

Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force

Wednesday, July 17, 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, Women's REACH Program
- The Village for Families & Children
- Town of Cromwell Department of Health
- Town of Cromwell Police Department
- Wesleyan University

Agenda

- Welcome New Members
- New Business
- Workgroup / Committee Updates
- Standing Agenda Items
- Member Announcements



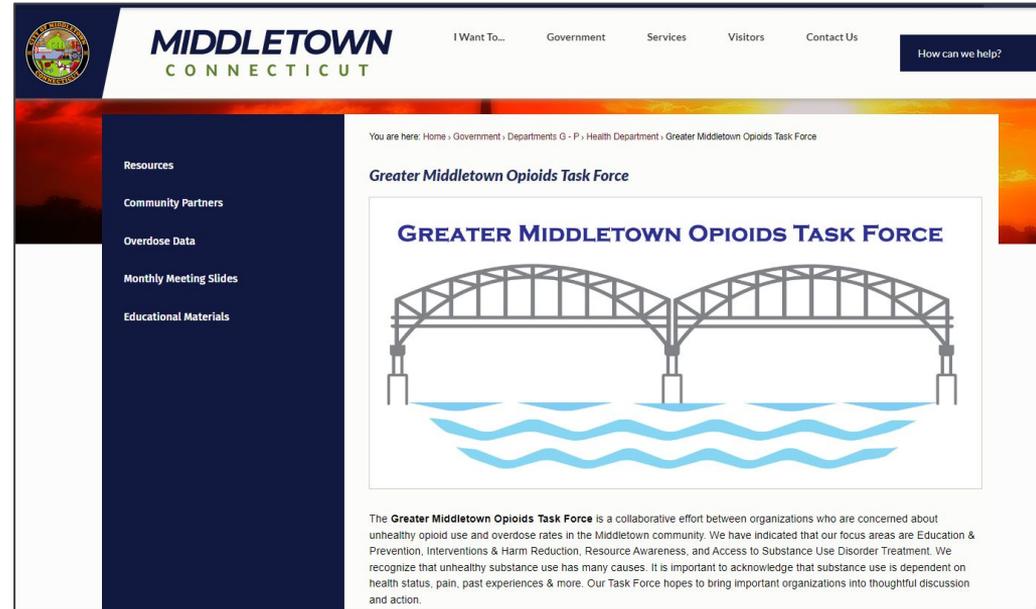
Mission & Vision Statement

- **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



MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT

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You are here: Home > Government > Departments G - P > Health Department > Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force

Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force

GREATER MIDDLETOWN OPIOIDS TASK FORCE

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.





Opioid Overdoses Nonfatal and Fatal

Changes to ODMAP Reporting

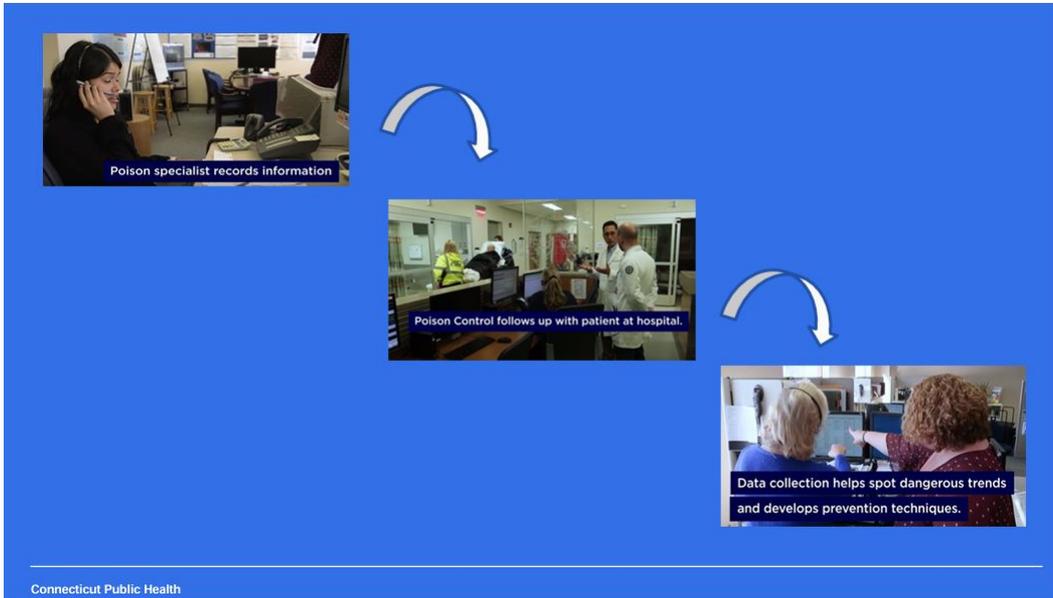
- ▶ As of July 1, 2024:
 - ▶ Overdoses are no longer reported to Connecticut Poison Control Center.
 - ▶ The CT Department of Public Health developed a new program called API to capture overdose information in Connecticut.
 - ▶ API used ImageTrend using data from Electronic Patient Care Records

