

Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

Volume 4 / Issue 7 / July 2021

A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

Our next coalition meeting is on Thursday, August 12 from 4-5pm via Zoom. Diane Culver, from Networks Northwest, will be our guest speaker. She will be sharing information and future plans for the state funding that Networks Northwest received to help employers hire and retain employees affected by the opioid crisis. 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.

WMed Medical Examiner Office's "Deaths Related to Opioids and Other Drugs – January to March 2021 Report" has been released. This report includes data for Grand Traverse County, click on the following link to view the report: <https://mimedicalexaminer.com/sites/default/files/2021-07/2021%20Q1%20Report%20on%20Deaths%20Related%20to%20Opioids%20%26%20Other%20Drugs.pdf>. You can also visit their website to view past reports <https://mimedicalexaminer.com/node/27>.

MiSUPER through MSU Extension launched their Stories of Hope project in June. Kim Johnson, a member of our coalition, recently shared her story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZwB5dwU-Vo>

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, 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 almost \$6,000 so far and have purchased Naloxboxes that have been installed at the Woodmere (2nd floor), East Bay, Peninsula, and Kingsley libraries as well as at Living Hope Church.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Up North Prevention has upcoming virtual Naloxone trainings that are free of charge. To view the full list of trainings, more details, and to register go to <https://upnorthprevention.org/events/>.

The Interlochen Public Library is hosting LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY, a book discussion series about recovery from addiction featuring a different book each session with a group discussion in the Interlochen Public Library Community Room. The dates of the remaining sessions are:

- Thursday, August 19th 5-7pm
- Thursday, September 16th 5-7pm
- Thursday, October 21st 5-7pm

Books are free to the community but copies are limited so stop by the library soon to register and get your copy. Registration is not required to attend the discussions. Refreshments and childcare will be provided.

The Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (MCRUD) is hosting their 8th annual Shoalition Showcase; the pre-conference is on Tuesday, August 17 from 2-4:30pm & the conference is on Tuesday, August 24 and Wednesday, August 25 from 8:45-11:45am and 2-4:30pm. 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=a07eio182nd752bc42a&llr=94v5yuyab&showPage=true>.

RESOURCES

- 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

- The Office of Governor Gretchen Whitmer – Governor Whitmer Signs Marijuana Legislation Putting Michiganders’ Health and Safety First: <https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499-563676--,00.html>
- NBC News – High Potency Weed Linked to Psychotic Episodes, Mysterious Vomiting Illness in Young Users: <https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/high-potency-weed-linked-psychotic-episodes-mysterious-vomiting-illness-young-n1273463>
- Up North Live – Interlochen Public Library Offers Book Club about Addiction Help: <https://upnorthlive.com/news/local/interlochen-public-library-offers-book-club-about-addiction-help>
- NPR – Drug Overdoses Killed a Record Number of Americans in 2020, Jumping by Nearly 30%: <https://www.npr.org/2021/07/14/1016029270/drug-overdoses-killed-a-record-number-of-americans-in-2020-jumping-by-nearly-30>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

August 5 6:00pm – Families Against Narcotics monthly forum will be held **IN-PERSON** at F&M Park
Note - this group meets the 1st Thursday of each month

August 12 4-5pm – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, held virtually – Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/95640237687?pwd=aXNTNoc2QUJ6WGpaQ3h3Y215WmFmUT09> *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