

Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force

Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 12pm

Virtual Meeting

Co-Chairs:

Rev. Robyn Anderson, MS, LPC, LMFT, LADC
Executive Director, Ministerial Health Fellowship

Kevin Elak, RS/REHS, CP-FS, Director of Health, City of
Middletown Department of Health

Member Organizations

- Alliance for Living Program
- BHcare
- CCAR
- Chatham Health District
- City of Middletown
- City of Middletown Department of Health
- City of Middletown Fire Department
- City of Middletown Police Department
- Carelon Behavioral Health
- Community Foundation of Middlesex County
- Community Health Center (CHC)
- Connecticut Valley Hospital (CVH)
- CT Harm Reduction Coalition
- DCF Region 3 (Norwich, Willimantic, Middletown)
- Department of Children and Families
- DMHAS (Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services)
- Durham Middlefield Local Wellness Coalition / DMYFS
- Gilead Community Services
- Hunter's Ambulance Service
- Middlesex Community College
- Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce
- Middlesex Health
- Middlesex YMCA
- Middletown Harm Reduction Initiative (MHRI)
- Middletown Public School System
- Middletown Substance Abuse Prevention Council
- Ministerial Health Fellowship
- Overdose Response Strategy | New England HIDTA
- River Valley Services, DMHAS
- Root Center for Advanced Recovery
- Rushford
- St. Vincent de Paul Middletown
- Street Fire Ministries
- The Connection
- The Village for Families & Children
- Town of Cromwell Department of Health
- Town of Cromwell Police Department

Agenda

- Welcome New Members
- Data Updates
- Member Spotlight:
 - Todd Jones, Hunter's Ambulance – Strategy & Development, EMS Network Development Manager – Central Region. Community Injury Prevention Coordinator – Trauma Team – The Hospital of Central Connecticut, MidState Medical Center, The Hospital of Central Connecticut
- New Business
- Workgroup / Committee Updates
- Standing Agenda Items
- Member Announcements

Mission & Vision Statement

- **Mission:** To engage the Greater Middletown community in working together to promote opioid awareness, education, prevention, harm reduction and access to treatment thereby reducing opioid-related overdoses and deaths and building a healthy, safe and drug-free community.
- **Vision:** A community working together to prevent opioid use and to help people experiencing opioid use challenges.

For New Members

- Website:
<https://www.middletownct.gov/1336/Greater-Middletown-Opioids-Task-Force>
- Includes resources and educational material

The screenshot shows the website for the Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Middletown Connecticut logo and the text "MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT". To the right of the logo are links for "I Want To...", "Government", "Services", "Visitors", and "Contact Us". A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar with the text "How can we help?". Below the navigation bar, there is a dark blue sidebar with a white background containing the following menu items: "Resources", "Community Partners", "Overdose Data", "Monthly Meeting Slides", and "Educational Materials". The main content area has a white background and features a large graphic with the text "Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force" in purple. The graphic includes a stylized drawing of a bridge. Below the graphic, there is a paragraph of text: "The Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force is a collaborative effort between organizations who are concerned about unhealthy opioid use and overdose rates in the Middletown community. We have indicated that our focus areas are Education & Prevention, Interventions & Harm Reduction, Resource Awareness, and Access to Substance Use Disorder Treatment. We recognize that unhealthy substance use has many causes. It is important to acknowledge that substance use is dependent on health status, pain, past experiences & more. Our Task Force hopes to bring important organizations into thoughtful discussion and action." A small globe icon is located in the bottom right corner of the main content area.

