

SUMMER EDITION
JUNE 2025

PIVOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Opioid & Suicide Prevention Quarterly Newsletter

Highlighting prevention efforts for Chemung, Livingston, Ontario, Schuyler,
Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates County.

Volume 2, Issue 2

CHEMUNG

DRUG FREE COMMUNITY COALITION OF CHEMUNG COUNTY (DFCC)

The DFCC participated in the **National Drug Take-Back Day**, which took place on April 26, 2025, hosted by the **Chemung County Sheriff's Office**, the **Southport Fire Department**, and the **West Elmira Fire Department**. Resources and informational materials, including Deterra drug disposal bags, information on local drop-off centers available throughout the year where you can dispose of medications and sharps, as well as some fun items such as pens and sunglasses, were included in the bags. **DFCC partnered with the Chemung County Nursing facility**, which assisted with the collection of sharps. Over 210 vehicles dropped off 771 pounds of unwanted/expired medications.

In partnership with the **Opioid Response Network and DFCC**, a **Youth Engagement training event** featuring speaker **Kym Laube**, who inspires youth to lead with confidence, took place on May 1, 2025. The all-day training included youth voice in action, building safe and brave spaces for youth, adult allyship, and turning ideas into action with a takeaway of "how will I engage youth starting tomorrow?" **The next training will take place on July 30, 2025**. If interested, please contact Anthony Hooks at ahooks@casa-trinity.org.

DFCC's social media outreach has been great! There are daily posts that highlight things that the community should know about, including positive thoughts and affirmations!

Preparation is underway to get involved in **International Opioid Awareness Day**. DFCC will be collaborating with community partners to create a **story walk** on August 27, 2025. More details to come!



LIVINGSTON

LIVINGSTON COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION TASK FORCE

The **ASFP SUNY Geneseo Out of Darkness Campus Walk** took place on April 27th on the **SUNY Geneseo campus**, hosted by SUNY Geneseo Sisters Making a Change. Livingston County Suicide Prevention Task Force tabled at the event. Participants came together to show support.

The **Veterans Tranquil Trail** opened with a **ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday, May 27, 2025**. The trail provides mindfulness stations and is located in Al Lorenz Park. **Members of the Suicide Prevention Task Force were present for the ribbon-cutting ceremony and handed out Credible Mind magnets** to all attendees. **Dave Terry** emceed the ceremony, explained how it came to fruition, and how the year of planning and work all came together. **Lynne Mignami** spoke on behalf of the Suicide Prevention Task Force about their collaboration with this project and details on the Credible Mind platform and its resources. See photos for more information.

For **Mental Health Awareness Month**, the Task Force highlighted Mental Health training with a "talk" theme. PSA's were created for awareness. Educational marketing for May included information on trainings and how talking can prevent suicide.

The **Step by Step Support group** meets once per month at the Chip Holt Nature Center from 4:30-6 pm. If interested, please contact info@gvhp.org. The May meeting celebrated the one-year anniversary since the launch of this support group. **Step by Step cards will be distributed to funerals and churches to spread awareness**. See photos for more info.

The **Task Force will be tabling at festivals this summer** including Lima Crossroads Festival on 8/1, Avon Corn Festival on 8/9 and Livonia's Autumn in the Village on 9/13.



SENECA

SENECA COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION

The **2nd Annual Walking With Hope Suicide Awareness Walk** took place on June 1, 2025, **at the Vista at Sampson State Park and was a huge success!** There was a silent auction, food, and activities for everyone! Many people came together to walk in support of suicide prevention efforts. All the money raised will stay local, right in Seneca County! See the photos section for more information.

In support of **Mental Health Month in May**, RTS buses were adorned with 988 information and Walking for Hope information (see photo). Flyers were also shared on the buses to get resources into the hands of community members. Other activities included more bus passes provided to the Community Counseling Center, a "Chalk the Walk" led by the Seneca County Youth group, and a tabling at the Waterloo lacrosse Lax4Life day.

Hunter Safety Packets will be put together at the July meeting. Packets will include resources, a gun lock kit, and Tick kits. They will be distributed in August and can be found at the Town Clerk's offices.

