHA Health Services - Substance Use Prevention Andy Leonard, Chief of Police, Belmont Abbey College

Mission Statement: From the Director of Nursing

Belmont Abbey College's Department of Nursing offers excellence in ethical healthcare through professional nursing education, service, and practice. In this work, we are guided by the college's Benedictine spirit and Catholic intellectual tradition as expressed in the Benedictine Hallmarks and the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services.

The Opioid Crisis/Epidemic seen across our country has lent itself to many discussions occurring with the students in several courses with even greater focus seen in the Psych/Mental Health and Community & Population Health courses and their clinical components. Preparing our future nurses to Assess, Recognize, Identify and Implement plans of care which can often mean referring clients for more specialized care centered around addiction.