

Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

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A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

Our next coalition meeting will take place on Thursday, November 10 from 4-5pm via Zoom. Pam Lynch from Harm Reduction Michigan will be joining us to provide information and updates on harm reduction efforts in our community. Everyone is welcome and I hope that you are able to join us! The agenda will be sent out in an email soon.

The Northwest Michigan Behavioral Health Initiative has launched its Substance Use Stigma Assessment Survey. They would like to know what individuals who have experienced a substance use disorder (SUD) think about stigma. The responses will aid in the development of programs to reduce the impact of stigma and improve outcomes for people experiencing SUDs in Northwest Michigan. Individuals who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 gift card. The survey closes at 8am on November 14. Please share this survey link with anyone that you know who has experienced a SUD:

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7003762/SSAR-SUD-Survey>

The Northwest Michigan Behavioral Health Initiative has also launched a Substance Use Stigma Assessment Survey for healthcare providers. They would like to know what healthcare staff think about stigma around individuals with substance use disorders. Participants will be entered in to a drawing to win a \$50 gift card. The survey closes at 8am on November 28. Please share this survey link with healthcare workers:

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7038660/SSAR-Healthcare>

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, 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 \$16,500 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, and Boone's Car Wash.

RESOURCES

- 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
- 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 – Group Tackles Mental Health Issues at Traverse City Forum:
<https://www.9and10news.com/2022/10/17/group-tackles-mental-health-issues-at-traverse-city-forum/>
- 9&10 News – Opioid Summit in Traverse City Highlights Successes and Challenges:
<https://www.9and10news.com/2022/10/28/opioid-summit-in-traverse-city-highlights-successes-and-challenges/>
- American Medical Association – Michigan State Training Helps Overcome Addiction’s Stigma:
<https://www.ama-assn.org/education/accelerating-change-medical-education/michigan-state-training-helps-overcome-addiction-s>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

November 3 at 7pm (doors open at 6:45pm) – Families Against Narcotics monthly forum will be held in person at Central United Methodist Church in Traverse City and can also be attended virtually on Zoom
Note - this group meets the 1st Thursday of each month

November 10 from 4-5pm – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, held virtually – Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86452778258?pwd=Sk9MaUkzd1M3RohrYopIcm1wY2NEdz09> *Note – we meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month (excluding July & December)*

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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**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

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