

SUBSTANCE USE ACTION COALITION OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

Please enjoy networking with our community partners!

We will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m.

October 13, 2026

Community Partners Meeting

SUBSTANCE USE ACTION COALITION OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

WAUKESHA COUNTY SUAC

VISION, PURPOSE, AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Vision

The Substance Use Action Coalition (SUAC) of Waukesha County envisions a healthy, connected community where individuals are empowered to make safe choices around substance use, recovery is supported, and everyone can access the care and support they need to thrive.

Purpose

The purpose of the Substance Use Action Coalition (SUAC) of Waukesha County is to save lives and strengthen community health by addressing substance use together through collaboration, data driven strategies, and community led action.

Mission

The Substance Use Action Coalition (SUAC) supports Waukesha County residents by mobilizing community partners to reduce the harms of substance use, increase access to treatment, and support recovery through education, collaboration, and bold action.





Brenda Dunlap
SUAC Co-Chair



Larry Nelson
SUAC Co-Chair



Cathy Olig,
Consultant &
Business Owner,
Appeal Marketing,
LLC

SUAC Facilitator Transition & Introduction of our New Coalition Facilitator

Agenda

- Who is in the room?
- Moment of Silence
- New SUAC Website
- Final Report Out- AWY SOR Grant
- New SUAC Resources
- Voices Survey
- Building a Grief Support Resource Map
- Art for a Cause



SUBSTANCE USE ACTION COALITION OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

WELCOME!

30-SECOND INTRODUCTIONS

Name • Organization • Role

If your energy level had a color today, what color would it be?



SHARED UNDERSTANDING. COLLECTIVE ACTION. STRONGER COMMUNITIES.



Welcome New Community Partners!

Amy Hackman

Community Outreach Manager
Aurora Healthcare

Cassie Kiel

Waukesha County HHS (new position)

Michelle Tocco

Communications Relations
Newport Healthcare

Tracy Oerter

Chief Clinical Services
Meta House

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Remembering County Executive Paul Farrow

A Moment of Silence



SUAC Communication Updates

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- New SUAC Website: https://suacofwc.org/
- New SUAC Gmail account: facilitator@suacofwc.org
- Downloadable Resources for Partners
- SUAC Event & Education Calendar

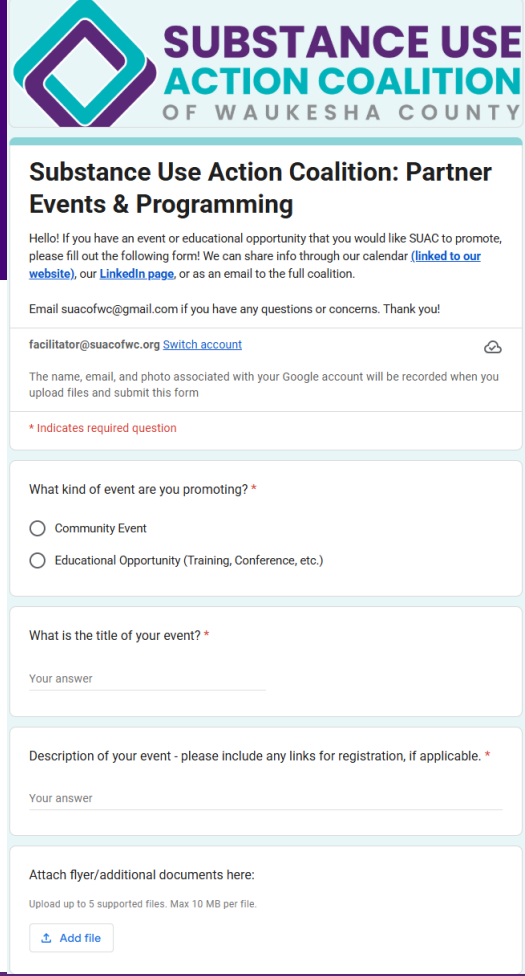
Special thanks to Lisa Kwiat for designing the new website and spearheading this critical transition for the coalition!

HAVE AN EVENT YOU WANT PROMOTED?

If you have an event or educational opportunity that you would like SUAC to promote, you can submit through this link. We can share info through our calendar, our **LinkedIn page**, or as an email to the full coalition.

Event & Resource Submission

- We will be using a new Form for partners to submit events and educational opportunities
- Click the link on the landing page of the website and submit!
- Events will be posted on the SUAC partner calendar



SUBSTANCE USE ACTION COALITION OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

Substance Use Action Coalition: Partner Events & Programming

Hello! If you have an event or educational opportunity that you would like SUAC to promote, please fill out the following form! We can share info through our calendar (linked to our website), our LinkedIn page, or as an email to the full coalition.

Email suacofwc@gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

facilitator@suacofwc.org Switch account

The name, email, and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form

* Indicates required question

What kind of event are you promoting? *

- Community Event
- Educational Opportunity (Training, Conference, etc.)

