



**WAUKESHA COUNTY  
HEROIN TASK FORCE**

**WORKING TOGETHER**  
to break the cycle of substance use  
through community action & hope!



**June 9, 2026**  
**Community Partners Meeting**

# WAUKESHA COUNTY HTF

## VISION, PURPOSE, AND MISSION STATEMENTS

### Vision

The Waukesha County Heroin Task Force (HTF) 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 Waukesha County Heroin Task Force (HTF) is to save lives and strengthen community health by addressing substance use together through collaboration, data driven strategies, and community led action.

### Mission

The Waukesha County Heroin Task Force (HTF) 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.



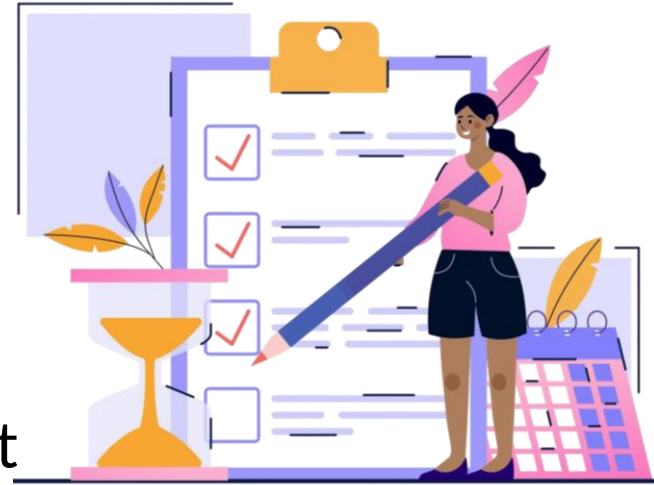
**Brenda Dunlap**  
HTF Co-Chair



**Larry Nelson**  
HTF Co-Chair

# Agenda

- Who is in the room?
- Community Partner Announcements
- Exciting HTF Announcement!
- Update & Information on AWY SOR Grant Opportunity
- Voices Survey
- New Recovery High School- Crosspoint Academy
- Stigma Reduction Pocket Guide





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# Welcome New Community Partners!

Alicia Halvensleben  
Mayor  
City of Waukesha

Rico Camacho  
Alderman  
City of Waukesha

Beth Moltzan  
Alderman  
City of Waukesha

Tim Jacob  
Community  
Outreach  
Rogers Behavioral  
Health

Carolyn Parkinson  
Chief Operating  
Officer  
IMPACT, Inc.

Sher Marshall  
Chief Administrator  
Denoon Recovery  
Center

# Special Recognition & Thank You!



WAUKESHA COUNTY  
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*Bob Waite will be retiring from Impact, Inc. at the end of August.*

*We are incredibly grateful to Bob for the tremendous “Impact” that he has made here in Waukesha County!*

