

Grand Traverse County

Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

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A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

I hope that everyone is staying safe and healthy! Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, August 13 from 4-5pm via Zoom. Ryan Hannon, the Outreach and Housing Navigation Manager from Goodwill Northern Michigan, will be presenting at the meeting. Ryan works to end homelessness through street outreach efforts by providing resources and services to those in need. Ryan will educate us on the work he does and how this relates to substance use. I will send out the agenda and meeting details in an email as the date approaches. Everyone is welcome and I hope that you all can join us!

On July 29, 2020, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services issued a press release that included statistics related to the increased opioid overdoses since the beginning of the COVID-19 epidemic that emergency medical services and emergency departments have seen. The report also includes resources for people who have, or knows someone who has, an opioid use disorder, including treatment options, and resources for those in recovery. To view the full report, click on the following link:
<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339--535078--,00.html>.

WMed Medical Examiner Office's "Deaths Related to Opioids and Other Drugs – January to March 2020 Report" has been released. This report includes data for Grand Traverse County, click on the following link to view the report:
<file:///C:/Users/CHS/Downloads/WMed%202020%20First%20DROOD%20Quarterly%20Report.pdf>.

Be well,

Lauren

RESOURCES

- The State of Michigan, in partnership with the Connected Nation Michigan, has launched a [statewide Wi-Fi hotspot](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIMSP/2020/06/09/file_attachments/1470122/JIC%20News%20Release%20259_State%20of%20Michigan%20Launches%20Online%20Map%20of%20Free%20Wi-Fi%20Hotspots%20to%20Help%20Residents%20Lacking%20Access%20to%20Broadband%20Internet.pdf) map to help residents lacking access to broadband internet at home:
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIMSP/2020/06/09/file_attachments/1470122/JIC%20News%20Release%20259_State%20of%20Michigan%20Launches%20Online%20Map%20of%20Free%20Wi-Fi%20Hotspots%20to%20Help%20Residents%20Lacking%20Access%20to%20Broadband%20Internet.pdf
- The State of Michigan has put together a list of resources if you're feeling emotional distress caused by COVID-19, the page offers many ways to connect to emotional-support services without leaving your home: https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_99557---,00.html

- The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has established a warmline for persons with mental health conditions. The warmline will be operated by Certified Peer Support Specialist. Individuals calling the warmline will be provided with support by peers who have their own lived experience with mental health issues. They will be providing wellness support and a listening ear. Here is the link to the warmline: https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2941---,00.html. The phone numbers is (888) 733-7753.
- Matt Zerilli and Madie Begley from Addiction Treatment Services' The PORCH co-host regular Facebook live check-ins to help people stay connected and to cope with the current physical distancing requirements. For updates on upcoming live events or to watch recorded videos, visit and join the "The PORCH Community Center: A Project of ATS" Facebook group.
- The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has put together a list of resources for people with substance use disorders and those in recovery to address the unique challenges faced during the COVID-19 pandemic: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/covid-19-resources>
- The NIDA for Teens has a free online toolkit that offers science-based activities and resources on drug use and addiction for educating teens while they are out of school: https://teens.drugabuse.gov/teachers/out-of-school-time-toolkit?utm_source=teeneblast&utm_medium=email&utm_content=nf&utm_term=NPnp&utm_campaign=teen-NDAFW2020

NEWS AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services – Opioid Overdoses Surge during COVID-19 Pandemic; MDHHS Promotes Treatment and Resources: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339--535078--,00.html>
- WMed Medical Examiner Office – Deaths Related to Opioids and Other Drugs – January to March 2020 Report: <file:///C:/Users/CHS/Downloads/WMed%202020%20First%20DROOD%20Quarterly%20Report.pdf>
- The New York Times – In Shadow of Pandemic, U.S. Drug Overdose Deaths Resurge to Record: <file:///C:/Users/CHS/Downloads/2020-07-15%20NYT%20Article%20Overdose%20Deaths.pdf>
- NPR – Doctors and Dentists Still Flooding U.S. with Opioid Prescriptions: <https://www.npr.org/2020/07/17/887590699/doctors-and-dentists-still-flooding-u-s-with-opioid-prescriptions>
- Detroit Free Press – New Designer Opioid Linked to Overdose Deaths in Ohio, Illinois and Indiana: <https://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2020/05/18/has-new-designer-opioid-caused-overdose-deaths-ohio/5212580002/>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

August 6 6:30pm – Families Against Narcotics monthly forum meeting at F&M Park (corner of State and Hope Streets). Bring a lawn chair and your own drink and/or snack.

<https://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/copy-of-grand-traverse> *Note - this group meets the 1st Thursday of each month*

August 13 4-5pm – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, held virtually via Zoom.

Note – we meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month

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 Lauren Reed via email at GTCdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com