

# Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

Volume 4 / Issue 9 / September 2021

## A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

Our next coalition meeting is on Thursday, October 14 from 4-5pm via Zoom. Chief O'Brien from TCPD and Jean Derenzy from the DDA will be our guest speakers to discuss the TC Healthier Drinking Culture Initiative. 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.

On September 27, the Drug Enforcement Administration issued a Public Safety Alert on the sharp increase in fake prescription pills containing fentanyl and meth. To read the full press release visit <https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2021/09/27/dea-issues-public-safety-alert>.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Co-Occurring Disorders Conference will be held on November 4, 2021 from 8am-4:30pm. The conference is entitled "**The Tangled Web: Trauma, Trafficking, and Addictions.**" The featured speakers are Dr. Kevin McCauley and Rebecca McDonald, MA. The conference can be attended either in-person at the NMC Hagerty Center in Traverse City or virtually. For more information and to register visit <https://mynorthtickets.com/events/the-tangled-web-trauma-trafficking-and-addictions-11-4-2021>.

Families Against Narcotics (FAN) Grand Traverse Chapter is looking to hire a coordinator to work 19 hours per week. For more information, please email [traverse@familiesagainstnarcotics.org](mailto:traverse@familiesagainstnarcotics.org).

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, 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 \$8,000 so far and have purchased Naloxone Safety Kits that have been installed at the Woodmere (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), East Bay, Peninsula, & Kingsley libraries, Living Hope Church, Salvation Army, the 86<sup>th</sup> District Court, the 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, and the Goodwill Inn.

## STUDENTS TOGETHER AGAINST NEGATIVE DECISIONS (STAND)

We will be starting a 6-week student Photovoice project at Kingsley High School in October. Photovoice is a visual research methodology that allows participants to use photography to document, reflect upon, and communicate issues of concern. This project will focus on youth perspective on substance use. We will meet weekly with a small group of students to provide SUD education, teach photography skills, discuss the students' photos, and assign a photo assignment for the following week.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The Interlochen Public Library is hosting LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY, a book discussion series about recovery from addiction featuring a different book each session with a group discussion in the Interlochen Public Library Community Room. The date of the last session is:

- Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup> 5-7pm

Books are free to the community but copies are limited so stop by the library soon to register and get your copy. Registration is not required to attend the discussions. Refreshments and childcare will be provided.

## 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](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](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](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](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

- Second Wave Michigan – “Just Keep that Person Alive”: Michigan’s Harm Reduction Strategies Prevent Opioid Overdoses: <https://www.secondwavemedia.com/features/harmreduction08112021.aspx>
- University of Michigan News – U-M Lab Awarded \$13.2M Grant to Help Thwart Substance Abuse Disorders: <https://news.umich.edu/u-m-lab-awarded-13-2m-grant-to-help-thwart-substance-abuse-disorders/>
- 9&10 News – Traverse City Healthier Drinking Culture Team Presents Results After Year Long Study: <https://www.9and10news.com/2021/09/27/traverse-city-healthier-drinking-culture-team-presents-results-after-year-long-study/>

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

**October 7 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 (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87688273789?pwd=cjRwTXpYUTlMSWlrajVaMDJGN1FQTO9>)

\*Note - this group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month\*

**October 14 4-5pm** – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, held virtually – Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/95640237687?pwd=aXNTNoc2QUJ6WGpaQ3h3Y215WmFmUT09> \*Note – we meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month\*

## Contact Us

**Lauren Reed, MPH**

Coordinator

Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition

Email: [GTCdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com](mailto:GTCdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com)

Website: [www.gtcdfc.com](http://www.gtcdfc.com)



**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](mailto:GTCdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com)*