*Thanks Bob and we are excited for you as you step into this next journey!*



Name  
Agency/Org.  
Role

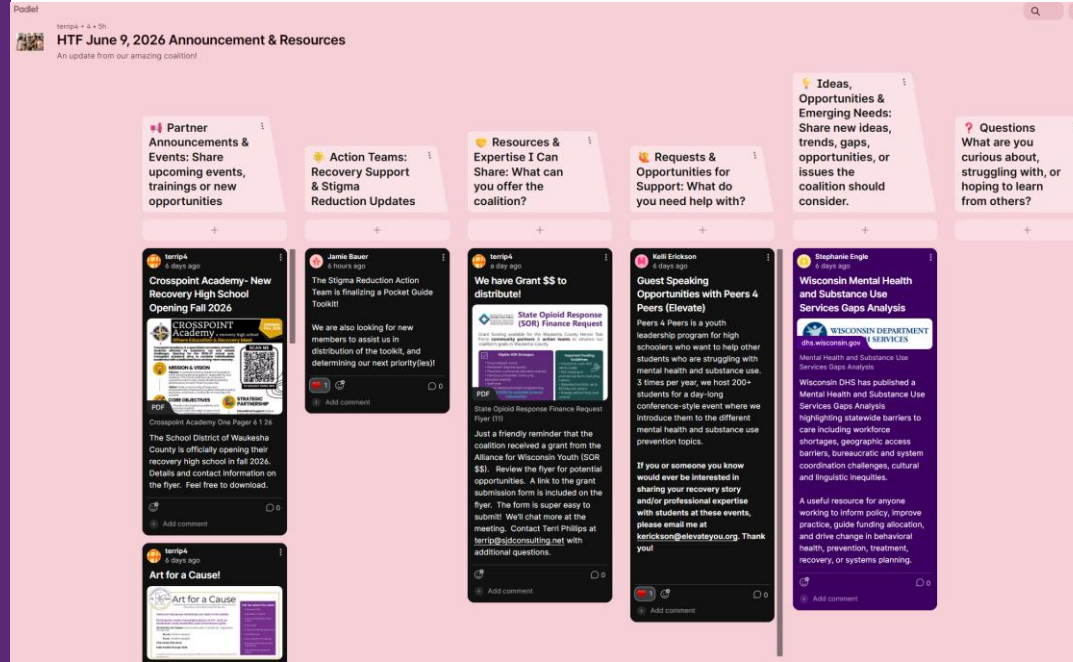
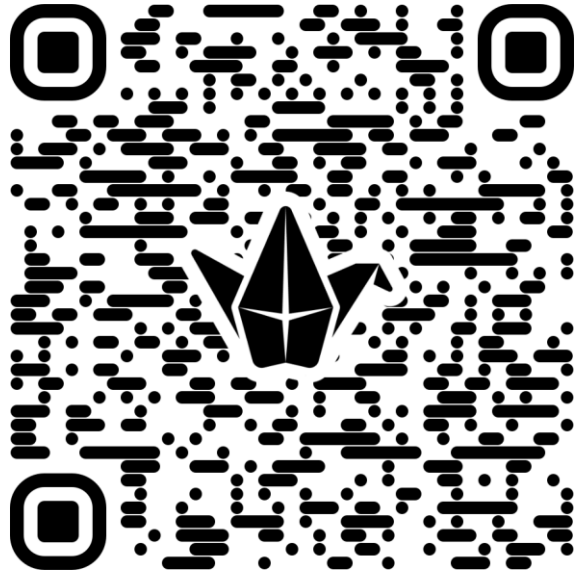
**WHO IS HERE TODAY?  
QUICK INTRODUCTIONS!**

# AGENCY AND PARTNER UPDATES



We invite community partners to share announcements and other relevant and timely information through our HTF Announcements & Resources Padlet this quarter!

Use the QR code or [this link to add to our board.](#)





Excuse me! I have an announcement!

**Important  
Coalition  
Announcement!**

Announcement!



**SUBSTANCE USE**  
**ACTION COALITION**  
OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

### ***New Community Coalition name!***

- Coalition transition over the years
- Important to have a name that reflects the work of our partners
- Many options reviewed & discussed
- Clear and simple
- Retained color palette & primary symbol

2026

## 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 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

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.



[www.wchtf.org](http://www.wchtf.org)



*The Substance Use Action Coalition meets quarterly, bringing members together through two virtual meetings and two in-person gatherings annually.*

(Formerly known as the Heroin Task Force.  
We're working on an updated website.)

WEBSITE



YOUTUBE



# Upcoming Communication Updates

- LinkedIn Page
- Website & Content
- Related Communications Materials
- New “About Us” document

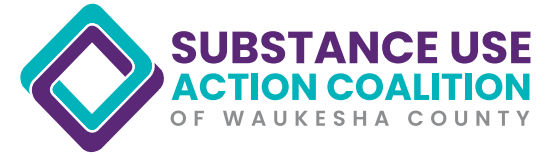
## **Alliance for WI Youth (AWY) SOR Grant**

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

**Brenda Dunlap,  
Director of  
Programs, Elevate**

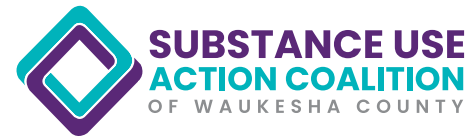
**Elevate is also  
serving as the  
fiscal agent for the  
AWY grant HTF  
recently received**

# **AWY SOR Grant Facts**



- SUAC received \$33,612 to utilize AND pass on to community partners spend on prevention efforts
- Created an ad-hoc team of partners & process to distribute grant dollars

| SOR Strategy                                     | Funding Awarded       | Note              |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Drug takeback events                             | \$500                 | -                 |
| Permanent disposal drop box(es)                  | \$500                 | -                 |
| Prescription drug deactivation units             | \$1,712 (400 pouches) | RPC will purchase |
| Prescription drug lock boxes                     | \$1,700 (150 boxes)   | RPC will purchase |
| Prevention community education event(s)          | \$1,000               | -                 |
| Overdose prevention community education event(s) | \$1,000               | -                 |
| Staff time                                       | \$7,200               | -                 |
| School-based prevention programming              | \$20,000              | -                 |



