

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY DRUG FREE COALITION (GTCDFC) NEWSLETTER

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MYTH BUSTER

A recent question has come up about what to do with expired naloxone kits and how to get new kits. It is important to know that expired kits have successfully saved lives in this community and others across the country. Be sure to keep expired kits, at least as a backup resource. As mentioned in last month's newsletter, Addiction Treatment Services (ATS) has free naloxone kits available free to the public.

To learn more about drug expiration follow the link:
<https://www.cnbc.com/2017/07/18/the-myth-of-drug-expiration-dates.html>

A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

I hope you enjoy reading this month's newsletter under sunny skies since they have finally arrived in Northern Michigan! May was another successful month as the coalition continues to build a strong foundation. Our executive committee has been established and our monthly meeting has evolved into a place for member education and sharing of information. This month, we also created four workgroups: Medical, Treatment/Recovery, Law-Enforcement and Prevention. Under our Prevention workgroup, local students will begin working together to plan events and projects in their schools and community. The student group will be known as SPLT, Student Prevention Leadership Teams. Each workgroup will set actionable goals to complete over the next year. Stay tuned to hear what each group plans on doing!

At the end of this month, 7th, 9th and 11th grade students from Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) and Kingsley middle and high schools completed the Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPhy) survey. The data collected from this tool will be available to us in mid-June and will help guide the coalition in setting goals specific to the community of youth it serves.

Be well,

- Renae

NEW & IMPROVED MICHIGAN OPIOID LAWS

In late 2017, a 10-bill legislation was passed to help address the state's ongoing substance abuse and drug diversion issues. The new laws are effective as of June 1st. The link to the left provides an outline of each of the bills as well as a FAQ section. The new law ranges from patient education to prescriber requirements to participate in the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS).



https://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/LARA_DHHS_Opioid_Laws_FAQ_05-02-2018_622175_7.pdf

MEET THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair - Prosecuting Attorney, Bob Cooney

Bob is the elected Grand Traverse County Prosecuting Attorney. He has served in that office for nearly 25 years and was first elected in 2012. Concerned about the rise in opioid related overdose deaths and crime, Bob spearheaded an effort in 2014 that led to the formation of the Grand Traverse County Substance Free Coalition and a separate Five County Coalition that have helped raise public awareness about the problem, is introducing substance use disorder education in our public schools, initiated the formation of a drug treatment court, and, most recently, launched the first Northern Michigan chapter of Families against Narcotics. Bob serves on the Board of the Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals whose mission is to provide leadership to treatment courts throughout the State of Michigan.

Vice Chair - Dr. Dave McGraham

As the former Vice-President of Medical Affairs/Chief Medical Officer at Munson Medical Center, Dr. McGraham had major roles including in clinical quality initiatives, patient safety, physician performance, physician-hospital relations, and recruiting. Dr. McGraham also chaired a medical staff committee that began exploring ways to tackle the opiate epidemic in our region, which led to his involvement in the Grand Traverse County Drug-Free Coalition, and the Substance-Free Coalition of NW Michigan. Physicians have had a major role in creating the opiate epidemic, and must take a major role in finding solutions to it, and need to be highly involved with community and regional groups in order to have the most effective impact. Dr. McGraham received his undergraduate degree in biology from the University of Michigan, and his medical degree from the MSU College of Human Medicine. He is also a fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Secretary - Joe Soffredine

Joe has been a police officer for 19 years, and am currently with the Traverse City Police Department. He has been working for the Traverse City Police Department for 16 years. In his current position he is assigned to the Detective Bureau as the Traverse City Central High School Police Resource Officer. He has been in this position for 6 years. He has four children, Thor, who just finished his Freshman year at Alma College, Odin, who is currently a Junior as WSH, Freya who is a Freshman at WSH, and Vindarr, who is in the 7th Grade at WMS. He is engaged to Jennifer Maas, who has two children, Garrett Maas, who is graduating this year from WSH, and Ada Maas, who is currently in the 8th Grade at WSH. Joe feels that this work that we are doing on the Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition is very important, as he has seen first hand, opioid addictions greatly effect people's lives and their family. Meeting with the family where their loved one has died as a result of a overdose has greatly impacted him. Joe feels that as we the coalition move forward to continuously working to help curb this epidemic, the coalition can have an impact.