What is the title of your event? *

Your answer

Description of your event - please include any links for registration, if applicable. *

Your answer

Attach flyer/additional documents here:

Upload up to 5 supported files. Max 10 MB per file.

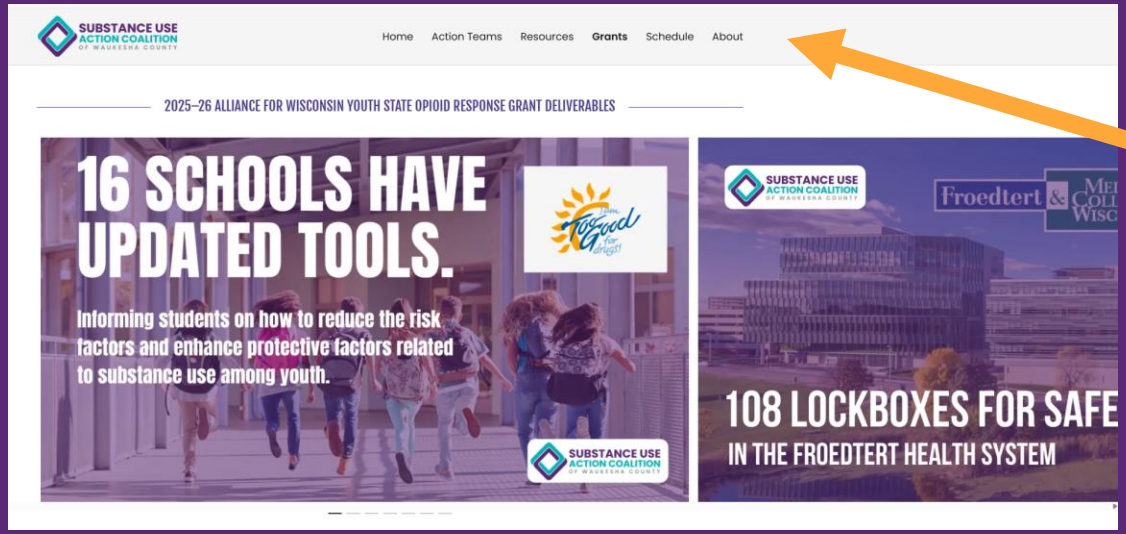
Add file

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Let's Take a Few Minutes to Explore the New Website!

- Explore individually for 3-4 minutes on your phone or laptop
- In your small group share
  - What's new?
  - What caught your attention?

Use this QR Code to access the new SUAC Website!



Grant summary on the SUAC Website

Alliance for WI Youth (AWY) SOR Grant- FINAL REPORT

Brenda Dunlap, Director of Programs, Elevate
Fiscal Agent for the grant & SUAC Co-Chair

Resources Available to Partners from the SOR Grant

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Stigma Pocket Guide



Dterra Drug Disposal Pouch



Medication Lock Boxes



AGENCY AND PARTNER UPDATES



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We invite community partners to share timely updates and information that may be of interest or value to the broader coalition.



Voices Survey Update

Frances Thomas & Felicia Behnke Shaw

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VOICES Survey Key Milestones

STEP 1

Project Planning & Approval

SUAC coordinated with Johns Hopkins and Vital Strategies, secured permissions, and managed project administration.

STEP 2

Survey Development

SUAC and Marquette University finalized survey questions and prepared for implementation.

STEP 3

Data Collection

Beyond Vision conducted the phone bank and collected survey responses.

STEP 4

Data Analysis

Marquette University analyzed survey data and prepared findings.

HERE NOW!

STEP 5

Community Dissemination

SUAC shared results and key findings with partners and stakeholders across Waukesha County.

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Trends in the Waukesha County drug landscape

Among survey respondents, **cocaine or crack** was the most reported substance used in the past year.

The shift from HTF to SUAC reflects changing local substance use trends and a broader prevention and response approach.

PAST YEAR USAGE	YES	NO
Cocaine or Crack	184	35
Heroin	85	134
Fentanyl	95	124
Crystal Methamphetamine, speed, or other methamphetamine	123	96
Opioid pain pills	82	137
Tranquilizers or antianxiety drugs	97	122
Stimulants	92	127
Buprenorphine, Suboxone, methadone	59	160

n=219

Mixing or Combining

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Among survey respondents, **38.7% reported mixing or combining substances** in the past month.

Note: Combining substances can increase the risk of overdose and other harmful health effects, whether intentional or unintentional.

PAST MONTH MIX OR COMBINE

Response	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No	133	55.4%	61.3%	61.3%
Yes	84	35.0%	38.7%	100.0%
Valid Total	217	90.4%	100.0%	
Missing (System)	23	9.6%		
Total	240	100.0%		

Overdoses in the Past Year

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31.2% (68 respondents) reported at least one overdose in the past year.