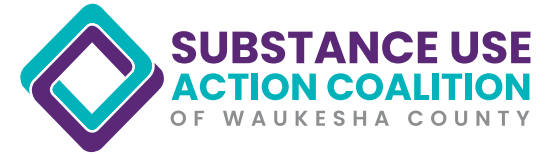
| SUMMARY                                  |
|------------------------------------------|
| Total award: \$33,612                    |
| RPC responsible to spend: \$3,412        |
| Coalition responsible to spend: \$30,200 |

- There are "buckets" of opportunities!
- Some partners have submitted finance requests and have been approved.

Here is the current spend down of the grant

| State Opioid Response Funding            |       | Total Spent                                         |                                  | YTD Spend   |               |  |
|------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--|
| Drug Security & Disposal                 |       |                                                     |                                  |             |               |  |
| Activity/Expense                         |       | If additional \$ is available, (# of units desired) | Total Desired Additional Expense |             |               |  |
| Drug Takeback Event                      | Total |                                                     |                                  | \$411.48    |               |  |
| Public Awareness and Community Education |       |                                                     |                                  |             |               |  |
| Activity/Expense                         |       | If additional \$ is available, (# of units desired) | Total Desired Additional Expense |             |               |  |
| Public Awareness Campaign                | Total |                                                     |                                  | \$0.00      |               |  |
| Drug Checking Technologies               |       |                                                     |                                  |             |               |  |
|                                          | Total |                                                     |                                  | \$0.00      |               |  |
| Harm Reduction                           |       |                                                     |                                  |             |               |  |
| Activity/Expense                         |       | If additional \$ is available, (# of units desired) | Total Desired Additional Expense |             |               |  |
| Community Harm Reduction Event           | Total |                                                     |                                  | \$0.00      |               |  |
| School Based Programming                 |       |                                                     |                                  |             |               |  |
| Activity/Expense                         |       | If additional \$ is available, (# of units desired) | Total Desired Additional Expense |             |               |  |
| School Based                             | Total |                                                     |                                  | \$13,049.50 |               |  |
| Coalition Staff Time                     |       |                                                     |                                  |             |               |  |
| Activity/Expense                         |       | If additional \$ is available, (# of units desired) | Total Desired Additional Expense |             |               |  |
|                                          | Total |                                                     |                                  | \$2,955.00  |               |  |
|                                          |       |                                                     |                                  |             |               |  |
|                                          |       |                                                     |                                  | \$16,415.98 | TOTAL SPENT   |  |
|                                          |       |                                                     |                                  | \$13,784.02 | LEFT TO SPEND |  |

# How to Apply!



- Follow instructions which includes the finance request JotForm! Link on our website
- If applying for staff time, contact Terri or Jamie to get the spreadsheet to account for time
- We will let you know if more information is needed and if approved what reporting is necessary
- Finance requests must be SPENT by August 31, 2026
- Can apply for expenses from Jan. 1- August 31, 2026, **last call for submissions August 15, 2026**