OPIOID OVERDOSE TASK FORCE

Seneca County has **two Narcan vending machines, at the House of Concern and Carquest in Ovid** which are very well utilized and are being filled regularly. A Facebook video was created to show the community how to access Narcan, xylazine, and fentanyl test strips from the vending machine. It has received over 26,000 views. Watch the video [HERE](#).

The Credible Mind platform is monitored on a regular basis. For the first quarter, **the highest number of users are youth ages 13-17 and adults in the 18-24 age range, primarily females.** Credible Mind resource cards have been distributed throughout the county. Traffic on the site has been very positive. There have been 29 new users in the past month.

The group continually works on **breaking the stigma campaign** providing Narcan training to as many people in all sectors as possible. **Thirty trainings were conducted at the del Lago employee benefit fair and to students in the Summer Recreation program.** The Health Department will be at the **Border City Fire Department, Lodi library** and will be providing supplies to EMT responders for concert venues.

The Task Force tabled on the parade route at the **annual Strawberry Festival** handing out bubbles, resources and Narcan and providing visitors with a rock painting station.

Since January 2024, **United Way of Seneca County, Seneca County Health Dept, and Seneca County Mental Health have partnered to distribute well over 3000 boxes (2 doses) of Narcan!**



[WEBSITE LINK](#)

STEUBEN

STEUBEN PREVENTION COALITION: OPIOID COMMITTEE

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day took place on April 26, 2025, at the Steuben County Public Safety Building. **Six hundred fifty-eight pounds of medications were collected!**

Stephanie Snyder from the New York National Guard Counter Drug Program presented to the coalition on **how OD Mapping operates and how data can be used by all agencies that have access to the system.** Implementing a spike alert and facilitating a better information capture for the OD Map system were two topics that a new subcommittee will further research for possible changes and how OD Map is used in Steuben County.

Environmental scans continue in Steuben County to assess whether local convenience stores and gas stations are selling harmful products.

The **vending machine at Addison FD** is readily used and is regularly refilled. Narcan is being supplied to the Steuben County jail, and one of the sergeants there will provide the training. **Twenty-nine new wall units are ready for placement.** CCC students, Cooper Plains BOCES staff, and TMHFA students at Wildwood BOCES have been Narcan trained.

A subcommittee is working together to create a Narcan Training package of information for all Steuben area school districts to send out this summer. The goal is to get more staff trained in the schools and possibly get wall units installed in schools.

Recent tabling events include Wayland Cohocton HS Health Fair, JYRC Spring Bash, and Girls on the Run at Addison High School.

A new public service announcement campaign aimed at raising awareness was launched in Steuben County, providing the community with resources in collaboration with Trellis Marketing. View the campaign [HERE](#). Go to *See Real Stories of Hope and Recovery*.



SCHUYLER

SUICIDE AWARENESS FOR EVERYONE (S.A.F.E.)

SAFE tabled at the annual **Waterfront Festival, which took place in Watkins Glen on June 14, 2025**. The group sold voting stones for attendees to cast their votes for their favorite cardboard boat in the regatta. **SAFE members helped to sell stones, share 988 resources, and share information about SAFE with the community.** The money raised goes toward suicide awareness and prevention in the county, and this event is a **great opportunity to let the community know about who SAFE is and what they do!** This year's event did not bring out as many people due to the weather, but it was a success, and always good to be a part of this community event!

In support of **Mental Health Awareness Month, SAFE launched a Mental Health Awareness campaign on Instagram and Facebook for the month of May, where public-facing community members were asked why mental health is important to them.** Community members were interviewed from the Veterans Service agency, Office for Aging, Odessa-Montour School District, Schuyler County Transit, Watkins Glen School District, the Schuyler County legislature plus the Glen Gators Diving coach. There was a great response to the campaign and a great deal of engagement with the community; the posts were shared over 93 times and received over 700 likes and reactions!

Poison Control gave a presentation to the coalition. Information included lock box safety for medications, pesticide storage, and THC gummies. The discussion centered around keeping kids safe. For more information: www.upstatepoison.org.

SAFE is now on Instagram
@ safe_schuylercounty



ONTARIO

ONTARIO COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION

The coalition brainstormed ideas for promoting **connection within the community**. Ideas included a trail walk, outdoor activities, getting families together, friendship groups, and programs for those released from jail, and support/grief groups.

