

Grand Traverse Addiction & Recovery Council (GTARC) Newsletter

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A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello council members,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday season! Our next coalition meeting is on Wednesday, January 8 from 3:30-4:30pm at the Grand Traverse County Health Department with a hybrid Zoom option. In recognition of Human Trafficking Prevention Month, Linda Solem from Up North Prevention will deliver a presentation on human trafficking, discussing key risk and protective factors, as well as the connection between trafficking and substance use disorder. Everyone is welcome and I hope that you can join us!

Each month, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services releases a report that overviews recent substance use and overdose trends and patterns in Michigan. This link will lead you to the October report: <https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjojYzY4ZmQ4OTctYWU1ZCooYmMyLWFjZTktOGExMzkyM2Y1ODE4IiwidCI6ImQ1ZmI3MDg3LTM3NzctNDJhZC05NjZhLTg5MmVmNDcyMjVjMSJ9>.

Harm Reduction Michigan was featured in an article in France's national newspaper, Le Monde! You can view the article here (it is in French): [Le Monde Dec 3 2024.pdf](#)

Be well,

Lauren

KINGLSEY STAND UPDATES

The Kingsley High School Students Together Against Negative Decisions (STAND) Club has been busy! Prior to Thanksgiving, they held an "I am grateful for" turkey coloring page contest. They held a Reindeer Games assembly to encourage school culture and a positive atmosphere before break and at this assembly the STAND team announced statistics and tips for holiday safety. During their Season of Giving event, students and staff donated new or used items to create a shopping experience for students in need (like a "Santa's Workshop"). On the last day of school before break, the STAND team handed out candy canes and played holiday music as the students arrived at school and reminded them to be safe over the holiday season. After break they will be planning some activities for the end of the first semester to help address exam stress and encourage a new start for the second semester.

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 \$29,500 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.

We 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 gtedrugfreecoalition@gmail.com.



LAW ENFORCEMENT TOOLKIT

The Behavioral Health Initiative Reduce Stigma Against Substance Use Disorders Action Team has developed a stigma education toolkit to share with our law enforcement and first responder partners!

This toolkit is intended to be utilized within an agency to educate on substance use stigma and the impacts of stigma. The materials included can be used together or individually; this resource is designed to be used to fit your needs. A Start Here guide is included to help familiarize yourself with the materials.

They have also developed resource guides for each county that provide quick information on recovery, treatment, and harm reduction services. These can be printed and given to employees or referred to when necessary.

Click Here to access the toolkit! [Law Enforcement First Responder Stigma Toolkit](#).

A feedback form is included within the Start Here guide, please provide your feedback when utilizing this resource. This will help to keep the materials relevant and effective. The link to the feedback form is included here as well. [Toolkit Feedback Form](#)

We hope that you will find this toolkit valuable and informative. If you have any questions regarding the toolkit, please contact Erin Oleniczak at District Health Department#10 (eoleniczak@dhd10.org or 231-383-6552). To learn more about our action team, please visit reducestigma.org.

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/social-services.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
- 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.

NEWS AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- The Ticker – New Mental Health Center Prepares to Open Doors: <https://www.traverseticker.com/news/new-mental-health-center-prepares-to-open-doors/>
- Up North Live – Traverse City Allocates \$250,000 For Year-Round Shelter to Combat Homelessness: <https://upnorthlive.com/news/local/traverse-city-allocates-250000-for-year-round-shelter-to-combat-homelessness-the-pimes-safe-harbor>
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) - January is the Perfect Time to Pursue Treatment for a Substance Use Disorder: <https://www.samhsa.gov/blog/january-perfect-time-pursue-treatment-substance-use-disorder>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

January 8 3:30-4:30pm – Grand Traverse Addiction & Recovery Council (GTARC) monthly meeting, in person at the Grand Traverse County Health Department (2600 LaFranier Rd, Traverse City); Virtual option: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89210306992?pwd=MojRjNOcmhXiGLp7ktLhyKtAykqkxc.1> *Note – we meet on the 2nd WEDNESDAY of each month*

January 9 6pm – Face Addiction Now (FAN) monthly board meeting in person at Central United Methodist Church in Traverse City. All are welcome.

January 27 from 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).

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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