

understanding

HEROIN
GreaterThanHeroin.com



THE HEROIN EPIDEMIC IS REAL.

**3,495+ people died
in 2016 from opioid overdose
in the state of Ohio.**

It's impacting families, communities, schools and places of employment. People are looking for solutions – ways they can get involved – ways to help.

We've collaborated with local groups, churches, ministries and organizations to combine efforts and work together to solve this problem.

GreaterThanHeroin.com is a resource center and place you can educate yourself, and find the tools and resources to get involved. This packet has some simple and easy ways for you to get involved.

Understanding. Collaboration. Awareness.

JOIN THE COALITION! Learn more at www.GreaterThanHeroin.com

929 Pearl Road, Brunswick, OH 44212 • feedback@GreaterThanHeroin.com • 330.460.7393

HOW YOU CAN HELP

BREAKING THE SILENCE & STIGMA

Over the past year, a group of civic and faith leaders have been **working together to create solutions for all affected by this crisis**. In all our conversations and meetings, one recurring struggle keeps emerging namely, a key part of the crisis (and actually the way to solve the crisis) is to **break the silence and the stigma about the heroin epidemic**, plus people who are suffering, to be able to talk openly about what is taking place in their homes and families.

WHAT YOU'LL FIND IN THIS PACKET:

- Overview
- Upcoming fall events
- November 8 Remembrance Service locations
- Easy-to-use and implement announcements for your faith community publication
- Talking points, tools and ways to get involved
- Tools and resources to spread the word

WE COULD USE YOUR HELP:

1. Please send us any updated information about upcoming programs and events. You can use the convenient submittal form on our website: www.GreaterThanHeroin.com.
2. While on the website, please sign up to receive our e-newsletter. You will then be sent the most up-to-date resource packet and information.
3. Help us spread the word about this crisis gripping our region.
4. Pray and include petitions of awareness in your community prayer.
5. Invite your community and those who have lost a loved one to the November 8 Remembrance Services.

**Thank you for your help and great efforts to address this crisis.
Together we are greater than heroin.**

ALL OF US

It's going to take all of us – working together – to address a crisis that is gripping our region. Last year, The FEST introduced an important effort called “Understanding IS Greater Than Heroin”. Since that time, we have stirred up many regional conversations to help offer support and create awareness and resources for all of us to understand this crisis that is impacting every corner and neighborhood in our region.

While our efforts have made a real impact, they are not enough.

This year, it is projected that 4,000 people will die of a heroin-related overdose in the state of Ohio. This doesn't even begin to count those who are being revived by our first responders.

This crisis will require all of us to understand and become involved. Take some time to go to www.GreaterThanHeroin.com to learn more about the problem, the crisis, the help available and how you can get involved.

It will take all of us to stop this crisis. It's going to take all of us to make sure each sister and brother has the help they need. There are many reasons 'why' this is happening. And it will take all of us to bring this epidemic to an end.

UNDERSTANDING IS GREATER THAN HEROIN.

**We all know someone impacted by heroin.
Find information and resources, plus learn
more about how you can help others or
yourself at GreaterThanHeroin.com.**

WHO WE ARE

Greater Than Heroin is a group of civic and faith leaders from Northeast Ohio committed to addressing the heroin epidemic through understanding, collaboration and awareness.

- **Understanding** through care, compassion and prayerful support
- **Collaboration** through community engagement and coalition building
 - **Awareness** through community education and resources

WE REMEMBER

The loss of a loved one is never easy. Even more, the loss of a family member or friend from an overdose is both tragic and painful. In these moments, we need the Lord and support of family, friends and community.

Please join us as we come together to remember those who have died because of addiction. We come together to pray with (and for) their family and friends that they may know the comfort and peace of the Lord.

The prayer service is designed to be meaningful and welcoming to people of all faith denominations. We will have appropriate literature and support personnel.

Spread the word and invite those in need to join us across our region on Wednesday, November 8, 2017. It is a way of bringing hope and healing to those who have lost loved ones as we remember their lives and goodness. It is also a way of standing together as a region to create awareness of the pain and devastation caused by this epidemic.

For more information or an invitation that you can download and send to family, friends and members, please go to: www.GreaterThanHeroin.com/November8.