Ontario County launched their Credible Mind app in late December, and it is free for anyone who resides in Ontario County. In its initial stage, tracking shows that individuals aged 13-17 visited the site the most. Flyers and information cards were created for distribution to partners and the community across the county. The cards are shared at trainings and pop-up food pantry distribution sites.



SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION COALITION OF ONTARIO COUNTY

The Ontario County Prevention Coalition, in partnership with the Ontario County Sheriff, took part in the **DEA National Drug Take-back day** on Saturday, April 26, 2025, from 10 am-2 pm at Canandaigua Wegmans. **Seven hundred twenty-two pounds of medications and 71 pounds of sharps were collected.**

Surveys were conducted with several school districts across the county in February and March. The 40-minute survey covers topics such as risk factors, mental health, protective factors, and substance use. Results are expected in June and will support Public Health's CHA/CHIP efforts and ongoing coalition planning.

The Partnership for Ontario County is hosting a Red White and Blue community event, August 23 and 24 at Lincoln Hill Farms. There will be a color run, live music, food, family friendly fun, local artisans, military branch stations, and community resources. More information can be found here: [Events - Ontario](#)

ONTARIO COUNTY RESOURCE GUIDE LINK

WEBSITE LINK



WAYNE COUNTY OPIOID TASK FORCE

Narcan wall boxes are continually being added throughout the community, **filled with Narcan and testing strips**. Narcan training is available daily and offered at off-site businesses.

The top priorities for 2025 have been identified, and work groups have been formed to focus on the following areas: nonmedical transportation, recreational and social activities for individuals in recovery, housing and shelter, and education.

Delphi Rise gave a presentation highlighting the availability of **Mental Health First Aid trainings** for groups, businesses, and other organizations. Please see the attached flyer for more details. In 2024, **over 200 individuals were trained**. So far in 2025, sessions have been completed for school staff, nursing students, Wayne County employees, and Wayne Medical Services.

**WAYNE COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION
COALITION**

A presentation was given by WBHN about a new gambling addiction services program that will be available for residents of Wayne County. It was explained that there are between 4-6 million adults addicted, and only 8% seek help. This addiction impacts dopamine receptors in the brain in the same way as other addictions. It is a growing problem in the US with easy access to the internet, phones, sports betting, and casino games. There is a stigma, and it is very difficult to find a place for treatment. This will be the only treatment center in the Finger Lakes region. For more information contact: JCastellano-GatesLCSW@Waynecountyny.gov

Cheri Copie from Good Grief Rochester gave a presentation on a program designed to empower individuals with tools and support to move forward with hope and resilience. Bi-weekly evening sessions are offered at public libraries. Link to information. [Good Grief Rochester Link](#)

During Mental Health Month, WBHN provided over 1000 resource guides to the community, reaching over 750 people. Many presentations were given to staff, students, and parents at schools across the County, as well as an awareness training for Community schools coordinators.



YATES

YATES PREVENTION COALITION

The YPC has a new steering committee that will oversee the group at large. New bylaws have also been developed.

YPC has adopted the Lock and Talk program for lethal means safety. A few members of the coalition have been trained with practical tips and information about securing the removal of lethal means, the signs, and how to talk with a person at risk, and taking action. The group will be working to roll out the program and create a new logo.

There will be more suicide training available at the libraries in the Fall. YPC will take part in the annual **Walk of Darkness** that will take place on October 5, 2025. See photo page for more info.

Hunter safety packets will be distributed to the Town Clerk offices in the County in August. The packets will include tick kits and credible mind information cards from PH, gun locks, poison plant brochures, and more!