Opioid Overdoses Nonfatal and Fatal

January 1 – March 19, 2024

Cromwell, Durham, Middlefield, Middletown and Portland

Opioid Overdoses Nonfatal and Fatal



Total Suspected Overdoses

21

Fatal Overdoses

5

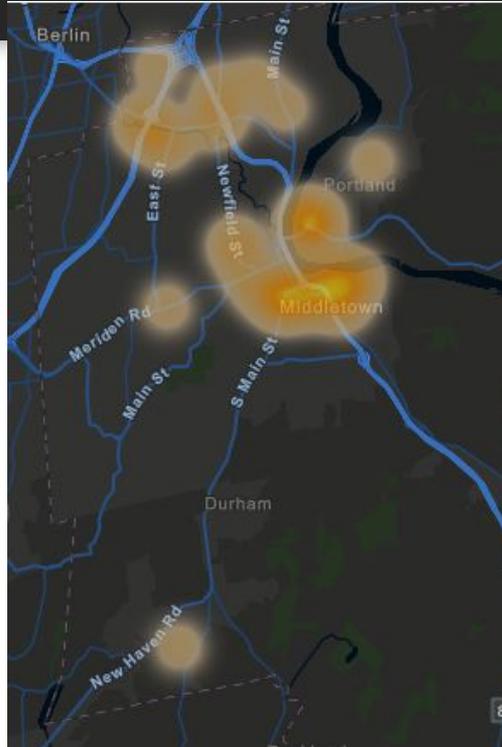
Naloxone Administered

20

1.1.24 – 3.19.24

Cromwell, Durham, Middlefield, Middletown and Portland

Opioid Overdoses Heatmap Cromwell, Durham, Middlefield, Middletown and Portland 1.1.24 – 3.19.24



<https://www.odmap.org:4443/>

Fatal and Non-Fatal Overdoses by Suspected Drug



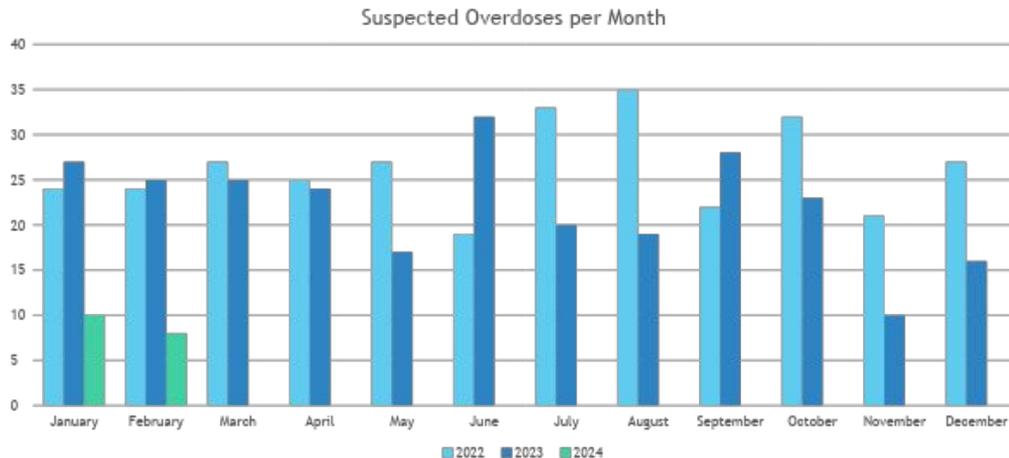
Suspected Drug	
Fentanyl	9
Prescription Drugs	1
Cocaine	1
Heroin	2
Other / Unknown Opioid	7
Unknown Opioid / Alcohol	1

<https://www.odmap.org:4443/>

Suspected Overdoses per Month

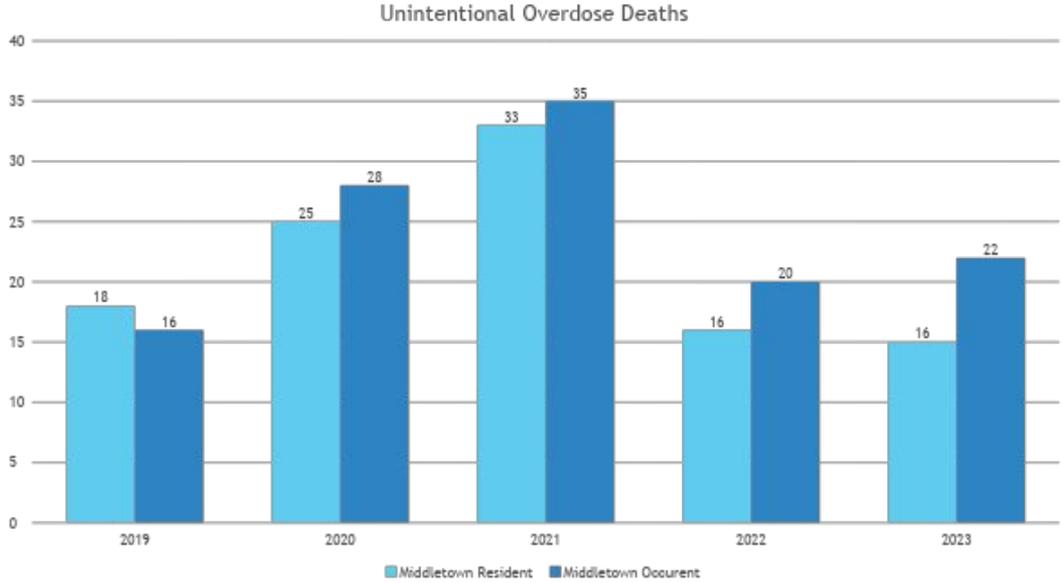
Cromwell, Durham, Middlefield, Middletown and Portland