- 15.6% (34 respondents) reported one overdose.
- 15.6% (34 respondents) reported multiple overdoses.

80.9% (55 respondents) reported receiving naloxone during their most recent overdose.

Percentages are based on valid responses to each question.



Gap in Safer Smoking and Snorting Supply Use



89.2% (148 respondents) reported smoking or snorting substances in the past month, yet **only 5.9%** (5 respondents) reported using safer smoking supplies and **2.4%** (2 respondents) reported using safer snorting supplies, highlighting a potential gap in harm reduction resources.

Percentages are based on valid responses to each question, which had different response totals.

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Naloxone Access and Confidence Are High

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- **75.5%** (163 respondents) reported having a naloxone kit.
- **82.8%** (183 respondents) reported feeling fairly or completely comfortable administering naloxone.

This highlights encouraging levels of naloxone access and confidence among survey respondents, although the survey alone cannot establish the impact of local distribution efforts.

Economic Insecurity Is a Significant Concern



- **51.2%** (123 respondents) reported experiencing housing insecurity.
- **74.7%** (162 respondents) reported worrying about paying for basic needs.

These findings highlight the importance of addressing economic stability and housing needs alongside substance use prevention and response.

High Rates of Recent Incarceration

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- **53.9%** (117 respondents) reported being in jail or prison within the past year.

This highlights an opportunity to strengthen connections to substance use treatment, harm reduction resources, and other support services during incarceration and following release.

Survey Results Guiding Action

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82.9% (179 respondents) reported having Medicaid or BadgerCare coverage.

We are already using survey findings to improve education on how and where to access substance use treatment.

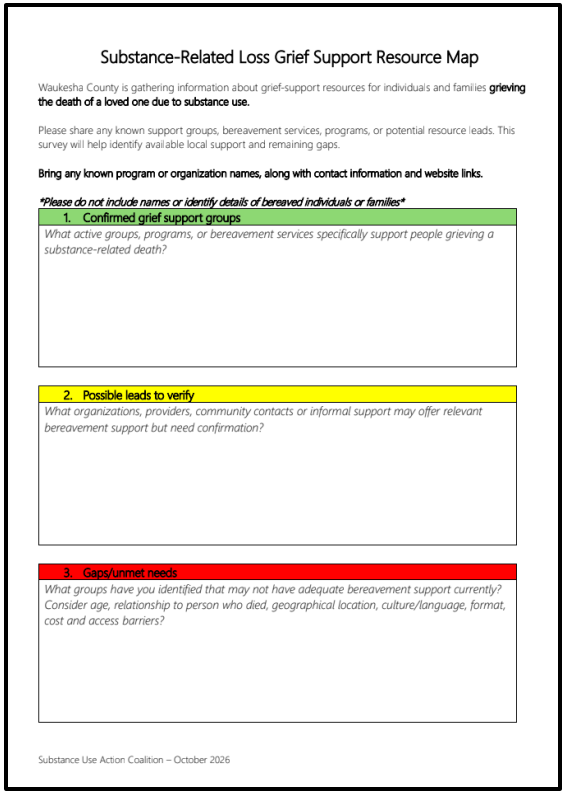
This is particularly important given the upcoming Medicaid changes and uncertainty surrounding eligibility, coverage, and access to care.

Frances

Questions?

Building a Substance Use-Related Grief Support Resource Map

Waukesha County HHS Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Coordinator & Social Worker, Stephanie Engle, will take the team through a process to combine our knowledge and identify additional resources and leads.



Substance-Related Loss Grief Support Resource Map

Waukesha County is gathering information about grief-support resources for individuals and families **grieving the death of a loved one due to substance use.**

Please share any known support groups, bereavement services, programs, or potential resource leads. This survey will help identify available local support and remaining gaps.

Bring any known program or organization names, along with contact information and website links.

Please do not include names or identify details of bereaved individuals or families

1. Confirmed grief support groups

What active groups, programs, or bereavement services specifically support people grieving a substance-related death?

2. Possible leads to verify

What organizations, providers, community contacts or informal support may offer relevant bereavement support but need confirmation?

3. Gaps/unmet needs

What groups have you identified that may not have adequate bereavement support currently? Consider age, relationship to person who died, geographical location, culture/language, format, cost and access barriers?

Substance Use Action Coalition – October 2026



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Led by ***Stephanie Engle***, we invite SUAC community partners to write supportive messages for families who have experienced a loss.

Shared around the holidays, these messages will offer comfort and connection during a difficult time and complement our first Art for a Cause installation.

Please take our BRIEF meeting survey!



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NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Meeting summary will be distributed in the next 7-10 days
- ✓ Last 2026 SUAC Quarterly Community Partner Meetings will be held on December 1, 2026 (VIRTUAL)
- ✓ Take a moment to introduce yourself to Cathy Olig, the new SUAC Facilitator!
- ✓ Network until 4:30 if you would like!

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