

Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

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A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

Happy holidays! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoys the upcoming holiday season. Our coalition does not meet during the month of December, so our next meeting will take place on Thursday, January 12.

Be well,

Lauren

STUDENTS TOGETHER AGAINST NEGATIVE DECISIONS (STAND)

The Kingsley STAND Club put positive messages on every locker and every teacher door for Kindness Week in early November.



STUFF A BLUE GOOSE

On Tuesday, December 6, our coalition will be collaborating with the Michigan State Police to hold a Stuff a Blue Goose event. We will be collecting new and unopened toys for Single MOMM, a local non-profit with a mission to ignite hope, healing, and confidence within single moms. We will also be collecting items for the Grand Traverse Basic Needs Coalition's (GTBNC) "Welcome Home Baskets", the GTBNC is a local group that provides basic needs items to those experiencing homelessness in our community. Please drop off toys and other items on 12/6/22 between 5 and 7pm in the Target parking lot (3130 S Airport Rd W, Traverse City, MI 49684).



COLOR FOR HOPE

We have received a lot of community support so far and our Color for Hope fundraiser continues! These 18"x24" colorable posters come in four unique designs, two Traverse City and two Leelanau posters. The designs include businesses, landmarks, and scenery specific to these areas. The local artist, Susan Alexander, spent hours in the natural areas, businesses, and landmarks of Traverse City and Leelanau County areas to capture the beautiful details. Susan Alexander lost her daughter to the disease of addiction. She is a passionate supporter of this cause and donated these posters as a way to further efforts to curb addiction and increase availability of resources related to education, prevention and treatment. All proceeds from the sale of these posters go to support SUD education, prevention, and treatment in our community.

The cost is \$15 for a set of two posters. The posters are currently available at both Oryana locations, ATS' The PORCH, The Red Dresser, Haberdashery, Premier Floral Design & Gift Emporium, Peninsula Market, Anderson's Market, Leelanau Coffee Roasting Co., The Botanical Gardens, and the AREA Posters Facebook page. You can also email me directly and I can coordinate a pickup with you. Cash, credit cards, or checks, made payable to Catholic Human Services, are accepted.

We have collaborated with the Traverse City Downtown Development Authority for this project. They will be promoting and selling our posters for \$20; \$15 will be going towards our fundraiser and \$5 will go towards the Downtown Relief Fund. You can visit their website (<https://www.downtowntc.com/relief/>) to purchase or stop into Great Lakes Bath and Body or Spice and Tea Merchants.

We have raised over \$17,000 so far and have purchased Naloxone Safety Kits that have been installed at the Woodmere (2nd floor), East Bay, Peninsula, & Kingsley libraries, Living Hope Church, Salvation Army, the 86th District Court, the 13th Circuit Court, the Goodwill Inn, the Friendship Community Center, Central United

Methodist Church, the Northwestern Michigan College Library, the BATA Bus transfer stations, the Traverse City Airport, the Children's Advocacy Center, and Boone's Car Wash.

RESOURCES

- The US Drug Enforcement Administration's "Just Think Twice" website provides drug information, news stories, personal stories, consequences, facts, and statistics. <https://www.justthinktwice.gov/>
- The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the United States.
- The State of Michigan, in partnership with the Connected Nation Michigan, has launched a [statewide Wi-Fi hotspot](#) 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.
- 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

- 9&10 News – Group Tackles Mental Health Issues at Traverse City Forum: <https://www.9and10news.com/2022/10/17/group-tackles-mental-health-issues-at-traverse-city-forum/>
- mLIVE – Michigan Among States to Receive 3 Billion Opioid Settlement from Walmart: <https://www.mlive.com/politics/2022/11/michigan-among-states-to-receive-3-billion-opioid-settlement-from-walmart.html>

- American Medical Association – Michigan State Training Helps Overcome Addiction’s Stigma:
<https://www.ama-assn.org/education/accelerating-change-medical-education/michigan-state-training-helps-overcome-addiction-s>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

December 1 at 7pm (doors open at 6:45pm) – Families Against Narcotics monthly forum will be held in person at Central United Methodist Church in Traverse City *Note - this group meets the 1st Thursday of each month*

Mission: To create a community-wide culture of awareness and action in the prevention, treatment and recovery of substance use disorders.

Vision: A substance use disorder free Grand Traverse County (SUD free GTC)

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

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