

# Grand Traverse Addiction and Recovery Council (GTARC) Newsletter

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## A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello council members,

Happy holidays! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoys the upcoming holiday season. Our group does not meet during the month of December, so our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 8.

Addiction Treatment Services (ATS) recently launched their Guardians of Hope Scholarship Program to make recovery accessible for all at ATS. The program honors those who have passed away due to substance use disorder and provides hope to those who are actively seeking recovery. It will help to ensure that individuals in our community are getting the support they need to continue their treatment program. To learn more, visit <https://addictiontreatmentservices.org/resources/guardians-hope>.

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 September report: <https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiYzY4ZmQ4OTctYWU1ZCooYmMyLWFjZTktOGExMzkxM2Y1ODE4IiwidCI6ImQ1ZmI3MDg3LTM3NzctNDJhZC05NjZhLTg5MmVmNDcyMjVhMjVjMSJ9>.

Be well,

Lauren

## STUFF A BLUE GOOSE

On Tuesday, November 19, our coalition collaborated with the Michigan State Police to hold a Stuff a Blue Goose event. We collected enough toys to fill the back of two police vehicles. The toys were all donated to Single MOMM, a local non-profit organization with a mission to ignite hope, healing, and confidence within single moms. Thank you to the coalition members that volunteered at the event!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

217 Recovery is hosting a free screening of the documentary, *Tipping the Scale*. This will take place on Tuesday, December 10 at the Alluvion (414 East Eighth St, Traverse City), doors open at 6:30pm and the film will start at 7pm. Tickets are required, for more information and to get your free tickets visit:

<https://www.thealluvion.org/tickets/tipping-the-pain-scale-12-10-24>.

## 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 \$29,000 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, 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 [gtcdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com](mailto:gtcdrugfreecoalition@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](mailto:eoleniczak@dhd10.org) or 231-383-6552). To learn more about our action team, please visit [reducestigma.org](http://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](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

- 9&10 News – Overdose Death Rate in Michigan Declines 5 Times Faster Than the National Average: [https://www.9and10news.com/2024/11/12/overdose-death-rate-in-michigan-declines-5-times-faster-than-the-national-average/#google\\_vignette](https://www.9and10news.com/2024/11/12/overdose-death-rate-in-michigan-declines-5-times-faster-than-the-national-average/#google_vignette)
- Click On Detroit – Michigan Health Officials Announce Changes to Improve Access to Substance Use Disorder Treatment: <https://www.clickondetroit.com/health/2024/11/20/michigan-health-officials-announce-changes-to-improve-access-to-substance-use-disorder-treatment/>

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

**December 5 6pm** – Face Addiction Now (FAN) monthly board meeting/annual meeting in person at Central United Methodist Church in Traverse City. All are welcome.

**December 30 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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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 Reed via email at [GTCdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com](mailto:GTCdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com)*

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