

# GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY DRUG FREE COALITION (GTCDFC) NEWSLETTER

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## OVERDOSE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TRAINING

FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
6-7:30PM

Harm Reduction MI offers a free overdose prevention and response training on the last Tuesday of each month from 6-7:30pm in the Thirlby Room at the Traverse City Library (610 Woodmere Ave). Participants receive a free overdose rescue kit, including naloxone.

<https://www.harmreductionmi.org/>

## WELCOME

As we kickoff 2019 we are looking forward to another year of coalition activities to prevent and address substance use disorders in Grand Traverse County.

### **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)

## MEET THE NEW COORDINATOR

Lauren Houghan was hired as the fulltime coordinator of the Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition in January 2019. Lauren worked as the Practice Manager and in human resources for a physical therapy company in Grand Rapids for the past four years. She graduated with her Masters of Public Health from Grand Valley State University in April of 2018 with an emphasis in Health Promotion and Education. She moved up to Traverse City in May with her fiancé. "I am so excited to begin working with the coalition and serving the community in which I live by utilizing my passion and knowledge for public health to work to address the current drug trends." In her free time, Lauren enjoys running, hiking, skiing, mountain biking, paddle boarding, and any other activity that allows her to be active outdoors.



## YOUTH SUMMIT RECAP

The 2018 Grand Traverse County Youth Summit was held on October 8, 2018, this was a half-day event held at the Great Wolf Lodge to kickoff STAND Clubs (Students Together against Negative Decisions). There was attendance from five area high schools with around 50 participants. Focus groups were conducted with all participants, discussion topics were based on the Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) questionnaire; the goal of the focus groups was to obtain data for schools that did not participate in the MiPHY survey. To learn more about the MiPHY survey, follow this link [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-74638\\_74639\\_29233\\_44681---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-74638_74639_29233_44681---,00.html). This event was partially funded by a Kiwanis grant.

## NEWS AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- 9&10 News – Grand Traverse County Teens Discuss Ways to Keep Schools Drug Free: [https://www.9and10news.com/2018/10/08/grand-traverse-county-teens-discuss-ways-to-keep-schools-drug-free/?fbclid=IwAR37u6kZGp7H-SpVRRjIpUJm\\_x2NY53GABrBBY2CnMOtB4hl7NNBJqgBbuY](https://www.9and10news.com/2018/10/08/grand-traverse-county-teens-discuss-ways-to-keep-schools-drug-free/?fbclid=IwAR37u6kZGp7H-SpVRRjIpUJm_x2NY53GABrBBY2CnMOtB4hl7NNBJqgBbuY)
- Northern Express – The Vape Debate: <https://www.northernexpress.com/news/feature/the-vape-debate/?fbclid=IwARotaHRvt8Sj22whrv5luEenupymFd1mGQMxOLDlyXtRgcZbbjftz5L29OE>
- CNN – Opioids are Killing More Children and Teens, too, Study says: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/12/28/health/pediatric-opioid-deaths-study/index.html>
- The Washington Post – Why the Federal Government has a Hard Time Regulating Prescription Opioids: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2019/01/13/this-is-why-the-federal-government-will-have-a-hard-time-regulating-prescription-opioids/?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.0e06dea3956f](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2019/01/13/this-is-why-the-federal-government-will-have-a-hard-time-regulating-prescription-opioids/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.0e06dea3956f)

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

**February 7 6:30pm** – Families Against Narcotics monthly forum meeting at Central United Methodist Church, Traverse City. <https://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/copy-of-grand-traverse> \*Note - this group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month\*

**February 14 4-5pm** – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting at TC Central High School room F146. \*Note – we meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month\*

## 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 Houghan via email at [laurenhoughan.coalition@gmail.com](mailto:laurenhoughan.coalition@gmail.com)*