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ICYMI: “The Governor's Sincerity In Combating Drug Addiction Is Unquestionable

Thursday, September 1, 2016 Tags: [Addiction Taskforce](#)



In Case You Missed It
“The Governor's Sincerity In Combating Drug Addiction Is Unquestionable”
- *The Record Editorial Board*

Needle exchanges

Editorial Board
The Record

Governor Christie is at his best when he talks emotionally about the need to help those struggling with drug addiction and the importance of every life. The governor for the most part has lived up to that standard by championing drug treatment over incarceration and prisoner reentry programs.

The governor continued that approach Wednesday by signing a bill to expand the state's needle and syringe exchange program. And he even appropriated more money than was in the original legislation. The law Christie signed will keep exchange programs in Paterson, Atlantic City, Camden, Jersey City and Newark operating and will allow any municipality in the state to start one.

...

A statement by the governor's office noted that the ongoing exchange programs have served almost 22,000 individuals and annually distribute more than a million sterile syringes. The problem was that funds were drying up, resulting in fewer needles and syringes being distributed.

...

The governor's sincerity in combating drug addiction is unquestionable. Christie has talked publicly about losing a friend to addiction, and long before becoming governor he was active with Daytop Village, a substance abuse treatment center in his hometown of Mendham Township.

The bill Christie signed Wednesday stands to accomplish what the governor has advocated many times over the past six years: give a second chance to those who need it.

Full article [HERE](#).

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