Original SWORD Reporting Model



Connecticut Public Health

Source:
<https://portal.ct.gov/dmhas/commissions-councils-boards/index/alcohol-and-drug-policy-council>



Source:

<https://portal.ct.gov/dmhas/commissions-councils-boards/index/alcohol-and-drug-policy-council>

The API, ImageTrend to ODMAP

API (Application Programming Interface) Data Flow

EMS Responds to a suspected overdose

- Opioid data is recorded by EMT's or Paramedics on the EPCR (Electronic Patient Care Record)
- EPCR is uploaded to the ImageTrend database (in the Cloud) - and transferred to the DPH
- A Select Query runs every 20 Min and extracts all opioid fields required for OD-Map
- Report is posted through a VPN tunnel to the OD-Map Website for consumption and display
- Data can be viewed by any user approved by Washington/Baltimore HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area), includes local public health, law enforcement, EMS & Healthcare

Connecticut Public Health

Source:

<https://portal.ct.gov/dmhas/commissions-councils-boards/index/alcohol-and-drug-policy-council>

Benefits of Automation

- ImageTrend is the original source for all pre-hospital patient encounters
- The data feed facilitates an improvement in our ability to assess the overdose landscape, and to identify trends
- Automated feed virtually eliminates the reporting compliance issue.
- Frees EMS staff from up to 15 minutes per call to CPCC.
- Reduces long term overhead, as API was developed in house by DPH staff.



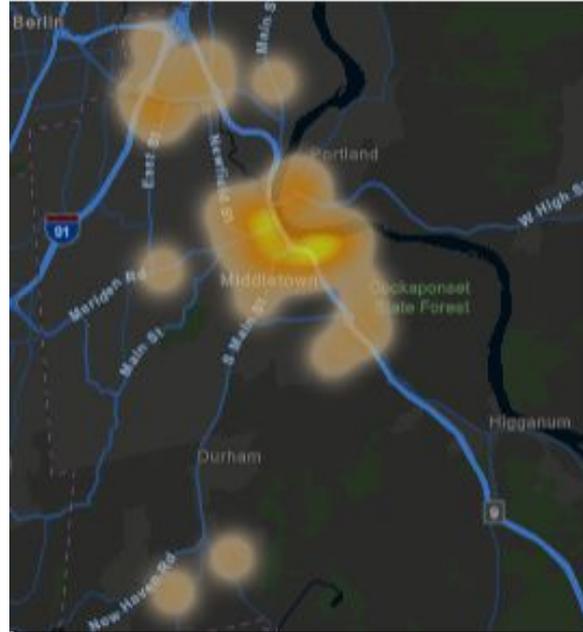
Connecticut Public Health

Source:
<https://portal.ct.gov/dmhas/commissions-councils-boards/index/alcohol-and-drug-policy-council>

Overdoses from January 1 - July 16, 2024
Cromwell, Durham, Middlefield, Middletown and
Portland

Total Suspected Overdoses	44
Fatal Overdoses	19
Naloxone Administered	42

Overdose Heatmap from 1/1/24 - 7/16/24
Cromwell, Durham, Middlefield, Middletown, Portland



