



At Shrine Catholic High School, we exemplify Christ by serving, succeeding, and leading through academics, athletics, and the arts.

03.06.2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to offer my highest recommendation for the Fentanyl Fathers, with whom we have had the pleasure of collaborating over the past six months for our parent and school presentation in early March, 2025. As a High School Counselor, myself and my team of Administrators strive to empower our young men and women to make thoughtful decisions, not only at Shrine, but beyond their time as our students. Working with Michael Gilette, Greg Swan, and his team of people at the *Fentanyl Fathers* organization was imperative in pursuing this mission this school year.

My name is Libby Carpenter, and as stated previously, I am one of the High School Counselor's at Shrine Catholic High School. Mr. Michael Gilette, the Michigan Director of the *Fentanyl Fathers*, reached out to us earlier this summer to promote his program and what it can offer young people in our community. Upon our first meeting, we were confident that we wanted to host this organization at Shrine, especially because of their story, knowledge, and personal conviction to educate students and save lives. Since that meeting in August, Michael has been communicative, flexible, and completely understanding of our population and their needs. Because of the sensitivity and importance of this topic, our planning of both the parent and student events were detailed and considerate, and were also made easy by Mike's organization and collaboration.

Fentanyl Fathers is a nonprofit organization on a mission to spread awareness about fentanyl poisoning, counterfeit pills, and opioid-related tragedies among our youth population. This organization is led by a group of bereaved parents, who have personally experienced this devastating loss. I can say from first-hand experience, their knowledge, experience, strength and resilience not only was an inspiration to our students, but our teachers and staff alike. Their presentation to our students and parents included an award-winning documentary called 'Dead on Arrival,' a fact-based slide deck containing statistics on fentanyl, opioids, and their related tragedies, basic facts about opioids in the body, and steps to saving a life utilizing Naloxone (Narcan) in an overdose situation. It was informative, convicting, and extremely powerful, and their care for our students and parents throughout was completely evident. Our *only* wish after the presentation was finished was that we wished we would have allotted more time to the *Fentanyl Fathers* team, to continue this imperative conversation with our students.

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Father John Bettin, Rector
Sarah Cerone, Principal

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SHRINE CATHOLIC High School

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Based on our recent experience working with the *Fentanyl Fathers*, and an abundance of positive feedback from students, families and staff, I strongly endorse this organization in their future endeavors with High School Districts across the country. We will continue to express our sincere gratitude and support for this organization, and hope to continue our work together in the future.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact myself, or our Principal, Mrs. Sarah Cerone.

Sincerely,

Miss Libby Carpenter, MSW

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