



**Kent County Opioid Task Force Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 10, 2022**  
**12:00 – 1:00 PM**

**Attendance:** Sarah Flinsky, Kent ISD; Vicki Makley, Priority Health; Joann Hoganson, Rachel Jantz, Kent County Health Department; Steve Alsum, Grand Rapids Red Project; Daniel Roper, Trinity Health; Susan DeVuyst-Miller, Ferris State College of Pharmacy; Colleen Lane, Corewell Health; Emily Bembem, Grand Valley State University; Tom Burns, Pharmacy Student – SpartanNash; Megan Collett, Michigan Opioid Collaborative; Bob Smith, Cherry Health; LeAnn Bastien, Healing Perspectives Family Counseling; Jeannette Pollatz, Mary Free Bed

- **Drug Take Back Day Update** – Vicki Makley, Priority Health
  - Corewell Health, Priority Health, Pine Rest, and the Kent County Health Department partnered to host another DEA Drug Take Back Day at three different locations in Kent County. In total, 281 pounds of medication were collected and 57 boxes of Narcan were distributed to community members.

*Locations: Priority Health SHMG South Pavilion and Kent Co Health Department*

Date	4/28/18	10/28/18	4/27/19	10/26/19	4/25/20	10/24/20	04/24/21	10/23/21	04/30/22	10/29/22
Pounds Collected	185 lbs	175 lbs	124 lbs	145 lbs	*	192 lbs	557 lbs	187 lbs	304 lbs	281 lbs
Narcan Distributed						36		50	99	57

\* Event canceled due to Covid -19



- **Prevention Updates** – Sarah Flinsky, Kent ISD
  - Dr. Colleen Lane, Chris Becker, Rachel VanDenBrink, Rachel Jantz, and Amber Hubbell presented at the Kent ISD event, “A Dose of Reality: Vaping & Opioids in Our Schools” on October 27. This event was recorded – email Sarah at [sarahflinsky@kentisd.org](mailto:sarahflinsky@kentisd.org) if you would like the link.
  - The Prevention subcommittee is hoping to schedule more community conversations in various school districts to answer parent questions and provide information (<https://www.smores.com/av3xp-a-dose-of-reality>).
- **Intervention Updates** – Steve Alsum, Grand Rapids Red Project
  - The subcommittee has drafted a slide deck for the community dialogue sessions, which they are hoping to schedule with colleges for the winter 2023 semester. The KCOTF took 10 minutes during the meeting to answer the following questions via a Qualtrics survey:
    - Would you be interested in being on the teaching team?
    - What is the greatest need from your perspective?
    - How has the community met or partially met that need?
    - What are the current barriers that prevent meeting that need?
  - The answers from these questions will be used to inform the slides and community dialogue.

- **Leadership Updates** – Rachel Jantz, Kent County Health Dept.
  - No updates yet on the distribution of opioid settlement funds in Kent County.
  - All subcommittees are currently working on developing their 2023 A3s.
- **Kent County Data Report** – Rachel Jantz, Kent County Health Dept.
  - Per the most recent data from the medical examiner, there have been 63 opioid-involved fatalities in Kent County in 2022. Fentanyl was involved in 94% of these deaths. In 2021, the opioid overdose fatality rate was 41.8 per 100,000 for black residents, which is 4.2 times greater than the rate for white residents.
- **Articles of Interest**
  - Michigan Monthly Overdose Update, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
    - [https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIDHHS/2022/11/21/file\\_attachments/2334499/Monthly%20Overdose%20Report%20October%202022.pdf](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIDHHS/2022/11/21/file_attachments/2334499/Monthly%20Overdose%20Report%20October%202022.pdf)
  - Disruptions to U.S. local public health’s role in population-based substance use prevention and response during COVID-19
    - <https://substanceabusepolicy.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13011-022-00499-7>
  - As fentanyl drives overdose deaths, mistaken beliefs persist
    - <https://apnews.com/article/health-opioids-synthetic-government-and-politics-8f64b776b82d6e8bc2e324b732e4b6e2>
  - FDA Announces Preliminary Assessment that Certain Naloxone Products Have the Potential to be Safe and Effective for Over-the-Counter Use
    - [https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-announces-preliminary-assessment-certain-naloxone-products-have-potential-be-safe-and-effective?utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-announces-preliminary-assessment-certain-naloxone-products-have-potential-be-safe-and-effective?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email)
  - Medication Treatment for Addiction Is Shorter for Black and Hispanic Patients, Study Finds
    - <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/09/health/opioid-addiction-treatment-racial-disparities.html>
  - Fentanyl vaccine may have been discovered, researchers say
    - <https://www.woodtv.com/news/nexstar-media-wire/fentanyl-vaccine-may-have-been-discovered-researchers-say/>
- **Webinars of Interest**
  - Fentanyl Communications: Overcoming Overdose Misconceptions No One Is Talking About, Rescue Agency, December 13, 2022, 1:30pm
    - <https://bit.ly/3EuPuu5>
  - RECORDING: Treatment Strategies for People Who Use Fentanyl, Overdose Prevention Network
    - <https://nopn.org/webinars/harm-reduction-and-treatment-strategies-for-people-who-use-fentanyl>

**Upcoming Meetings**

Prevention Subcommittee	Thursday, December 15, 11:00AM-12:00PM
Intervention Subcommittee	Thursday, December 15, 12:00-1:00PM
Treatment & Recovery Subcommittee	Friday, December 16, 12:00-1:00PM