# Example: Peers4Peers Program

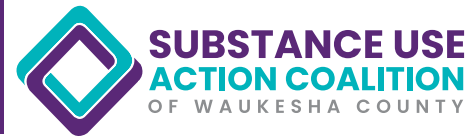




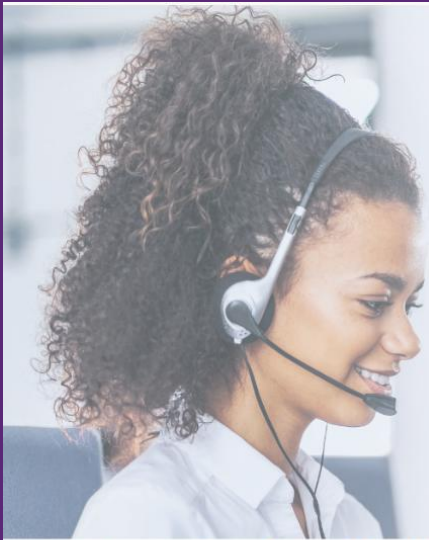
**AS YOU THINK ABOUT  
PREVENTION WORK,  
WHAT COULD YOU DO  
WITH \$1,000?**

**Think, Pair, Share**

# AS YOU THINK ABOUT PREVENTION WORK, WHAT COULD YOU DO WITH \$1,000? (Poll Results)



- Deploy 3 IMPACT 211 app kiosks in strategic locations.
- Books
- Printed Literature
- use our incarcerated population to develop programs
- Spread education and awareness to youth
- Training for all schools on Standfords REACH curriculum
- 7 Naloxone Overdose Resource Kits for a school
- Teens listen to those with lived experience. Provide honorariums to speakers with lived experience.
- Help a family member who desperately needs rehab for addiction
- One Narcan per order at McDonald's for a day
- More Prototype mobile Naloxone purple Boxes
- More purple portable naloxone boxes
- Print up yard signs for the Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign
- Community dinner for anyone impacted by substance use
- Youth prevention in child protective services
- Increase prevention methods for disposal of substances
- youth focus groups (use \$\$ for incentives)
- Partner with a therapy dog and buy the dog a custom vest that you can have Narcan in
- Parent education events throughout the community
- Training
- Expand the Peers4Peers Peer program
- Seed money for student mini grants of \$200 each.
- Have a "Prevention Drive-Thru" Feed your tummy and heart



We don't ask for names,  
addresses, or anything that  
can identify you.  
Your answers are  
**private and confidential.**

*Learning from lived experiences helps guide prevention and support.*

## Voices Survey Update

Frances Thomas, Public Health Strategy Supervisor

**Thank you to ALL of our  
community partners for  
helping make this survey  
possible!!**

But a  
special  
shout out  
goes to...



## Susie Austin



Susie's promotion of the survey through WCS over several months was instrumental to its success. She served as a strong advocate for the project and helped amplify its importance throughout the community.

# 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.

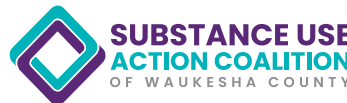
**HERE NOW!**

## STEP 5



### Community Dissemination

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





June 2026  
**UPDATE**



**Abiola Keller, PhD**

Associate Dean for Research,  
Associate Professor

Marquette University College of Nursing

## Marquette University Research Partnership

Lead Researcher: Abiola Keller

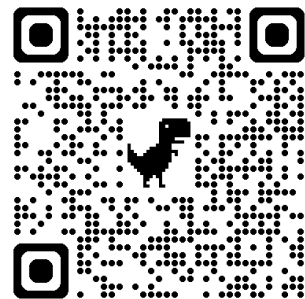
### CURRENT PROGRESS

- Beginning data analysis
- Developing codebook
- Converting qualitative codes into binary variables
- Conducting statistical analysis in SPSS

# 2027 –2029 Community Health Survey

*Open April 22 – June 30*

Partnership with all Waukesha  
County hospital systems & Public  
Health





# CROSSPOINT Academy

a recovery high school

**Where Education & Recovery Meet**

OPENING  
FALL 2026

Crosspoint Academy is a specialized secondary school for students affected by substance use and related challenges. Opening for the 2026-27 school year, Crosspoint Academy aims to combine individualized academics with a dedicated focus on long-term recovery.



## MISSION & VISION

**Mission:** To provide a strong academic foundation while fostering personal growth, responsibility, and resilience. The school intentionally cultivates a supportive community where students practice perseverance to reach their full potential.

**Vision:** To be a community of hope and empowerment where every student receives a quality education and leads a healthy life of meaning and purpose.



## CORE OBJECTIVES

- Provide individualized academic and recovery support
- Provide a safe and sober environment within a restorative culture of recovery, support, and accountability
- Provide goal-oriented coordinated care to ensure success



## THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

**Academics:** Opportunities for credit recovery and accelerated coursework to obtain a High School Diploma.

**Recovery Environment:** Dedicated space separate from other schools for a safe culture for students in recovery.

**Support Systems:** Restorative practices to build community and repair harm.

**Family Engagement:** Active parent/guardian involvement in the recovery process is a key component of the program.



## STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

**Educational Support:** Robust curricular programming to meet student needs.

**Recovery & Community:** Access to continual support through community partnerships

**Leadership:** Advisory Board of district personnel and community agencies to guide the school's development and implementation.

