

Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

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A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Our next coalition meeting is on Thursday, January 13 from 4-5pm via Zoom. Krysteena Burfield, the Director of Community Based Services at the PORCH, will be our guest speaker. Everyone is welcome and I hope that you are able to join us! The agenda will be sent out in an email early next week.

If you or your organization has expired Narcan, please give them to Pam Lynch. She is able to ship them to countries that do not have access to this medication. You can contact Pam at pam@harmreductionmi.org.

Michigan's Poison and Drug Information Center has issued a warning about fentanyl-laced marijuana resulting in opioid overdoses in multiple other states where patients insisted they only used marijuana. Read the full Michigan alert here:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f777ef4c9213f4b5800fc9a/t/61a639ce39c80d10d88f9cod/1638283726214/Emerging+Health+Threat-Fentanyl-laced+Marijuana_Final+%281%29.pdf.

The Department of Health and Human Services, through its Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), made critical investments in suicide prevention and crisis care services to help transition the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline from its current 10-digit number to a three-digit dialing code – 988. Read the full announcement here: https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/202112201100?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=a278103bbe-SAMHSA_Announcement_2021_12_20_1600585&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ee1c4b138c-a278103bbe-168930066.

Be well,

Lauren

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Please welcome the following individuals to our board:

- Suzy Cline
- Dr. Lyn Conlon

- Dave Freedman
- Lou Gamalski
- Diane Goodyear
- Chief Jeff O'Brien

STUFF A BLUE GOOSE

The Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition collaborated with the Michigan State Police on December 8 to hold a Stuff a Blue Goose event. With the help from some of our Students Together against Negative Decisions (STAND) Club students, we filled the back of two police cars with the toys that we collected. The toys were donated to Single MOMM and were given to children for Christmas.



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, Solitude Float and Wellness Spa, 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 \$9,800 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, and the Traverse City Airport.

RESOURCES

- 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 – Color for Hope Fundraiser to Help Support Addiction Services in Northern Michigan: <https://www.9and10news.com/2021/12/29/color-for-hope-fundraiser-to-help-support-addiction-services-in-northern-michigan/>

- National Institutes of Health – Percentage of Adolescents Reporting Drug Use Decreased Significantly in 2021 as the Covid-19 Pandemic Endured: <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/percentage-adolescents-reporting-drug-use-decreased-significantly-2021-covid-19-pandemic-endured>
- American Medical Association – How Language Makes a Difference in Treating Substance Use Disorder: <https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/overdose-epidemic/how-language-makes-difference-treating-substance-use-disorder>
- Wood TV – How Much Have Michigan Overdose Deaths Increased During Covid-19?: <https://www.woodtv.com/news/michigan/how-much-have-michigan-overdose-deaths-increased-during-covid-19/>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

January 6 6:30pm – Families Against Narcotics monthly forum will be held in person at Central United Methodist Church in Traverse City (face masks required) and can also be attended virtually on Zoom *Note - this group meets the 1st Thursday of each month*

January 13 4-5pm – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, held virtually – Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/95640237687?pwd=aXNTNoc2QUJ6WGpaQ3h3Y215WmFxUTo9> *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