

Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

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A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

Our next coalition meeting is on Thursday, August 10 from 4-5pm. We will be meeting in person at Addiction Treatment Services' the PORCH (1010 S Garfield Ave, Traverse City), with a virtual option as well. Our guest speaker will be Ken Dail from the Michigan Youth Cannabis Action and Education Alliance (MYCAEA), he will be educating us on the work that this group is doing statewide. Everyone is welcome and I hope that you are able to join us! The agenda and Zoom details will be sent out in an email early next week.

I will be on maternity leave starting around late August. The coalition will still be meeting in person at Addiction Treatment Services' the PORCH while I am gone. There will not be a virtual option to join the meetings during these three months. Our guest speakers will be as follows:

- **Thursday, September 14: Kathy Sanders** from Before During and After Incarceration (BDAI) providing a program overview
- **Thursday, October 12: Ryan Hannon** from Goodwill Northern Michigan will educate us on the work he does with the homeless population and how it intersects with substance use disorder
- **Thursday, November 9: Kip Belcher** with the Michigan State Police will provide information on current local and national drug trends

Linda Solem will run the meetings while I am gone. If you have any questions about the meetings or the coalition in my absence, you can contact Linda at lsolem@catholichumanservices.org.

Just a reminder, the coalition does not meet during the month of December. I will resume facilitating the meetings beginning in January 2024.

Be well,

Lauren

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 \$20,000 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, Boone's Car Wash, the Grand Traverse County Health Department, the Interlochen Center for the Arts, Northwest Michigan Health Services, Fox Motors, Leelanau Senior Services, and Seven Hills.

WELLNESS BAGS

The coalition recently worked with Addiction Treatment Services to put together 30 Wellness Bags. These backpacks were filled with toiletry items and a planner and will be passed out to individuals when they are entering treatment.



UPCOMING EVENTS

There will be an Overdose Awareness Day Ceremony on Thursday, **August 31** at 6:30pm. The ceremony will take place in the “Walled Garden” at the Botanical Gardens at Historic Barns Park (1490 Red Drive, Traverse City). The event will honor those we have lost and offer hope to those in need. They will be accepting items for infants that will be donated to our local recovery community.

Addiction Treatment Services is partnering with Advent Lake Ann Baby Pantry for the 2023 Charity Recovery Golf Outing on Saturday, **September 9** at the Crown Golf Course in Traverse City. For additional details and to register, visit: <https://www.theporchtc.org/charitygolf>.

RESOURCES

- The Traverse City Police Department has launched their website for the Quick Response Team (QRT). It contains information on how you can obtain a naloxone kit in our area, how to use naloxone, making a referral to the program, and other information about this program.
<https://www.traversecitymi.gov/government/city-departments/police-department/community-policing/quick-response-team.html>
- The OpiRescue app helps anyone, including first responders, prevent opioid misuse and reduce opioid overdose deaths by addressing education, prevention, and tracking of overdose reversals. This free overdose support is available for Android, iPhone, and on the web.
- 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 number 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

- Up North Live – Northern Michigan Grappling with Rising Fentanyl Crisis: A Deadly Problem Hidden in Plain Sight: <https://upnorthlive.com/news/local/northern-michigan-grappling-with-rising-fentanyl-crisis-a-deadly-problem-hidden-in-plain-sight>
- News Channel 3 – Michigan Looks to Expand Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Treatment in County Jails: <https://wwmt.com/news/local/mdhhs-expand-medications-opioid-use-disorder-treatment-county-jails-settlement-funding-evidence-us-fda-community>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

August 3 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*

August 10 4-5pm – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, in person at Addiction Treatment Services' The PORCH (1010 S Garfield Ave, Traverse City); Virtual option: <https://zoom.us/j/95640237687?pwd=aXNTNoc2QUJ6WGpaQ3h3Y215WmFxUT09> *Note – we meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month*

August 28 at 5:30-6:30pm – Catholic Human Services will hold a Money Management – Early Recovery class on the last Monday of each month at CHS (1000 Hastings St, Traverse City).

August 30 at 5-7pm – Catholic Human Services (CHS) will hold a monthly Resource Roundtable drop-in event on the last Wednesday of each month at CHS (1000 Hastings St, Traverse City). Come and express your needs, collaborate with other community members and Peer Recovery Coaches, and connect with community resources for things such as recovery meetings, budgeting assistance, health and prevention, food and nutrition, & education or job search.

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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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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