January 1, 2022 – February 20, 2024



<https://www.odmap.org:4443/>

Data for Middletown Unintentional Overdose Deaths 2019 - 2023 (as of 2-8-24)



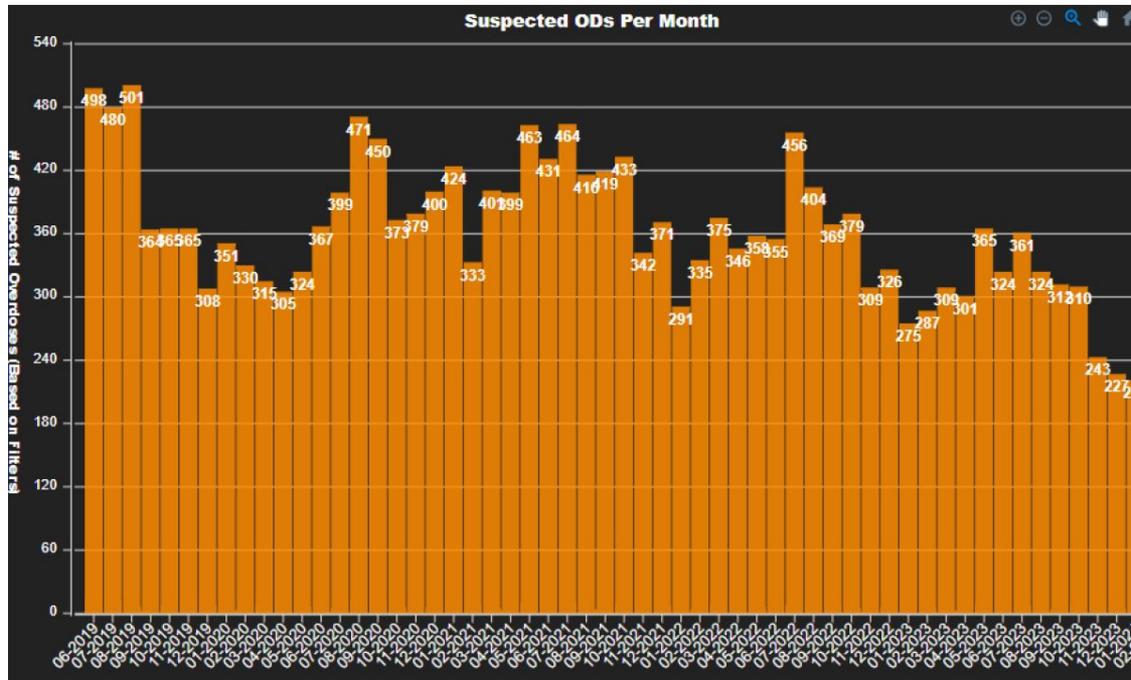
Source: Office of the CT Chief Medical Examiner

