

Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force

Wednesday, October 16, 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
- Updates
- Workgroup / Committee Updates
- Standing Agenda Items
- Member Announcements



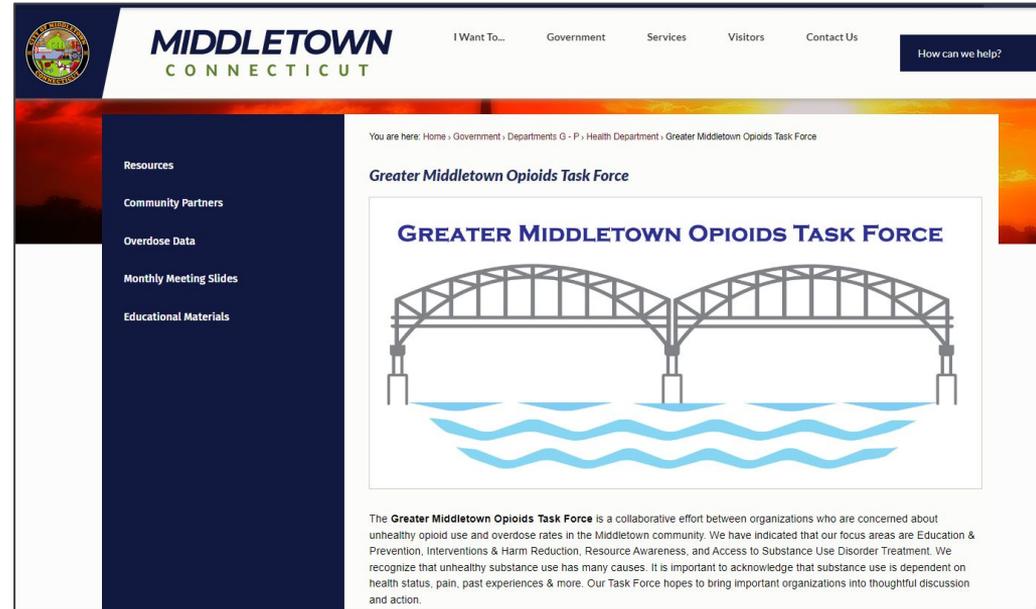
Mission & Vision Statement

- **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 left is the Middletown Connecticut seal. The header features the text "MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT" and navigation links: "I Want To...", "Government", "Services", "Visitors", and "Contact Us". A dark blue button on the right says "How can we help?". Below the header is a breadcrumb trail: "You are here: Home > Government > Departments G - P > Health Department > Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force". The main content area has a dark blue sidebar with links: "Resources", "Community Partners", "Overdose Data", "Monthly Meeting Slides", and "Educational Materials". The main content area displays the title "Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force" above a logo of a bridge over water. Below the logo 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."

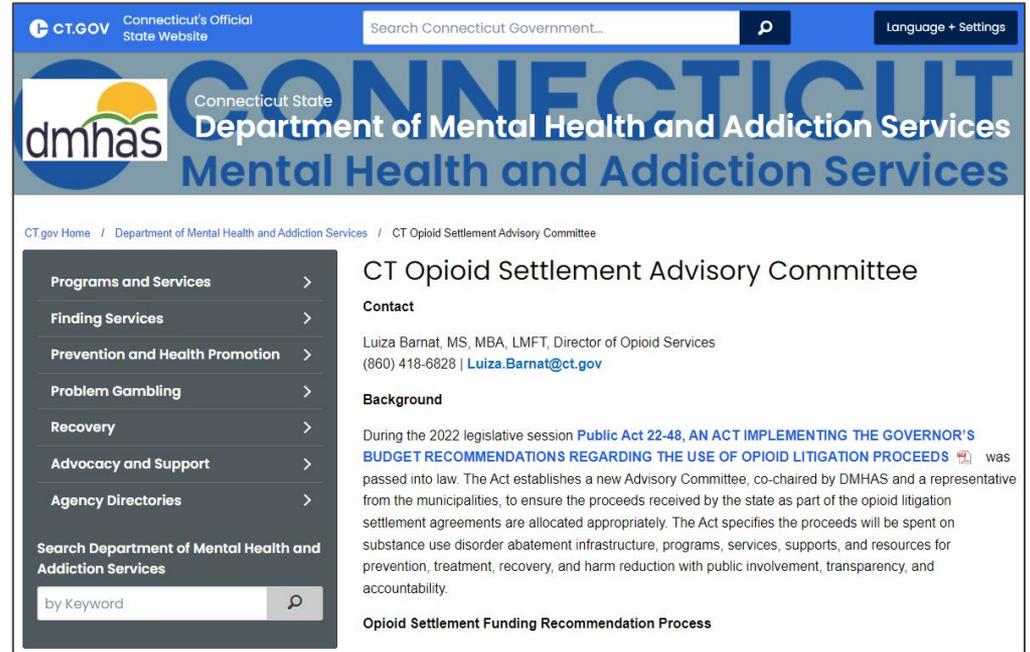




Updates

State of CT Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

Congrats to Kevin Elak for being invited to serve on the State of CT Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee!



