

An Angel's Wing Newsletter NO.1

Hello! Welcome to our very own newsletter!

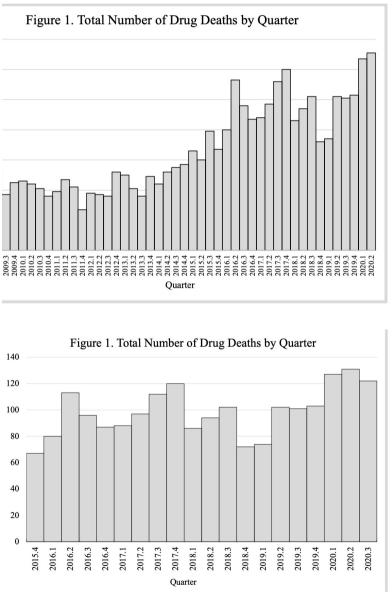


The purpose of our newsletter will be to provide our sponsors, family, and friends with an update on what we are doing and how we are using our resources to battle the disease of substance use disorder.

Maine Overdose Statistics

In 2020, Maine hit a record of overdose deaths and according to the number of deaths in January 2021 alone that number is projected to keep rising. This makes what we do at An Angel's Wing that much more important as we continue to offer individuals the resources they need to find recovery.

The graph below represents data from 2009 to 2020 of the total number of drug deaths by quarter, in Maine.



From Maine.gov

Our Mission

Our mission is as important as ever as Maine hit a record in yearly overdose deaths this last year. There is continuous data showing that this last January, overdose deaths were continuing their exponential growth and we are on a dangerous pace to replicate the number of deaths in 2021 as well.

Here at An Angel's Wing, we continue to guide individuals into and through the recovery process of substance use disorder. We currently are providing a full-service resource center for individuals but increased wait times for detox centers and recovery homes has made our job even harder.



We see this as a large problem in the recovery process and we want to continue to expand how we help individuals battling substance use disorders. So, our big picture goal is to develop our very own recovery home. However, we currently are actively fundraising so we can achieve this goal in the near future!

Important Dates & Events

This last weekend, we were able to hold one of our first events since Covid-19 has impaired our ability to spread awareness. The Black Balloon Project is a national event where we remember the individuals we have lost to drug overdose, across the country.



How the Store and Bakery are Doing

We have been busy continuing to keep our store and bakery running smoothly. You can find our <u>March store calendar</u> here! Some important dates to remember are:

- Every Monday we have a Veterans and Seniors take a 50% off discount at the store. Goods in the Bakery will also be 50% off!
- March 9th, 16th, and 23rd will be BOGO for the designated items for the day! Make sure to check the calendar to see which items are included!
- A Happy St. Patrick's Day SALE! Take 75% off glassware and anything GREEN!

Meet the Team!

We would like to recognize Lana Whittemore and Stephanie Gelinas as newly added members to our board. Lana is a local resident of Lewiston and the Owner at Unlock & Main. Stephanie is the executive director of Sandcastle Clinical and Educational Services and LA Hearing Center in Lewiston. She is also involved in other community work with her roles in the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce and the LA Rotary Club. If you are interested in our organization and would like more information about how to get involved, please visit our <u>Contact Us</u> section on our website.

With every newsletter, we plan on highlighting a few of our members so our followers can get a better understanding of the people behind An Angel's Wing. This edition we will highlight two individuals whose work never goes unnoticed, Shannon Chase and Deb L'Etoile.

Shannon Chase

Deb L'Etoile





Shannon Chase

Shannon Chase has been Chairman of the Board at An Angel's Wing since November 2019. Like many of our members, Shannon is directly involved with how substance use disorder can take the lives of our very own. Her motive for getting more involved in the effort of helping individuals with substance use disorder is directly affiliated with the individuals in her own life who lost their lives to overdose. She uses her husband and brother as models of strength and determination as they too are continuing their path in recovery.

Some upcoming events and news she is excited for are our upcoming Paint Nights (information coming soon!) and our annual Gala. The pandemic has pushed back many of our events and Shannon is excited to continue our efforts in fundraising. When asked what are some areas and resources we need most right now as an organization, Shannon noted that volunteers are especially needed right now to help organize events, fundraise, and handle donations. If you would like to help but don't feel you have the time to physically join our team at An Angel's Wing, you can always donate and know that 100% of your money is being put to battle substance use disorder.

Deb L'Etoile

Deb L'Etoile is the Assistant Executive Directer for An Angel's Wing. She unfortunately lost her son, Cory, to a fatal overdose on Father's Day in 2018. This made Deb realize the true extent to how bad the Opioid Epidemic is and she wanted to take action to help her community.

As an organization, Deb is leading our goals to start raising awareness of the Opioid Epidemic. Through our fundraising and awareness campaigns, we look forward to opening our own rehabilitation facility. Deb works closely with individuals battling substance use disorder and she recognizes how many more of these facilities are needed. She explains how hospital beds are always available for individuals with other health diseases and emergencies, so, "Beds should also always be available for the disease of Substance Use Disorder."

For Deb and our organization, the first step to recovery for an individual is their admittance of having Substance Use Disorder. After, you need to seek help as Deb noted. That's where An Angel's Wing comes in and she emphasizes how our organization is always open to helping new individuals. "AAW is always willing to do whatever they can to assist with recovery."

Thank You to Our Partners!

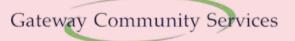
To conclude our very first newsletter, we would first like to thank all of the businesses below who have either helped us through donations or in collaboration:

Shankman & Associates **Liberty Bay Recovery** Shankman LibertyBay & Associates LEGAL CENTER RECOVERY





Gateway Community Services



Cote Corporation, Auburn



CleanCo Commercial Cleaning, Inc.





Captured April, 2019

Without all of the help we are getting from our partners and individuals, we would not be able to accomplish our mission. We hope to continue to work with our partners and continue to grow our organization as we continue to fight for the greater good of helping individuals overcome substance use disorder.



An Angel's Wing 1567 Lisbon Street Lewiston, ME 04240 (207) 241-0624