Treasurer - Gerry Morris

Gerry retired, after serving almost 30 years with the Federal Government. As a Vietnam veteran, he served honorably, off the coast of Vietnam, on the USS Kitty Hawk from 1965-1967. He has a Masters Degree in Organizational Management and has provided classroom and individual instruction at the graduate, undergraduate, and high school levels. Gerry is a former Traverse City Board of Education member, serving as President of that Board for three years. He was also the Finance Officer for the Board of the National Cherry Festival. He has extensive training in Zenger Miller Human Relations Training, Juran Institute Planning for Quality, Negotiation Arts and Skills United States Department of State, and is an MBTI Certified Instructor. Gerry is the Board President of Project Unity for Life Board of Directors. Project Unity for Life's mission is providing persons who have experienced a substance use disorder (SUD) and/or incarceration the opportunity to be a substance free, responsible, community member.

Youth Chairperson - Lisa Anderson

Lisa is a Traverse City native who graduated from TC Central High School and Alma College with a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts. After college she joined the United States Army where she spent eight years on active duty in various assignments as an Intelligence Analyst. Upon discharge from the Army she returned back to Traverse City where she worked for over twenty years in welfare reform and youth employment and training programming. After federal funding cuts that eliminated the majority of youth employment and training programs, she became a Prevention Specialist with Up North Prevention, an initiative of Catholic Human Services, covering Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau Counties. She is an active member of all three counties substance abuse coalitions.

Fiduciary - Chip Cieslinski

Chip is the President/ CEO of Catholic Human Services, which provides a wide range of social services within the 21 counties of Northern Lower Michigan. Chip and his wife located to northern Michigan May, 2016 after serving as COO of Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, in the Archdiocese of Detroit. He has worked for over 30 years as both a treatment provider and administrator. Chip has had a long standing passion for treating mental health and substance use disorders, particularly with the education and prevention component. There is an unmet need for both that he wants to work with other treatment providers and community members to meet.

NEWS AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- Featured in the May 16th newsletter from Addiction Treatment Services (ATS): ATS Launches a new Health Clinic that provides services including: Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), ambulatory acute care, and some general medicine for inpatient clients of ATS from outside the area and those that cannot get in with their Primary Care Physician (PCP). For more information contact Julie Moore, PA, ATS Physician's Assistant juliem@addictiontreatmentservices.org
- MLIVE – Michigan has 4th biggest drug problem in the United States, report says: http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2018/05/michigan_has_4th_biggest_drug.html
- Legal News – New data assessment provides information about patterns of opioid use, drug overdoses in Michigan: <http://legalnews.com/detroit/1457487>
- Up North Live – Syringe Access Programs' adopted in Traverse City: <http://upnorthlive.com/news/local/syringe-access-programs-adopted-in-traverse-city>
- CDC – Raising Awareness to Prevent Prescription Opioid Overdoses: <https://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2018/04/rxawareness/>
- Up North Live – Moms on a Mission: fighting back against the opioid epidemic: <http://upnorthlive.com/news/local/moms-on-a-mission-fighting-back-against-the-opioid-epidemic>
- National Institute on Drug Abuse – Million-Participant NIH Study Could Yield Important Insights into Addiction and Pain: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2018/05/million-participant-nih-study-could-yield-important-insights-addiction-pain>
- NPR – Deadly Delivery: Opioids By Mail: <https://www.npr.org/2018/05/24/613762721/deadly-delivery-opioids-by-mail>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

June 10th 6:30-8:oopm– Opioids are sweeping our community, Advent Lutheran Church in Lake Ann, 8481 Lake Ann Rd., Lake Ann MI. FREE event featuring a presentation from MSU extension, the showing of Predator and Prey by East Middle School Students, and a Panel Discussion. For questions contact Nancy Dow at nancy4hdow@gmail.com

June 14th & 15th – 2018 Statewide Tribal Opioid Summit, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Mt. Pleasant, MI <https://usaomitraining.org/files/EBF/2018%20Tribal%20Opioid%20Summit%20Brochure.pdf>

June 20th 9am-3pm – Office of National Drug Control Policy 2018 DFC & HIDTA (Drug Free Communities & High Intensity Drug Trafficking) State Meeting, Lansing MI <https://www2.cmpinc.net/DFCState2018/registration.aspx>

June 21st 5:15-8:oopm – Families Against Narcotics (FAN) Kick-Off Event, Central United Methodist Church, Traverse City MI. FREE event. The event will include key-note speaker, Judge Linda Davis who helped found FAN and Hope Not Handcuffs. Please RSVP for this event to Renae Fogarty at Renae.Fogarty@gmail.com

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 Renae Fogarty via email at Renae.Fogarty@gmail.com