Fatal and Non-Fatal Overdoses by Suspected Drug

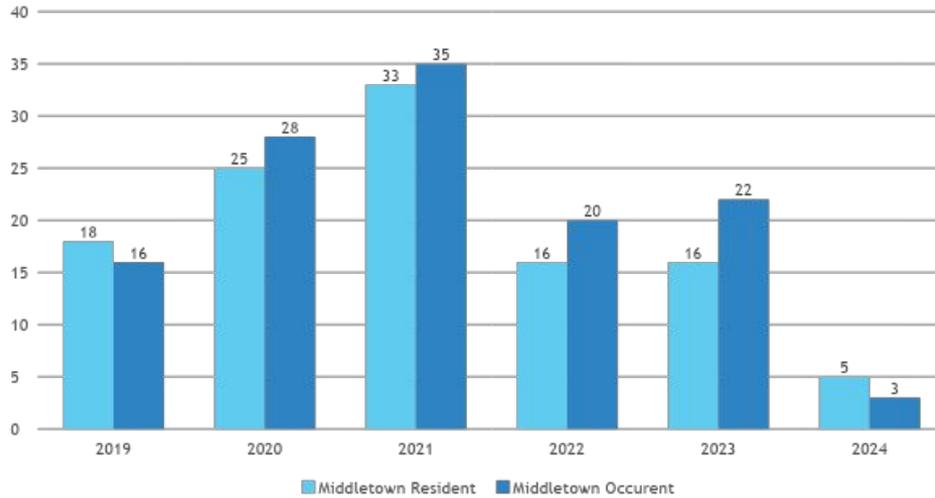
Suspected Drug	
Fentanyl	14
Prescription Drugs	1
Heroin	7
Other / Unknown Opioid	16
Other / Alcohol	4
PCP	1
Crack/Cocaine	3

Middletown Unintentional Overdose Deaths

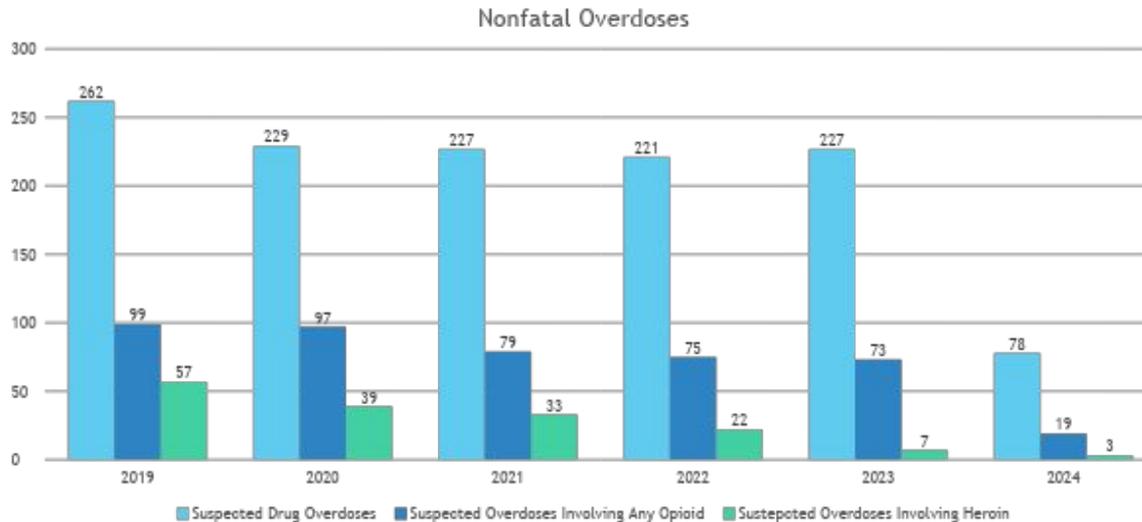
2019 - 2024
(as of 3-4-24)

Source: Office of the CT Chief Medical
Examiner

Middletown Unintentional Overdose Deaths



Middletown Non-fatal drug overdoses 2019-2024



Source: EpiCenter 4.0.1



Opportunities

Opioids Death Rates Website

Update from Daniela Giordano, LMSW, Regional Network Manager, Eastern CT, Carelon Behavioral Health

- Follow up to the Overdose data analysis: A. Ram, from the Yale School of Public Health has created a website where the data from their study can be viewed ctoverdosedeadth.github.io.

