

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, May 12 from 4-5pm via Zoom. Krista Goldman from Big Brothers Big Sisters will be our guest speaker. Everyone is welcome and I hope that you are able to join us! The agenda will be sent out in an email early next week.

Families Against Narcotics (FAN) and Ohio State University created a free substance use stigma workbook. "I'm Still a Person: The Stigma of Substance Use & the Power of Respect" was developed by Dr. Audrey Begun (MSW, PH.D.), it is an interactive workbook created to help give people the knowledge required to address substance use-related stigma within themselves, their families, and their communities. This book examines the importance of the language we use when talking about substance use disorder and offers activities that will help spark changes in the way people think about the disease. The workbook is being offered free of charge as a digital download or a soft cover workbook. If ordering physical copies, the workbook is free but you will be responsible for shipping costs. <https://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/stigmaworkbook>

Northern Lakes Community Mental Health (NLCMH) and North Country Community Mental Health (NCCMH) will be hosting a free virtual education series in May to celebrate National Mental Health Awareness Month. The webinars will take place each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday throughout May from 12-1pm, with the exception of an event panel discussion on Wednesday, May 5 from 6-7pm. For more information and to register visit <https://www.northernlakescmh.org/news-room/tools4resilience-virtual-series-in-may/>.

The Northwest Michigan Community Health Innovation Region (CHIR) Behavioral Health Initiative (BHI) was launched in June of 2021 to respond to the behavioral health crisis in the region. As part of the initiative, a blueprint was developed based upon input from stakeholders, residents, data, and evidence-based practices. At the November 2021 Behavioral Health Action Summit, 140 cross-sector stakeholders met and used this blueprint to prioritize immediate actions to improve access to behavioral health services. Twelve action teams were formed, to learn more about each action team visit: <https://northernmichiganchir.org/northwest-chir/behavioral-health-initiative/>.

On April 6, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) warned about the increase in mass-overdose events involving fentanyl. To view the full press release visit, <https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2022/04/06/dea-warns-increase-mass-overdose-events-involving-deadly-fentanyl>.

Be well,

Lauren

OPIOID SETTLEMENT DOLLARS

Grand Traverse County will be getting \$3 million from the opioid settlement starting this spring or summer. Relevant stakeholders from county substance use disorder organizations may want to let the county commission or the county administrator know that they would like to be involved in the prioritization of how the dollars are allocated. The Record Eagle recently published an article with more information about these funds: https://www.record-eagle.com/news/gtc-receives-3m-in-national-opioid-lawsuit-settlement/article_934a903a-a93d-11ec-b241-eb38dceb594a.html#:~:text=TRAVERSE%20CITY%20%E2%80%94%20Grand%20Traverse%20County,said%20Attorney%20General%20Dana%20Nessel.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Traverse City area meetings for **Stronger Together – Family & Friends: An Addiction Support Group** will begin on **May 1 and meet on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month** from 6:30-8pm at 3055 Cass Rd, Traverse City, MI 49684. Stronger Together is an addiction support group for family and friends of people struggling with addiction. Meetings center on a unique recovery plan designed to help move you from a life of despair to a life of hope and purpose. For more information contact Brandi Johnson at (941) 323-9039 or johnsonbrandi1975@gmail.com, or visit the website at www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/strongertogether.

Addiction Treatment Services will begin a monthly Family-to-Family Support Group in May. Family-to-Family Support Group is a peer-led support group for family members of a loved one who has experienced symptoms of a substance use disorder. The group will meet in person at the PORCH (1010 S Garfield, Traverse City) on the following dates and time:

- Monday, **May 16** from 5:30-6:30pm
- Monday, **June 13** from 5:30-6:30pm
- Monday, **July 11** from 5:30-6:30pm
- Monday, **August 15** from 5:30-6:30pm
- Monday, **September 12** from 5:30-6:30pm

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will host the **2022 Michigan Harm Reduction Summit** virtually on **Tuesday, May 17 – Thursday, May 19, 2022**. The conference will feature daily half-day sessions from 9am-1pm. For more information and to register, visit Michigan.gov/SSP.

The Michigan Substance Use Prevention, Education, and Recovery (MiSUPER) will be hosting two upcoming webinars to provide a foundational overview on opioid misuse prevention, treatment options, and recovery support so rural community members and healthcare professionals can recognize signs of misuse, understand options for professional treatment, and support those in recovery. These 1-hour webinars will take place on Zoom on **June 22, 2022** and **August 31, 2022**, both from 12-1pm. Learn more and register here: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/misuper/>.

STAND

The Kingsley Students Together against Negative Decisions (STAND) Club has collaborated with Olds Floral & Design to raise money for the Women's Resource Center in Traverse through a boutonniere and corsage sale for their upcoming prom.

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, Solitude Float and Wellness Spa, 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 \$10,500 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, and the Traverse City Airport.

RESOURCES

- The State of Michigan, in partnership with the Connected Nation Michigan, has launched a [statewide Wi-Fi hotspot](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) 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

- STAT – Driven by Fentanyl, Rates of Fatal Teen Overdoses Doubled in 2020:
<https://www.statnews.com/2022/04/12/driven-by-fentanyl-rates-of-fatal-teen-overdoses-doubled-in-2020/>
- Up North Live – Study Session Focuses on Recreational Marijuana in Traverse City:
<https://upnorthlive.com/news/local/study-session-focuses-on-recreational-marijuana-in-traverse-city>
- Michigan Health Lab – Just Over Half of Michigan Pharmacies Offer Overdose Fighting Naloxone without Prescription: <https://labblog.uofmhealth.org/lab-notes/just-over-half-of-michigan-pharmacies-offer-overdose-fighting-naloxone-without>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

May 5 6:30pm – Families Against Narcotics monthly forum will be held in person at Central United Methodist Church in Traverse City (face masks required) and can also be attended virtually on Zoom *Note - this group meets the 1st Thursday of each month*

May 12 4-5pm – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, held virtually – Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/95640237687?pwd=aXNTNoc2QUJ6WGpaQ3h3Y215WmFmFxUT09> *Note – we meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month*

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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