Data for Middletown Non-Fatal Drug Overdoses

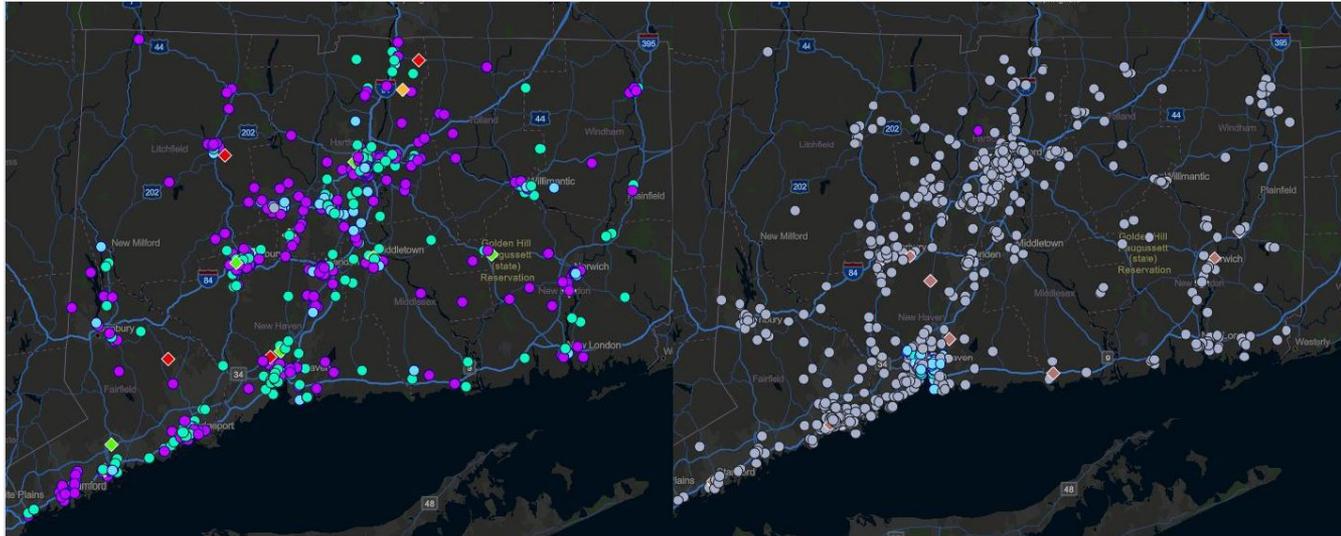


Source: EpiCenter 4.0.1

Suspected Overdoses Per Month in CT



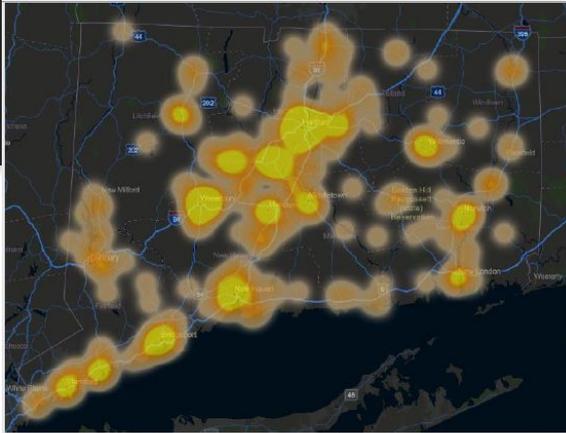
Decrease in reported overdoses may be attributed to decreased compliance with reporting



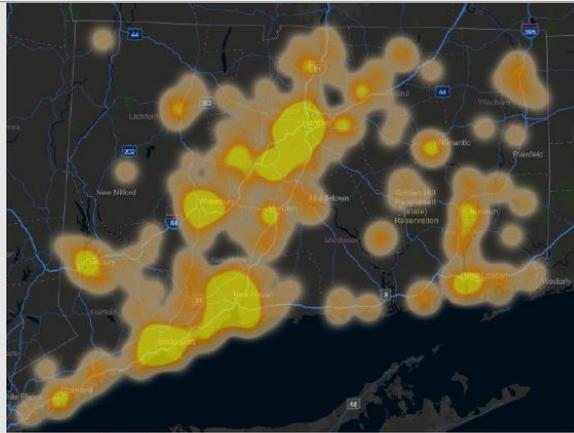
Poison Control

ImageTrend

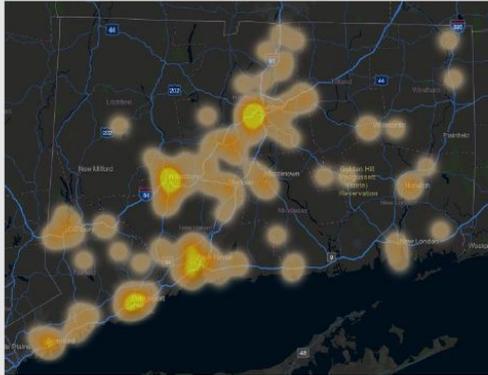
Source: CT Harm Reduction Alliance Data Report – February 2024



