

CLOSE TO HOME, THE FAMILY, THE BRAIN AND ADDICTION

Addiction Information Panel
Church of the Annunciation
7580 Clinton Street Elma, New York 14059
716 683 5254 • annunciation.cc

Wednesday, May 8 6:30-8:30

Selbert Hall

All are welcome!

Speaker Bio's.



Dr. Blondell

Professor in Department of Family Medicine at Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

Dr. Blondell specializes in work with withdrawal and stabilization from drug and/or alcohol addiction. He also works with patients addicted to prescription opiate medications, heroin, and prescription drugs used to treat chronic pain syndromes. He is the medical director of the DART methadone maintenance program.

Dr. Blondell holds extensive research expertise in Addiction Medicine, Health Workforce Development, and Medical Education. He teaches medical students, family medicine residents and psychiatry and addiction medicine fellows. Dr. Blondell also mentors medical students conducting clinical research, and is an active force in the development of addiction medicine fellowship programs.

Avi Israel Co-Founder and President of Save the Michaels of the World, Inc.

Avi Israel is the father of Michael David Israel, and with his wife is the co-founder and President of Save the Michaels of the World, Inc. Avi Israel is the recipient of multiple recognitions for his activism, including the 2012 WNY Chemical Dependency Consortium Community Award, the 2014 Public Citizen of the Year Award, the 2016 Community Crusaders Award from the Foundation for a Drug Free World, and the NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services Commissioner's Award in 2017. Israel's greatest accomplishment is the creation and assistance in passing the 2013 I-STOP Legislation and the Michael David Israel Laws.



Israel founded the Save the Michaels House of Hope and Community Resources in January 2017. The House of Hope provides training for Peer Recovery Coaches and sends them out into the community to work with family members of addicted individuals. The House of Hope also provides free classes on understanding the complexities of addiction, as well as assistance in placing addicted individuals into treatment facilities all over New York State.

M. Barbara Howard

Ms. Howard is a recovery coach providing support, resources and education to families that have been affected by addiction. Recently retired from Children's Hospital, Ms. Howard works part time with Save the Michaels as a Peer Advocate for Families. Barbara Howard, known by many as "Babs." She has been affected by addiction having lost two brothers to this disease and grateful to have a son in recovery. Babs has been a part of the recovery community for the past 10 years providing education, resources and support to families. She is passionate about de-stigmatizing the disease of addiction so that individuals and their families get the treatment and support they need and are entitled to receive.

Anyone interested is welcome! **TO REGISTER FOR FREE, CONTACT: Dr. ROSANNE HARTMAN AT hartmanr@canisius.edu.**