The screenshot shows the official website of the Connecticut State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). The page title is "CT Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee". The header includes the DMHAS logo and the text "Connecticut State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services". A navigation menu on the left lists various services: Programs and Services, Finding Services, Prevention and Health Promotion, Problem Gambling, Recovery, Advocacy and Support, and Agency Directories. Below the menu is a search bar for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The main content area features a "Contact" section for Luiza Barnat, MS, MBA, LMFT, Director of Opioid Services, with her phone number and email address. A "Background" section describes the 2022 legislative session Public Act 22-48, which established the Advisory Committee. The page also includes a "Opioid Settlement Funding Recommendation Process" section.

<https://portal.ct.gov/dmhas/news-worthy/news-items/ct-opioid-settlement-advisory-committee>



Subcommittee Updates

Middletown Opioids Settlement Funds Ad Hoc Committee:

- Grant application process
- Survey
 - Please distribute flier widely!
 - If paper copies are needed, please contact Catherine Rees at catherine.rees@midhosp.org
- Grant Review Advisory Committee



GREATER MIDDLETOWN OPIOIDS TASK FORCE



Your Voice Matters!

Middletown Opioids Settlement Needs Survey

For individuals who have experience with opioids - either those who use or have used opioids or know someone who uses opioids - please share your thoughts!

Your feedback will help guide the use of opioids settlement funds received by Middletown.

Please click the below link or scan QR code to complete the survey
<https://tinyurl.com/5422daat>



Thank you for your participation!

For paper surveys, please contact Catherine Rees at 860-358-3034 or catherine.rees@midhosp.org



GREATER MIDDLETOWN OPIOIDS TASK FORCE



¡Tu voz importa!

Encuesta sobre las necesidades de liquidación de opioides en Middletown

Para personas que tienen experiencia con opioides - ya sea aquellos que usan o han usado opioides o saben alguien que usa opioides - ¡comparta su opinión!

Sus comentarios ayudarán a guiar el uso de los fondos del acuerdo sobre opioides recibidos por Middletown.

Haga clic en el enlace a continuación o escanee el código QR para completar la encuesta
<https://tinyurl.com/5422daat>



¡Gracias por tu participación!

Para encuestas impresas, comuníquese con Catherine Rees al 860-358-3034 o catherine.rees@midhosp.org



Subcommittee Updates

Harm Reduction / Intervention Workgroup:

- Leave Behind Kits



Substance Use Prevention Month (October)

<https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/observances/substance-use-prevention-month#>



SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

October is Substance Use Prevention Month

In October, we celebrate Substance Use Prevention Month. To inspire action, each of us can share how prevention is improving lives in our communities.

- Visit our [Prevention Month toolkit](#):
 - Share the social media posts — and your #MyPreventionStory
 - Make use of the tools
- Share resources, year-round:
 - [Talk They Hear You](#)™
 - [Screen4Success](#)
 - [Communities Talk](#)

Join us, in telling the prevention story!

[Visit the Toolkit](#)



SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION MONTH
Telling the Prevention Story



SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION MONTH
Telling the Prevention Story
SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Discussion

Task Force Geographic Area

- Background / question from Livia Cox, Middletown Harm Reduction Initiative:
 - Yale opioid use / harm reduction team is looking for the defined catchment area for Middletown / Middlesex County harm reduction and EMS activities
 - Currently Yale's list includes: Cromwell, East Haddam, East Hampton, Middletown, Middlefield, Portland
 - Yale has suggested adding Haddam?
- Discussion: what is the geographic reach for the Greater Middletown Opioids Task Force?

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day - October 26, 2024

- Rachael Lazor and Briana Reaves from CHC have kindly offered to collaborate on the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on October 26th. If you are interested in collaborating, please reach out to Rachel and Briana at:
 - lazorr@chc1.com
 - ReavesB@chc1.com



Task Force Member Spotlight



Please contact Catherine Rees at catherine.rees@midhosp.org
if you would like to give a member spotlight



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">● CT Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee (OSAC) Updates OSAC Website September 9, 2024 Agenda OSAC Bylaws● Legislative / Policy Updates





Member Announcements

Announcements

Congratulations, Mark!

10 YEAR CELEBRATION

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

ROAST & TOAST

Gala FOR
MARK JENKINS

CTHRA | **CHACK**
Connecticut Farm Production Alliance | Connecticut Horse Raisers' Association

"Standing in the Gap"

\$100 REGULAR ADMISSION

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10TH, 2024

DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION
BUSINESS CASUAL

Bond Ballroom
338 ASYLUM ST., HARTFORD, CT



Any Member Announcements?



Annual Dates

Annual Dates

- Overdose Awareness Day - August 31, 2024
- Substance Use Prevention Month - October
- National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day - October 26, 2024
- SAMSHA's Prevention Day - February 3, 2025
- National Prevention Week - May 11-17, 2025

Work Status / Tracking

Completed Work

Completed 2024

- Formation of Middletown Opioids Settlement Funds Ad Hoc Committee (February 2024)
- Development of Narcan How To educational piece in English and Spanish (August 2024)
- The Governor's Prevention Partnership - Overdose Awareness Day Press Conference (8.28.24)
- Leave Behind Kits Launch (September 2024)
- Community survey centering voices with lived experience to identify needs to guide distribution of Middletown opioids settlement funds (October 2024)
- Pending Completion:
 - Grants for Middletown opioids settlement funds
 - Formation of Recovery Support / Peer Support Workgroup



Completed Work

Completed 2022	Completed 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Formation of Task Force (January 2022)● Member Prioritization Survey (April 2022)● 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, November 20, 2024, 12pm, Zoom