Poison Control



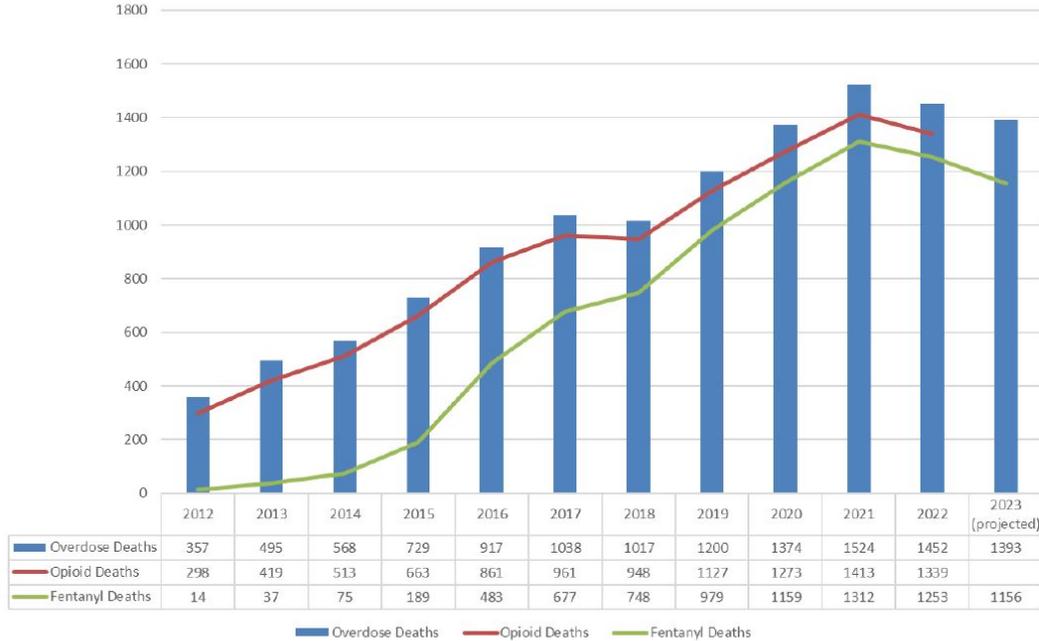
ImageTrend



OCME



Connecticut Overdose Deaths 2012-2023



2023 is projected based on Jan-Sept 2023



Member Spotlight

Member Spotlight

Todd Jones

Hunter's Ambulance – Strategy & Development

EMS Network Development Manager – Central Region

Community Injury Prevention Coordinator – Trauma Team – The Hospital of Central Connecticut

MidState Medical Center

The Hospital of Central Connecticut

Todd.Jones@hhchealth.org

Cell: 860-604-4453

Office: 203-514-5156





New Business

New Business

- Peer Recovery Coach / Specialist / Outreach Workers / First Responders, etc. collaboration and care coordination - system of referral and handoffs
 - Please contact Catherine Rees if you would like to be part of a soon-to-be-established workgroup (catherine.rees@midhosp.org)



Workgroup / Committee Updates

Middletown Opioids Settlement Funds Ad Hoc Committee

- **Purpose:** To develop a comprehensive plan for use of the City of Middletown Opioids Settlement Funds through a collaborative and transparent approach with input from those with lived experience.
- **Meeting Schedule:** bi-weekly on Thursday at 2pm
- **Report out**
 - Surveys to capture community voice re: how settlement funds should be used
 - 1 survey for individuals who have experience with opioids - either those who use opioids, are in recovery or know someone who uses opioids
 - 1 survey for peer recovery specialists / recovery coaches / those working in the peer community with lived experience
 - Approval of funding to support Leave Behind Kits

Please contact Catherine Rees if you would like join this ad hoc committee (catherine.rees@midhosp.org)