The Traumatic Loss Team offers assistance to survivors of suicide, drug overdoses, and accidents. They will listen and help in any way they can. For more information: yates.traumatic.loss@gmail.com

YPC participated in many community tabling events in the past months to spread awareness and resources. **They continue to engage and inform, and bring awareness of substance use issues.**



**COALITION CONTACT
INFORMATION**

- Anthony Hooks, ahooks@casa-trinity.org ,Drug Free Community Coalition of Chemung County*
- Ashley Tomassini, ashley@partnershipoc.org , Ontario County Suicide Prevention Coalition & Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Ontario County*
- Danielle McCray, dmccray@waynecountyny.gov ,Wayne County Opioid Task Force*
- Connie Terry, connie.terry@dor.org, Steuben Prevention Coalition: Opioid Committee*
- Amanda Wiley, awiley@schuylercountyny.gov, Suicide Awareness For Everyone (S.A.F.E.)*
- Karen Burcuff, karen@uwseneca.org Seneca County Suicide Prevention Coalition*
- Lynne Mignemi, lmignemi@co.livingston.ny.us, Livingston County Suicide Prevention Task Force*
- Luanne Palme, lpalme@caaf1.org ,Yates Prevention Coalition*
- Suzanne Catholdi, scatholdi@co.wayne.ny.us, Wayne County Suicide Prevention Coalition 4*

LIVINGSTON COUNTY VETERAN TRANQUIL TRAIL

The Veterans Tranquil Trail in Livingston County opened on May 27, 2025, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The Trail is designed as close to nature as possible and is a little under one mile. Along the way, there are ten mindfulness stations. This project was a labor of love of the Veterans Services Agency and community partners coming together to provide a wonderful space for reflection, conversation, and engagement. It is located in beautiful Al Lorenz Park and is open to everyone!



David Terry, Livingston County Veterans Agency Services Director ; Lynne Mignemi, Livingston County Probation Director and Chair of Livingston County Suicide Prevention Task Force



Station 3 - "Water" I



The Ribbon cutting ceremony



Brochures can be found at Koisks located at benches along the trail



A view from the Trail



STATION 9- "WIND PHONE"



STATION 6- "SEEING"

Seneca County Walking With Hope

Seneca County's second annual Walking With Hope Suicide Awareness Walk took place on Sunday, June 1, 2025, to bring people together affected by suicide and those who support them. The day was filled with personal tributes and community togetherness. Money raised goes directly to the Seneca Suicide Prevention coalition to support Mental Health Services and increase public awareness and educational outreach. This past year, the money was used for transportation vouchers to Mental Health services, banner on RTS buses to promote the 988 hotline, suicide prevention training and education, school-based prevention programs, Veteran outreach, and the Credible Mind platform.





MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Identify. Understand. Respond.

Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults..

3 Reasons to Become a Mental Health First Aider



BE PREPARED

When a mental health crisis happens, know what to do



YOU CAN HELP

People with mental illnesses often suffer alone



YOU CARE

Be there for a friend, family Member, or colleague

WHAT IT COVERS

- Common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges.
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges.
- How to interact with a person in crisis.
- How to connect a person with help.
- Expanded content on trauma, substance use and self-care.

Community-Specific Courses in Wayne County

Trainings provided at NO COST



Contact: **Bridget Dougherty-Herman**
bdougherty-herman@DelphiRise.org



SCAN ME!

PIVOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Opioid & Suicide Prevention Quarterly Newsletter



What's HAPPENING IN OUR REGION



Seneca County RTS busses with 988 Banners and Walk information

Emergency NARCAN

In an Opioid Overdose Emergency, Don't Wait – Act Fast!

For Locations of Emergency Wall Units

<https://scnygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d9a2723d449a4e558a2df44a121e823>

OPIOID COMMITTEE

Steuben County Wall Boxes Locations Scan QR code

ASSIST TRAINING IN WAYNE COUNTY
TRAINING WILL BE HELD AT WAYNE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NETWORK, 1519 NYE RD, LYONS

ON July 28TH-29TH FROM 8:30 – 4:30 WITH AN HOUR FOR LUNCH. JUST 30 SPOTS AVAILABLE!

ASIST teaches participants to recognize when someone may be at risk of suicide and work with them to create a plan that will support their immediate safety. Although ASIST is widely used by healthcare providers, participants don't need any formal training to attend the workshop—ASIST can be learned and used by anyone.

ASIST is a resource for the whole community. It helps people apply suicide first-aid in many settings: with family, friends, co-workers, and teammates, as well as formal caregiving roles. Its widespread use in various communities creates a common language to understand suicide safety issues and communicate across different organizational backgrounds.

