

# Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition Newsletter

Volume 5 / Issue 3 / March 2022

## A NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

Hello coalition members,

Our next coalition meeting will take place on Thursday, April 14 from 4-5pm via Zoom. Mike Tobias, from the Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (MCRUD), 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.

### **\*\*ACTION REQUIRED\*\***

I am developing a coalition member directory. If you would like to be included in this directory, please email me at [gtcdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com](mailto:gtcdrugfreecoalition@gmail.com). In the email, please include your first and last name, organization, and email address or phone number (optional). Please include your contact information only if you comfortable with this being shared with all coalition members.

The Office of Recovery Oriented Systems of Care and the Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services have released Michigan's 2021 Epidemiological Profile:

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Michigan\\_Epidemiological\\_Profile\\_2021\\_749183\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Michigan_Epidemiological_Profile_2021_749183_7.pdf)

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has released an "Emoji Drug Code" guide to provide a better sense how emojis can be used in conjunction with illegal drug activity. View the guide here:

<https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2021-12/Emoji%20Decoded.pdf>

On March 9, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced that nearly \$35 million in funding opportunities to strengthen and expand community mental health services and suicide prevention programs for America's children and young adults. To view the full press release visit,

[https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20220309/hhs-announces-35-million-strengthen-mental-health?utm\\_source=SAMHSA&utm\\_campaign=27c99833cc-](https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20220309/hhs-announces-35-million-strengthen-mental-health?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=27c99833cc-)

[SAMHSA Announcement 2022 03 09 1600841&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ee1c4b138c-27c99833cc-168930066.](https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20220309/hhs-announces-35-million-strengthen-mental-health?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=27c99833cc-168930066)

On March 15, SAMHSA announced two grant programs totaling \$25.6 million that will expand access to medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder and prevent the misuse of prescription drugs. To view the full press release visit, [https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20220315/hhs-announces-funding-substance-use-treatment-prevention?utm\\_source=SAMHSA&utm\\_campaign=487f5b3f3a-](https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20220315/hhs-announces-funding-substance-use-treatment-prevention?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=487f5b3f3a-)

[SAMHSA Announcement 2022 03 15 1600877&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ee1c4b138c-487f5b3f3a-168930066.](https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20220315/hhs-announces-funding-substance-use-treatment-prevention?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=487f5b3f3a-168930066)

On March 18, the Department of Health and Human Services through SAMHSA, announced three funding opportunities to strengthen mental health and substance use services for individuals at risk for or living with HIV/AIDS. To view the full press release visit, [https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20220318/hhs-announces-44-million-mental-health-substance-use-population-hiv-aids?utm\\_source=SAMHSA&utm\\_campaign=c8e3930d6e-SAMHSA Announcement 2022 03 18 1600905&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ee1c4b138c-c8e3930d6e-168930066](https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20220318/hhs-announces-44-million-mental-health-substance-use-population-hiv-aids?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=c8e3930d6e-SAMHSA%20Announcement%202022%2003%2018%201600905&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ee1c4b138c-c8e3930d6e-168930066).

Be well,

Lauren

## UPCOMING EVENTS

On **April 7**, MSU Extension will begin a new 6-week **Chronic Pain PATH Series**. This is a self-management online workshop designed for people living with chronic pain. Family members, friends, and caregivers are also encouraged to attend the workshop. The class will meet on Thursdays from 1:30-3:30pm on Zoom. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/chronic-pain-path4-7>.

On November 4, 2021, 140 stakeholders from across the region met at a Behavioral Health Action Summit to jump to action to address the mental health and substance misuse crisis in Northwest Michigan. Twelve Action Teams were formed to tackle critical issues, such as improving access to services to promoting wellbeing and resiliency. Since that time, the Action Teams have been working to create tangible changes and resources for the region. The '**Behavioral Health Initiative's Celebration Summit: Fostering the Seeds of Behavioral Health**' is a virtual event that will take place on **April 11** from 9:45am-4:00pm to celebrate the early wins of the Action Teams, strategize the continuation of these projects, and to create the next generation of Action Teams to continue to improve access and build resilient communities. To register for the event, visit [https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIodeqgj4vGtRL4MX7XIRpRrJU\\_84bIWbL](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIodeqgj4vGtRL4MX7XIRpRrJU_84bIWbL).

The Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking (MCRUD) is hosting their 9<sup>th</sup> annual **Shoalition Showcase**; the virtual conference will take place on Tuesday, **April 19** from 8:45am-4:15pm 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=a07eiyenk8v9050dcod&llr=94v5yuyab>

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 next discussion will take place on **Thursday, April 21** from 6-7pm. This month's book is titled, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. 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 Traverse Area District Library (Woodmere location) will be hosting “**Community Conversations: Addiction & Recovery – Predator & Prey, 4 Years Later**” on **Monday, April 25** from 6:30-8pm. The event will start with a viewing of the 2018 “Predator & Prey” documentary, followed by a then-and-now conversation with some of the students that helped to create the documentary, and end with a panel discussion. Many community organizations will also have resource tables setup at the event. For more information, visit: <https://www.tadl.org/2022/03/30/recoveryconversation/>

Traverse City area meetings for **Stronger Together – Family & Friends: An Addiction Support Group** will begin on **May 1 and meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:johnsonbrandi1975@gmail.com), or visit the website at [www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/strongertogether](http://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/strongertogether).

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](http://Michigan.gov/SSP).

## STAND



The Kingsley Students Together against Negative Decisions (STAND) Club held a school wide March Madness tournament at the high school from March 7-18. This event included daily competitions and education in the students’ home room classrooms and ended with a school-wide assembly on March 18. At the assembly, Harry Werkema presented on drug and alcohol awareness. Harry is a retired police officer who worked in schools in West Michigan for many years.

## 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 \$10,300 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, and Michigan Works!.

## 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](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://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 Ticker – TCPD Ramps up Community Policy Efforts with Public Advisory Board, Overdose Quick Response Team, Mental Health Focus: <https://www.traverseticker.com/news/tcpd-ramps-up-community-policing-efforts-with-public-advisory-board-overdose-quick-response-team-mental-health-focus/>
- The Record Eagle – GTC Receives \$3M in National Opioid Lawsuit Settlement: [https://www.record-eagle.com/news/gtc-receives-3m-in-national-opioid-lawsuit-settlement/article\\_934a903a-a93d-11ec-b241-eb38dceb594a.html](https://www.record-eagle.com/news/gtc-receives-3m-in-national-opioid-lawsuit-settlement/article_934a903a-a93d-11ec-b241-eb38dceb594a.html)
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration – E-cigarettes, Vapes, and Other Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS): <https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/products-ingredients-components/e-cigarettes-vapes-and-other-electronic-nicotine-delivery-systems-ends>

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING MEETING DATES

**April 14 4-5pm** – Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition monthly meeting, held virtually – Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/95640237687?pwd=aXNTNoc2QUJ6WGpaQ3h3Y215WmFxUT09> \*Note – we meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month\*

### Contact Us

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Grand Traverse County Drug Free Coalition

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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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