Workgroup Updates - Intervention / Harm Reduction

- **Purpose:** To develop and implement opiate use harm reduction strategies and interventions through stakeholder collaboration with input from those with lived experience.
- **Meeting Schedule:** 4th Tuesday of the month @ 10am (Zoom)
- **Report out:**
 - Leave Behind Kits
 - “911 & Narcan” Campaign
 - Narcan Training

Please contact Catherine Rees if you would like join this workgroup
(catherine.rees@midhosp.org)



Workgroup Updates - On Hiatus

- Discussion
 - Relaunch?
 - Combine?
 - Transition to Ad Hoc?
- **Access to Treatment Workgroup. Purpose:** To increase access to Substance Use Disorder services through improved communication and collaboration among stakeholders.
- **Education & Prevention Workgroup. Purpose:** To enhance community awareness and knowledge of the harmful impacts of opiate use in order promote prevention, reduce stigma and offer hope by centering those with lived experience and by providing education and training in collaboration with community partners.
- **Resource Awareness Workgroup. Purpose:** To facilitate awareness of prevention and treatment resources for substance use in the Greater Middletown community in order to increase access to services.



Standing Agenda Items

Standing Agenda Items

- Legislative / Policy Updates
- Governor Prevention Council Grant - Deactivation Pouches - any updates?
- Other updates



Updates

White House Challenge: Savings Lives From Overdose



The White House Challenge to Save Lives from Overdose is a nationwide call-to-action to stakeholders across all sectors to commit to save lives by increasing training on and access to life-saving opioid overdose reversal medications.

- https://www.whitehouse.gov/savelivesfromoverdose/?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=4894af9c30-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2024_03_13_01_36&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-4894af9c30-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/savelivesfromoverdose/make-a-commitment/>
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/savelivesfromoverdose/tell-your-story/>



A mission this important requires commitments from all of us. Please share the new action(s) you plan to take to protect your employees, customers, and communities from overdose.



We know so many of you are heroes in your families and communities, working hard daily to prevent and save lives from overdose. You inspire us all. Please tell us your story about saving a life from overdose.



Member Announcements

Narcan Training



The flyer features a background image of a black Naloxone kit with a red cross and the word 'NALOXONE' printed on it. The kit is next to a pair of blue nitrile gloves and some medical supplies. A red banner with the text 'Get Trained Save a Life' is overlaid on the top left of the image. The main title 'NARCAN TRAINING' is in large, bold, black letters on a red background. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout with clear sections for location, time, and training details.

*Get Trained
Save a Life*

NARCAN TRAINING

LOCATION:
Middlesex County Chamber of
Commerce
393 Main Street, Middletown
or join via Zoom

TIME:
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Free of Charge

PRESENTED BY:
Mark Jenkins, CEO & Founder
Connecticut Harm Reduction
Alliance

**THURSDAY
MARCH 28, 2024**

Training will include:

- Overdose Prevention Strategies
- Signs & Symptoms of Overdose
- How to Administer Naloxone
- Good Samaritan Law
- Support Information & Resources

*At completion of training,
Narcan will be dispensed while
supplies last to
those who are in need.*

REGISTER AT: WWW.MIDDLESEXCHAMBER.COM

Logos for dmhas (CT Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services), REP (Recovery & Evidence Practice), CTHRA (Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance), MCSAAC (Middlesex County Substance Abuse & Addiction Center), and Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce are displayed at the bottom.

Any Member Announcements?



Work Status / Tracking

Completed Work

Completed 2022	Completed 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Formation of Task Force (January 2022)● Member Prioritization Survey (April)● Formation of 4 Workgroups (Access to Treatment; Education & Prevention; Intervention / Harm Reduction; Resource Awareness)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Flier for Narcan Leave Behind Kits (April 2023)● Narcan Leave Behind Kits partnership with South Fire District, Middletown (April 2023)● Xylazine Informational piece (May 2023)● Harm Reduction Training by Mark Jenkins, Executive Director, CT Harm Reduction Coalition at Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church (8.16.23)● Harm Reduction RV - Village Expanded Recovery Vehicle (VERV) (Launched 9.6.23; Ribbon Cutting 10.25.23)● Resource Guide (9.30.23)

Completed Work

Completed 2024

- Formation of Middletown Opioids Settlement Funds Ad Hoc Committee

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 12pm, Zoom