Goals & Objectives:

In the course of the two-day workshop, ASIST participants learn to:

- Understand the ways personal and societal attitudes affect views on suicide and interventions
- Provide guidance and suicide first-aid to a person at risk in ways that meet their individual safety needs
- Identify the key elements of an effective suicide safety plan and the actions required to implement it
- Appreciate the value of improving and integrating suicide prevention resources in the community at large
- Recognize other important aspects of suicide prevention, including life-promotion and self-care

Course Length: Two 8-hour days (16 hours total; 1 hour break). Attendees must attend both sessions. Continuing Education: 15 CE credit hours are available for LMSW, LCSW, and LMHC. **Link to Register**

WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH 2025 COMMUNITY TRAININGS

In an effort meet our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) goal of promoting well-being and prevent mental and substance use disorders focusing specifically on the goal of preventing suicides, we will offer 4 FREE suicide prevention trainings to the community throughout 2025.

REGISTRATION
<https://forms.gle/D9Msc2XoRXmNU3D29>

QUESTIONS
twilliams@waynecountyny.gov

Wayne County Training Scan QR code

PIVITAL PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Opioid & Suicide Prevention Quarterly Newsletter



What's HAPPENING IN OUR REGION

WALK WITH US TO PREVENT SUICIDE REGISTER TODAY

Keuka Lake Out of the Darkness Walk
Keuka College, Keuka Park NY

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Check-in: 11:30am
Opening Program: 12:30pm

Register at afsp.org/keukalake

WALK WITH US TO PREVENT SUICIDE

Yates County Kickoff Event

Keuka Lake Out of the Darkness Walk Kickoff Party

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 6pm to 8pm
Lake Life Brewery, 111 Liberty St., Penn Yan, NY
Please RSVP by 5/30 to Denise Slocum at gcs3318@yahoo.com

Register at afsp.org/keukalake before the Kickoff for cool swag!



SENECA COUNTY VENDING MACHINE

KEUKA COLLEGE
Believe in What We Can Do Together

988 | SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

Yates County Out of Darkness Walk Info

Step by Step Support for suicide and sudden loss

Join us on the third Tuesday of the month at the Chip Holt Center--Vitale Park, Lakeville, NY 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Questions? Contact: info@gvhp.org

LIVINGSTON COUNTY SUPPORT GROUP INFO

FREE WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY TRAININGS

More Than Sad (Parent or Educator)

ch parents and educators how to recognize is of depression and other mental health blems, initiate a conversation about mental lth with their child, and get help. This program zes on parents and guardians of teen youth. Offered in-person or virtual 90 minute course Specific to parents or educators

It's Real: Teens and Mental Health

rogram raises awareness about tital health issues, how to start a versation about mental health, the ortance of self-care, and how to reach for help. Offered in-person or virtual 45 minute course Specific to teens 14-18

Talk Saves Lives (Community or Workplace)

duction to Suicide Prevention is a munity-based presentation that covers general scope of suicide, the research onvention, and what people can do to fight ide. Offered in-person 60-90 minute course Open to anyone

Adult Mental Health First Aid

Teaches participants how to identify, understand and respond to signs and symptoms of mental health challenges and substance use disorders.

- Offered in-person or blended
- 8 hour course
- Open to anyone

Suicide Safety for Teachers and School Staff

Emphasis is on recognizing warning signs, clarifying the referral process in place at school, and making a warm handoff.

- Offered in-person or virtual
- 60-90 minute course
- Specific to school staff

Naloxone Training

This course will teach you how to recognize the signs of an opioid overdose and administer the opioid overdose reversal drug Naloxone.

- Offered in-person or virtual
- 30-45 minutes (group), 15 minute (individual)
- Open to individuals 18+

Link to HOPE

This course will focus on recognize was to help an individual thinking of suicide and how to feel confident in talking opening about suicide.

- Offered in-person or virtual
- 60-90 minute course
- Open to anyone

Operation SAVE.

This course that will help you act with care and compassion if you come across a Veteran who is in crisis or having thoughts of suicide.

- Offered in-person or virtual
- 45 - 60 minute course
- For anyone who knows a Veteran

To see all available trainings or to request a training for your group scan or visit: <https://forms.gle/JRghDDPRBhwDLR5A>

FREE WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY TRAININGS SCAN QR CODE