**Growing Stronger  
Together**



**SUBSTANCE USE  
ACTION COALITION**  
OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

**Marc Lehnerer**  
Director of Student Services  
School District of Waukesha  
&  
**Jody Ebbinger Bentley,**  
Crosspoint Academy  
Program Coordinator/School  
Social worker



**CROSSPOINT  
Academy**

*School District of Waukesha*

## Opening September 2026!

- Will be located at current STEM Saratoga campus
- Enrollment goal of 20 students, but will open with fewer
- Accepting students from across southeast Wisconsin
- Non-SDW students can open enroll or their home district can pay tuition to attend
- In partnership with the Association of Recovery Schools



**CROSSPOINT  
Academy**

*School District of Waukesha*

## Initial Staffing Structure

- Marc Lehnerer will serve as Principal
- Jody Ebbinger-Bentley will serve as Program Coordinator
- Alternative Education Teacher has been hired by the District
- Therapeutic staff not yet determined

## Advisory Board Members needed

- Representatives from community, agencies, county services, healthcare, and treatment programs
- Monthly meetings focused on development, growth, collaboration, and support
- Interested? Email Jody at [jebbingerb@waukesha.k12.wi.us](mailto:jebbingerb@waukesha.k12.wi.us)

or scan the QR code on the one pager



**CROSSPOINT  
Academy**

*School District of Waukesha*



**CROSSPOINT  
Academy**

*School District of Waukesha*

## Student Admissions

- Students must demonstrate a desire for sobriety
- Students will sign a Sober Contract
- Weekly drug testing
- Thirty day probationary period; can be dismissed if needed
- Intake will include family dynamics/social history
- Individualized instruction/coursework

# HTF ACTION TEAM UPDATES

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# Introducing the Stigma Reduction pocket guide!



**SUBSTANCE USE  
ACTION COALITION**  
OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

A pocket guide for reducing substance use  
stigma in healthcare settings.

**SEE THE PERSON STOP THE STIGMA.**



**WAIT!**  
SOMEONE COULD HAVE  
FELT STIGMA!

**CHECK YOUR BIAS SELF-QUIZ**

What assumptions am I making about someone?  
Is my language respectful and person-first?  
Am I supporting their choices or steering them?  
Would I respond the same way to any patient?

**IF YOU CAN... PLEASE BE**

**MINDFUL**



YOU MAY IMPACT SOMEONE'S RECOVERY JOURNEY.

**MINFULNESS RELATES TO:**

- Words or phrasing used
- Tone of voice
- Body language, facial expression
- Assumptions about substance use
- A joke or comment that could be harmful
- Stigma toward drug of choice
- Other

**BODY LANGUAGE MATTERS**

**AVOID**  **USE**

Crossed Arms — Open posture  
Stepping back — Nodding  
Eye rolling — Calm tone  
Surprised face — Neutral expression

**SPOKEN LANGUAGE MATTERS**

**AVOID**  **USE**

Addict/Junkie — Person w/ SUD  
Relapse — Return to use  
Clean/Dirty — +/- Test result  
Drug seeking — Expressing discomfort  
Non-compliant — Barriers to care



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR:**

- Local recovery meetings
- Harm reduction resources
- Personal stories
- SUAC YouTube
- SUAC LinkedIn

**SUBSTANCE USE  
ACTION COALITION**  
OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

When we treat substance use disorder like any  
chronic condition, we replace stigma with care,  
and care changes outcomes.

- What resonates most with you in this toolkit?
- What friendly edits or additions would make this toolkit for more useful for you or others?

# How to get involved?



- Contact Terri Phillips at [terrip@sjdconsulting.net](mailto:terrip@sjdconsulting.net)
- **Support Recovery Team**
  - Ann-Marie St. John (Parent's Place): [astjohn@parentsplacewi.org](mailto:astjohn@parentsplacewi.org)
  - Jim Hishmeh (Rogers): [james.hishmeh@rogersbh.org](mailto:james.hishmeh@rogersbh.org)
- **Stigma Reduction Team**
  - Joy Evans (Elevate): [jevans@elevateyou.org](mailto:jevans@elevateyou.org)
  - Jamie Bauer (BioForward): [JBauer@bioforward.org](mailto:JBauer@bioforward.org)
- **Metrics & Data Team**
  - Frances Thomas (HHS): [fthomas@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:fthomas@waukeshacounty.gov)

Please take our BRIEF  
meeting survey!



## NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Meeting summary will be distributed in the next 7-10 days
- ✓ 2026 HTF Quarterly Community Partner Meetings on the books!
  - October 6, 2026 (IN PERSON)
  - December 1, 2026 (VIRTUAL)
- ✓ “Ask the Expert”- See Jamie Bauer after the meeting with questions about the grant
- ✓ Network until 4:30 if you would like!

*thank  
you*