

# Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

Volume 6 / Issue 3 / March 2023

## A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

Our next coalition meeting is on Thursday, April 13 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 Ambassadors from Planned Parenthood who will talk about the work they do and how it intersects with substance use disorders. 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.

Traverse City West Senior High's Mental Health Summit took place on March 1; the day consisted of speakers each hour during the school day and resource tables from local organizations during the lunch hours. The coalition was asked to present in the morning. The presentation began with the students viewing the Predator and Prey documentary (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsfyTw6mTBg&t=0s>). This documentary was created by East Middle School Digital Media Students in 2018 to showcase the opioid crisis in our area. The video was followed by a panel discussion comprised of Christina Dean, RN, BSN, CARN, Clinical Coordinator for Munson Healthcare Opioid Initiative with Community Health; Nancy Dow, featured in the documentary and Family Support Coordinator for Addiction Treatment Services (ATS); Paula Lipinski, CEO of ATS and person in recovery; Adam Newth, Community Outreach Coordinator for ATS and person in recovery; Jeff O'Brien, Chief of Police; and Lauren Reed, coalition coordinator.



The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) released a report about the growing threat of xylazine and its mixture with illicit drugs: <https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/The%20Growing%20Threat%20of%20Xylazine%20and%20its%20Mixture%20with%20Illicit%20Drugs.pdf>

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 \$17,500 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, and the Grand Traverse County Health Department.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Northern Lakes Community Mental Health will be hosting the 25<sup>th</sup> annual co-occurring disorders conference on Monday, **April 17**. "Brave New World: Balancing Ethics, Pain Management and Addictions" will be held at Northwestern Michigan College's Haggerty Center from 8am-5pm. CEUs will be offered. For more information and to purchase your ticket, visit <https://mynorthtickets.com/events/123989>.

The Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (MCRUD) is hosting their 10<sup>th</sup> annual Shoalition Showcase; the virtual conference will take place on Tuesday, **April 25** from 8:30am-4:00pm on Zoom. The Shoalition showcases community coalitions in Michigan and the great work that is being done to prevent and reduce underage drinking. It also provides an opportunity for coalitions, prevention professionals, and advocates with the tools needed to reduce underage drinking. For more information and to register, visit their website at

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ejmvmsnqd99obe1a&llr=94v5yuyab>.

The Northern Michigan Regional Entity is sponsoring a free day of recovery education for individuals who are seeking recovery or are in recovery from a substance use disorder. The event will take place on **May 8** at Treetops Resort Convention Center in Gaylord from 9:30am-3:30pm. A light breakfast and full lunch will be

provided. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nmre-day-of-recovery-education-tickets-569818902677>.

The Northwest Michigan Community Health Innovation Region's (CHIR) Behavioral Health Initiative (BHI) was launched in June of 2021 to respond to the behavioral health crisis in the region. Strengthening Systems for Behavioral Health: A Celebration and Action Summit will be taking place virtually on **May 11** from 9am-3pm. This event will be to learn about and celebrate the work of the BHI Actions Teams. For more information and to register, visit:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZopduChqDooG9ceOoDEaxWP1tEOtoXCBIz>.

The 2023 Michigan Harm Reduction Summit will be held on **May 16-17**. The summit will be hosted in-person in Lansing at the Lansing Center, with a virtual option for select sessions. For more information and to register, visit: [https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/keep-mi-healthy/chronicdiseases/hepatitis/michigan-harm-reduction-summit?utm\\_campaign=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/keep-mi-healthy/chronicdiseases/hepatitis/michigan-harm-reduction-summit?utm_campaign=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery).

## 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](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://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-takes-action-restrict-unlawful-import-xylazine?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

## NEWS AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- U.S. Food & Drug Administration – FDA Takes Actions to Restrict Unlawful Import of Xylazine: [https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-takes-action-restrict-unlawful-import-xylazine?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-takes-action-restrict-unlawful-import-xylazine?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)
- Up North Live – Recreational Marijuana Permits to Roll out in Traverse City: <https://upnorthlive.com/news/local/adult-use-marijuana-permits-to-roll-out-in-traverse-city>
- University of Michigan – Will FDA Recommendation to make Naloxone Available OTC Curb Overdose Deaths?: <https://news.umich.edu/will-fda-recommendation-to-make-naloxone-available-otc-curb-overdose-deaths/>

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

**April 6 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 \*Note - this group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month\*

**April 13 4-5pm** – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, in person at Addiction Treatment Services' The PORCH (1010 S Garfield Ave, Traverse City); Virtual option: <https://zoom.us/j/95640237687?pwd=aXNTNoc2QUJ6WGpaQ3h3Y215WmFxUT09> \*Note – we meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month\*

**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

**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)*

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