

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY DRUG FREE COALITION (GTCDFC) NEWSLETTER

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FREE NALOXONE KITS

Addiction Treatment Services (ATS) has free naloxone kits available free to the public. Naloxone is an opioid overdose reversal drug that can be purchased at pharmacies for anywhere from \$20-\$140. To pick up your own kit call ATS as 1-800-622-4810 or stop into their administrative office located at 1010 S. Garfield Ave. in Traverse City. For more information regarding how to use the Naloxone rescue kits visit

<https://addictiontreatmentservices.org/resources/rescue-kit>



A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

April was a month full of educational opportunity regarding opioids and addiction in the North West Michigan Region. I attended seven different conferences and events where I was able to learn and network with many people working to address this ongoing, complex issue. Topics discussed included: what addiction is and how to treat it, public safety's role in the opioid epidemic, naloxone, harm reduction, community efforts, drug trends, and the list goes on. It was great to see many familiar faces from our community as well as meet new people interested in joining our coalition.

Also this month I completed our **website!** Check out www.gtcdfc.com to see the newly launched site and send me any feedback you might have. This will continue to be a work in progress as we grow in our work.

Lastly, if you have not done so already, the Substance Free Coalition of NWMI, often referred to as the 5 County Coalition is looking for feedback from each of the local coalitions. The purpose of the survey is to gain information regarding resources and support this regional group can provide to our local coalition. By completing this survey, we have the opportunity to receive an award that will support our future work. Complete the survey here by May 8th: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/687QX5D>

Be well,

- *Rena*

DRUG TAKE BACK SUCCESS

Saturday April 28th was National Drug Take Back Day. The Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office partnered with the DEA to set up eight locations through Grand Traverse County where people could safely dispose of their prescription medications. The Sheriff's Office reported over 260 pounds of expired, unused or unwanted prescription drugs collected. For more information on how to safely dispose of medications visit <http://michigan-open.org/takebackmap/>. Thank you Grand Traverse County Sheriff Office!



Families Against Narcotics

Your **connection** for information, resources, and support.

FAMILIES AGAINST NARCOTICS

Note the Fan kick-off event that was mentioned in the March newsletter has been re-scheduled for Thursday June 21st at 5:15pm and the location has changed to Central United Methodist Church. The first FAN board meeting was a success and the local chapter can now be recognized as the Grand Traverse Area Families Against Narcotics.

NEWS AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- Americans Recognize the Growing Problem of Opioid Addiction: <http://www.apnorc.org/projects/Pages/Americans-Recognize-the-Growing-Problem-of-Opioid-Addiction.aspx>
- The Power of Prescription Drop Offs: <https://www.newamerica.org/public-interest-technology/blog/power-prescription-drop-offs/>
- Record Eagle – Mother, daughter charged in heroin bust: http://www.record-eagle.com/news/local_news/mother-daughter-charged-in-heroin-bust/article_98d9c493-8f7b-5116-8e9f-0a989d32ae23.html
- NPR – Anguished Families Shoulder The Biggest Burdens Of Opioid Addiction: https://www.npr.org/2018/04/18/602826966/anguished-families-shoulder-the-biggest-burdens-of-opioid-addiction?utm_source=npr_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20180422&utm_campaign=&utm_term
- The Health 202: How a fringe idea to solve the opioid crisis turned mainstream: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-health-202/2018/04/06/the-health-202-how-a-fringe-idea-to-solve-the-opioid-crisis-turned-mainstream/5ac61b3530fb043deaded75f/?utm_term=.1055dd57ae2f
- Northern Michigan Regional Entity (NMRE) has a new website full of educational information and resources. <http://www.drugfreenorthernmichigan.net/>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

May 17th 10am-4pm – Unite to Face Addiction Michigan 3rd Annual Rally & Advocacy Day in Lansing
<http://ufamichigan.org/2018-ufam-rally/>

May 18th 8am-2pm – Building Trauma Informed Organizations Across Disciplines, Keynote “The Role of Trauma In Substance Use Disorders. This event will take place at various satellite locations across the state.
https://secure.touchnet.net/C21782_ustores/web/classic/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=3001

Contact Us

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**Grand Traverse County
Drug Free Coalition**

If you have news or events you would like to share or are interested in participating in the Coalition, please contact Renaë Fogarty via email at Renaë.Fogarty@gmail.com