Fatal opioid-detected overdoses in Connecticut

This website is dedicated to providing in-depth information on opioid-detected overdose deaths in Connecticut from 2018-2022. Additional years will be added when available. All data is from the [Connecticut Office of the Chief Medical Examiner](#) and comprises all decedents with an accidental/undetermined cause of death where opioids were detected in the postmortem toxicology report.

We have data for the following regions in the state. Click to be redirected to the appropriate page.

[Statewide](#) [Region 1](#) [Region 2](#) [Region 3](#) [Region 4](#) [Region 5](#) [Region 6](#)

DMHAS regions are as follows:

- **Region 1:** Bridgeport, Easton, Fairfield, Monroe, Stratford, Trumbull, Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Stamford, Derby, Seymour, Shelton
- **Region 2:** New Haven, Hamden, North Haven, Guilford, Branford, East Haven, Madison, North Branford, West Haven, Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge, Milford, Ansonia, Union, Willington, Windham, Woodstock, Storrs, East Haddam, East Hampton, Portland, Cromwell, Durham, Haddam, Killingworth, Middlefield, Middletown, Higganum, Bozrah, Colchester, East Lyme, Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Montville, New London, Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex, Guilford, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Westbrook, Madison, North Stonington, Norwich, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Stonington, Voluntown, Waterford
- **Region 3:** Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Columbia, Coventry, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Mansfield, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Manchester, S. Windsor, Tolland, Vernon, Andover, East Hartford, Glastonbury, Hebron, Marlborough
- **Region 4:** Bloomfield, East Granby, East Windsor, Enfield, Granby, Somers, Stafford Springs, Suffield, Windsor, Windsor Locks, Hartford, West Hartford, Bolton, Ellington, Wolcott, Woodbury
- **Region 5:** Bethel, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Danbury, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield, Sherman, Barkhamsted, Bethlehem, Canaan, Colebrook, Cornwall, Goshen, Hartland, Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, New Hartford, Norfolk, New Canaan, Roxbury, Salisbury, Sharon, Thomaston, Torrington, Warren, Washington, Watertown, Winchester, Woodbury, Thomaston, Watertown, Beacon Falls, Cheshire, Middlebury, Naugatuck, Oakville, Oxford, Prospect, Southbury, Waterbury
- **Region 6:** Avon, Bristol, Burlington, Canton, Collinsville, Farmington, Forestville, Plainville, Plantsville, Terryville, Simsbury, Torrington, Southington, Unionville, Weatogue, West Simsbury, Berlin, New Britain, Newington, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, Meriden, Wallingford



Middletown Substance Abuse Prevention Council

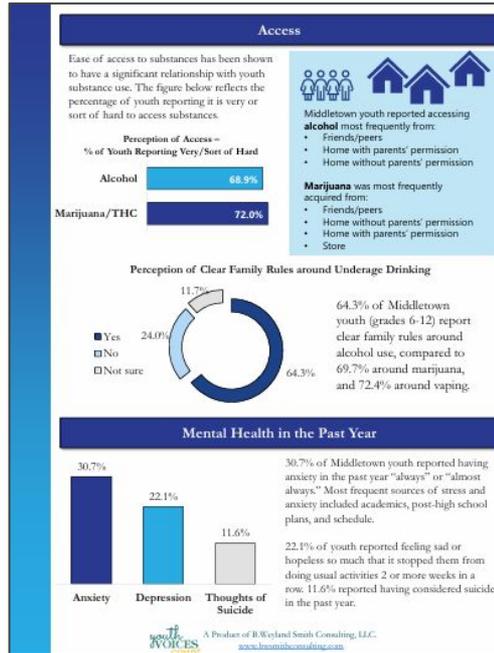
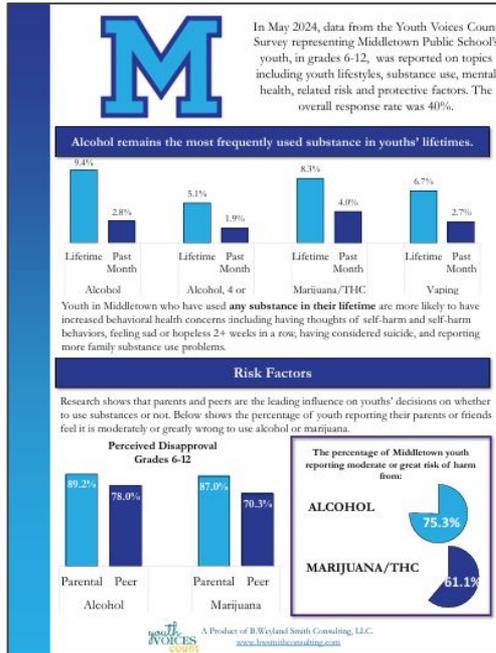
Update from Kate Glendon and Cassidee McDonnell, Rushford:

