



U.S. Department of Agriculture

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Media Advisory

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USDA to Host Puerto Rico Opioid Awareness Roundtable

Please join U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Development, the University of Puerto Rico Medical Science Campus, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), The Institute of Research Education and Services of Addiction (IRESA); Administración de Servicios de Salud y Contra la Adicción (ASSMCA); Colegio de Médicos y Cirujanos de Puerto Rico and medical expert for an Opioid Awareness Roundtable. This will be an interactive discussion on the Opioid crisis in Puerto Rico and the efforts that the Federal and State Government has taken to address it.

Panelists: DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Reinaldo López; UPR-RCM, Auxiliary Dean, Dr. Juan C. Reyes-Pulliza; ASSMCA Administrator, Dr. Suzanne Roig-Fuertes; Hospital Panamericano, Executive Director, Lcdo. Astro Muñoz-Aponte; Puerto Rico Department of Health, Assistant Secretary of Health, Catherine De La Cruz; Universidad Central del Caribe, IRESA Director, Robert Peralta; Colegio de Médicos y Cirujanos de Puerto Rico President, Dr. Víctor Ramos-Otero.

What: Puerto Rico Opioid Awareness Roundtable

When: Wednesday, May 15, 2019, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Where: Amphitheater II, 3rd floor of the Dr. Guillermo Arbona Irizarry Building at the University of Puerto Rico, Medical Science Campus

Why: Considering the gravity of this emergency, USDA Rural Development is gathering stakeholders to explore how opioids are affecting Puerto Rico and what actions can be taken to contain the crisis. Available funds for this program will also be discussed.

USDA Rural Development is committed in assisting the economy and quality of life in rural areas. Through our programs, we help Puerto Rico in many ways. We offer loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing, health care, first responder services, equipment, water, electric and communications infrastructure. www.rd.usda.gov/pr

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