

# Grand Traverse County

## Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

Volume 6 / Issue 12 / December 2023

### A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday season! Our next coalition meeting is on Thursday, January 11 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 speakers will be Emily Godfrey, the Public Health Analyst for Michigan with Overdose Response Strategy, and Bob Kerr, the Drug Intelligence Officer for Michigan with Overdose Response Strategy, who will educate us on the work that they do. 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.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services recently launched a "Find a Syringe Service Program" webpage. Visit the website at <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/keep-mi-healthy/mentalhealth/drugcontrol/syringe-service-programs/find-ssp-near-me/find-a-syringe-service-program-near-me> to view maps of SSP locations and Narcan vending machines in Michigan. To update SSP and naloxone distribution sites, email [MDHHS-SyringeAccess@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-SyringeAccess@michigan.gov).

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) launched a new data analysis tool called DataTools. DataTools is a consolidated and modernized data system that allows users to access data that used to be housed in the Public-Use and Restricted-Use Data Analysis Systems in a more intuitive and user-friendly way. Step-by-step guides and FAQs are available to help navigate the new pages and screens in the application. Visit at [https://datatools.samhsa.gov/?utm\\_source=SAMHSA&utm\\_campaign=3cbd395252-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2023\\_10\\_23\\_08\\_31&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_3cbd395252-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://datatools.samhsa.gov/?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=3cbd395252-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_10_23_08_31&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3cbd395252-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D).

SAMHSA has released the 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health results, accompanied by a newly offered companion infographic ([https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2022-nsduh-infographic?utm\\_source=SAMHSA&utm\\_campaign=a79c9bff7c-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2023\\_09\\_12\\_04\\_27&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_a79c9bff7c-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2022-nsduh-infographic?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=a79c9bff7c-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_09_12_04_27&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a79c9bff7c-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)). View the results at [https://www.samhsa.gov/data/release/2022-national-survey-drug-use-and-health-nsduh-releases?utm\\_source=SAMHSA&utm\\_campaign=a79c9bff7c-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2023\\_09\\_12\\_04\\_27&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_a79c9bff7c-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.samhsa.gov/data/release/2022-national-survey-drug-use-and-health-nsduh-releases?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=a79c9bff7c-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_09_12_04_27&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a79c9bff7c-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D).

Lt Kip Belcher with the Michigan State Police has shared the following information about carfentanil, a drug commonly used to tranquilize large animals such as elephants and rhinos.

- <https://www.millenniumhealth.com/signalsalert/carfentanil/>

- <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Media/News-Releases/September-2023/Warning-Issued-for-Reemerging-Synthetic-Opioid-in>

On December 8, 2023, SAMHSA announced that the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development issued a joint letter to public health departments and health care systems to partner with housing providers, community development organizations, and other housing agencies to help expand access to naloxone and other life-saving overdose reversal medications in the communities they serve. Read the full press release here: [https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20231208/biden-harris-administration-calls-housing-community-help-expand-access-life-saving-opioid-overdose-reversal-medications-like-naloxone?utm\\_source=SAMHSA&utm\\_campaign=7488fece9b-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2023\\_12\\_08\\_02\\_24&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_7488fece9b-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20231208/biden-harris-administration-calls-housing-community-help-expand-access-life-saving-opioid-overdose-reversal-medications-like-naloxone?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=7488fece9b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_12_08_02_24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_7488fece9b-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

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 \$8 per poster. The posters are currently available at both Oryana locations, ATS' the PORCH, The Red Dresser, Robert Frost, Peninsula Market, both Oleson locations, Burritt's Fresh Market, 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 raised over \$25,000 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, 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.

We recently donated \$5,000 to Addiction Treatment Service's Phoenix house to help support women in recovery. Women can bring their children with them to Phoenix House, so the donation will also support the children that live there. The Grand Traverse Pie Company matched with a \$3,000 donation. We are planning to make another \$5,000 donation in the near future and are seeking community members and organizations

that would like to match our donation at any level. If interested in making a donation, please contact Lauren Reed at [gtcdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com](mailto:gtcdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com).

## 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](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 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](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

- NPR – In 2023 Fentanyl Overdoses Ravaged the U.S. and Fueled a New Culture War Fight: <https://www.npr.org/2023/12/28/1220881380/overdose-fentanyl-drugs-addiction>
- The Ticker – Six Months In, What's the State of Traverse City's Recreational Cannabis Industry: <https://www.traverseticker.com/news/six-months-in-whats-the-state-of-traverse-citys-recreational-cannabis-industry/>

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

**January 11 4-5pm** – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, in person at Addiction Treatment Services' The PORCH (1010 S Garfield Ave, Traverse City); \*Note – we meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month\*

**January 29 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).

**January 31 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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Coordinator

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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](mailto:GTCdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com)*

*The Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition is funded through a Liquor Tax Grant from the Northern Michigan Regional Entity (NMRE)*