- Through mini-grant funding: Narcan purchase, lock boxes, Detera bags, and storage-locked bags to provide to participants who attend Narcan Training.
- Narcan and QPR training opportunity.
- Upcoming media campaign from the [The Danger of Counterfeit RX Drugs | You Think You Know \(youthinkyouknowct.org\)](https://www.youthinkyouknowct.org)
- In Meriden, they're gearing up for a themed week in honor of Overdose Awareness Day. The week includes harm reduction, understanding substance abuse disorders, a job fair, Narcan training, and a self-care day.
 - ***Does the Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force want to do something similar?***



Middletown Substance Abuse Prevention Council

Updated infographic of the MPS school survey results.



AmeriCorps Program of CHC - Overdose Awareness Day Save the Date!

- Date: Friday, August 30
- Time: 11am-2pm
- Location: Middletown
- If you'd like to participate/ table the event, please reach out to Courtney Morgan AmeriCorps Member, Overdose Prevention Champion, Healthy Communities, an AmeriCorps Program @ morganc@chc1.com



Mental Health First Aid Certification Training

Gilead Community Services is offering:

- A free Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) certification training. This is open to interested community organizations.
- Classes can accommodate between 15 to 25 people. The course consists of two 4-hour sessions or one 8-hour session.
- If you are interested in partnering with Gilead or learning more about this opportunity, please get in touch with Jennifer Peifer at jpeifer@gileadcs.org or call 860-754-3366.

MHFA training is a program that teaches people without a clinical background how to recognize, assess, and assist someone experiencing a mental health challenge.

First Aiders do not diagnose or provide counseling or therapy; instead, they are provided with practical tools and answers to common questions, like “What do I do?” and “Where can someone find help?”



Enrich Your Community by Hosting a FREE Mental Health First Aid Training Course

What is Mental Health First Aid?
Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training teaches people without clinical backgrounds how to help someone experiencing a mental health challenge.

What does it mean to be a Gilead MHFA partner?
Partners provide training space and marketing, and in exchange receive FREE MHFA certification training for their employees or associates. Partner spaces should be able to accommodate at least fifteen participants and two trainers with audio/visual/Wi-Fi access.

When will Gilead offer these trainings?
Gilead will work with partners to coordinate dates and times. MHFA certification training is an 8-hour course. You can choose between one 8-hour session, or two 4-hour sessions.

Why should my organization commit to this partnership?
This is a unique opportunity to offer your employees, neighbors, and friends the chance to become MHFA certified for FREE. This training equips communities with the tools they need to effectively respond to mental health challenges safely.

These free MHFA training courses are possible thanks to a generous grant from The Cigna Group Foundation

To become a partner, please contact Jennifer Peifer at jpeifer@gileadcs.org

To find out more information about Gilead, please visit www.gileadcs.org







Updates

Subcommittee Updates

- **Middletown Opioids Settlement Funds Ad Hoc Committee**
 - Grant application process - under development
- **Intervention / Harm Reduction & Access to Treatment Workgroup**
 - Leave Behind Kits - Narcan Instructions, etc.





Underway & Standing Agenda Items

Underway, Considerations & Standing Agenda Items

Underway	Considerations	Standing Agenda Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respite Care at SVDM• Task Force Peer Support Subcommittee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recovery Friendly Community• CLEAR-type concept	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legislative / Policy Updates• OSAC (CT Opioids Settlement Advisory Committee) Updates





Member Announcements

Any Member Announcements?



Work Status / Tracking

Completed Work

Completed 2024

- Formation of Middletown Opioids Settlement Funds Ad Hoc Committee



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)



Next Meeting

- Wednesday, August 21, 2024, 12pm, Zoom