NOVEMBER 8 MEMORIAL SERVICE

• BETHEL CLEVELAND CAMPUSES

www.bethelcleveland.com

Pastor Joel Reichlin

Akron Campus: 734 Grant St., Akron, OH 44311

Middleburg Heights Campus: 16670 Bagley Road, Middleburg Hts., OH 44130

• BEYOND THE WALLS CHURCH

www.Beyondthewalls.com

Pastor Paul Grodell

101 Woodford Ave., Elyria, OH 44035

• CHURCH ALIVE

www.mychurchalive.com

Pastor Tim Walker

5555 Smith Rd., Brook Park, OH 44142

• CHURCH ON THE NORTH COAST CAMPUSES

www.cnclove.org

Pastor Troy Thompson

Valley View Campus: 7634 Granger Rd., Valley View, OH 44125

Lorain Campus: 4125 Leavitt Rd., Lorain, OH 40453

• CHURCH ON THE RISE WESTLAKE

www.Churchotherise.net

Pastor Jordan Endrei

3550 Crocker Rd, Westlake, OH 44145

• HOLY ANGELS CATHOLIC PARISH BAINBRIDGE

www.holyangelschurch.com

Pastor Dan

18205 Chillicothe Rd, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

• MT. ZION OAKWOOD VILLAGE

www.mtzionoakwood.org

Dr. Larry Macon

1 Mt Zion Circle, Oakwood, OH 44146

• MT. SINAI CHURCH CLEVELAND

www.mtsinainministries.org

Pastor C Jay Matthews

7510 Woodland Ave., Cleveland, OH 44104

• ST. AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH

www.StAmbrose.us

Father Bob Stec

929 Pearl Road, Brunswick OH 44212

• ST. JOSEPH AVON LAKE

www.stjosephavonlake.org

Father Ronald Wearsch

32929 Lake Rd, Avon Lake, OH 44012

• ST. CHARLES BORREMEO

www.stcharlesonline.org

Father John Carlin

5891 Ridge Rd, Parma, OH 44129

RESOURCES

- HOSPICE OF THE WESTERN RESERVE
- CORNERSTONE OF HOPE
- GREATERTHANHEROIN.COM

HAVE A LOCATION TO ADD?

More churches and locations are welcome to be added. Those interested in being added to the list for our November 8 Memorial Service can contact feedback@GreaterThanHeroin.com.

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FALL 2017

OCTOBER

OPIOID CRISIS FORUM

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH

Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017, 7:00pm
1800 Station Rd., Valley City, OH 44280

NIGHT OF REMEMBRANCE

LAKEWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017, 7:00pm

TWINSBURG FIRE AND POLICE

PRESENT TFD EXPERIENCES, COUNTY STATISTICS AND LOCAL RESOURCES.

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE PARISH CENTER

Oct. 11, 2017, 12:00-12:30 pm
19951 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, OH 44119
1909 Training Room

HEROIN, FENTANYL AND CARFENTANIL

CLEVELAND CLINIC - LUTHERAN

Oct. 11, 2017

HEROIN ADDICTION PRESENTATION

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE PARISH CENTER

Oct. 18, 2017, 12:00-12:30 pm
19951 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, OH 44119
1909 Training Room

CATHOLIC CHARITIES PRESENTATION

BALDWIN WALLACE UNIVERSITY

Oct. 18, 2017, 6 - 9:00pm

PLEASE SEND US YOUR EVENTS!

We update our website daily with upcoming events. We will post your events on our website, Facebook and web calendar.

Feedback@GreaterThanHeroin.com

SOS: SAVE OUR SWEETIES, OUR SOULS, OUR SELVES

OBERLIN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Oct. 24, 2017, 7:15 - 8:30pm

OPIOID CRISIS FORUM FOR FAITH LEADERS

ASHLAND UNIVERSITY (SPECIFIC LOCATION TBD)

Oct. 24, 2017, 5:00-8:00 PM (dinner included)
Panel 1: Current Status of Situation in Ohio and in Ashland County
Panel 2: Voices of Helpful Solutions

OPIOID CRISIS FORUM

ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Oct. 24, 2017, 7:00-8:30 PM
Parish Hall, 527 Beall Ave., Wooster, OH 44691

GENERATION RX PROGRAM

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE PARISH CENTER

Oct. 25, 2017, 6 - 9:00pm
19951 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, OH 44119
1909 Training Room

HOPE & HEALING BEYOND HEROIN

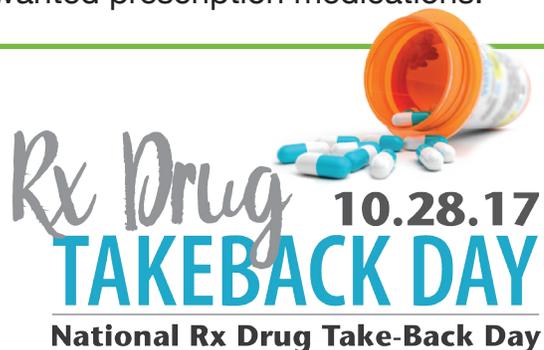
ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISH CENTER

Oct. 26, 2017, 7-8:30pm
7575 Bellflower Rd. Mentor, OH 44060

DRUG TAKEBACK DAY

Saturday, October 28, 2017

Prescription drugs play a key part of this epidemic. The fall resource packet will provide facts and information that can encourage your members to do some fall cleaning and properly discard unneeded/unwanted prescription medications.



PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 7/8

UNDERSTANDING IS THE KEY!

There is a crisis in our region. Hundreds are dying and thousands are impacted by the heroin epidemic. It's not something we want to talk about, but we need to. Take a few minutes to learn more by watching some helpful (and hopeful) videos. Go to: www.GreaterThanHeroin.com/video. Understanding the crisis is key to making our community stronger, healthier and holier.

October 14/15

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

One of the most difficult struggles for those who have family members using and/or addicted to drugs, especially heroin, is shame and silence. They often have no one to talk to about their pain and the heavy burden on their hearts. We can change that together. There is a crisis raging in our state. The heroin epidemic is wreaking havoc on hundreds and thousands of individuals and families across our region. Learn more so that you can be that person others can turn to in their time of need. Go to: www.GreaterthanHeroin.com. Understanding is greater than this crisis. Together, we are greater than heroin. Each of us can be a source of hope, help and healing to someone in need.

October 21/22

EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING

As our region grapples with the heroin epidemic, there are a few things that each of us can do. Next weekend is Drug Take-Back Day. Take a few minutes to bring all your unused and unwanted prescription drugs to your local police or sheriff's department. It will keep your home and our environment safe. All of us can also learn more about the epidemic. Go to: www.GreaterthanHeroin.com. Please remember in prayer all those who are suffering from this terrible addiction and for their families and loved ones.

October 28/29

THERE IS HOPE

Many in our region are struggling with the pain and devastation caused by the heroin epidemic. We will be gathering together with our local churches for a remembrance service on November 8th. If you or a loved one has been impacted by this epidemic, join us to seek the healing love and grace found in Christ Jesus. Visit greaterthanheroin.com for more information.

November 8

MEMORIAL SERVICE

This Wednesday, over a dozen regional prayer services will be taking place across our region. Hundreds will gather together in prayer to remember loved ones we've lost and those still fighting addiction. Join us as we lift our brothers and sisters in prayer.

Anytime

UNDERSTANDING MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!

Understanding is key to addressing the heroin crisis that is crippling our region and our state. Take some time to learn the facts about this crisis. Go to: www.GreaterthanHeroin.com. Understanding is greater than heroin. Together, we are greater than this crisis.

RECOVERY PRAYERS

SERENITY PRAYER

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

PRAYER FOR MY RECOVERY

Today, I heal my body, my mind, my spirit, my life. Drugs are a part of my past; they are not part of my now, they are not part of my future. Today, I am clean. Today, I am clean and free.

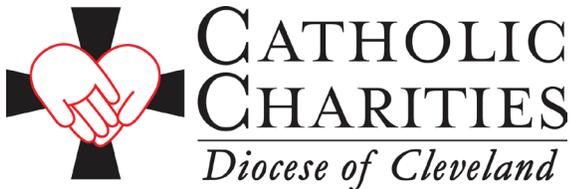
Today, I am becoming strong one second at a time, one thought at a time, one action at a time. I am learning how to live and to be the best parts of me today. Today, I am clean and free.

THE SET ASIDE PRAYER

Dear God, please help me to set aside everything I think I know about [people, place or thing] so I may have an open mind and a new experience. Please help me to see the truth about [people, place or thing]. AMEN.

SALUTATION TO THE DAWN

Look to this day!
For it is life, the very life of life.
In its brief course
Lie all the verities and realities of your
existence:
The bliss of growth;
The glory of action;
The splendor of achievement;
For yesterday is but a dream,
And tomorrow is only a vision;
But today, well lived, makes every
yesterday
a dream of happiness,
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.



Catholic Charities has recently completed a project to bring all of their resources to address this crisis to one accessible place.

Check out their resources by going to www.GreaterThanHeroin.com/CatholicCharities

START TALKING!

DO YOU WORK WITH KIDS AND TEENS?

It's not too early to start talking about the serious danger of drug use. Let's build a drug-free future!

www.starttalking.ohio.gov

Start Talking! 
Building a Drug-Free Future

VISIT GREATERTHANHEROIN.COM

On our website you can find meaningful videos and access to download tools to help you spread the word and allow others to learn more about this epidemic.

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THIS JUST IN FROM CDC

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Rx Awareness: Sharing real stories about the devastation of opioid use disorder and overdose

Prescription opioids can be addictive and dangerous. It only takes a little to lose a lot. HHS CDC cdc.gov/RxAwarenessOverdoses from opioids are on the rise and killing Americans of all races and ages. From 1999 to 2015, more than 183,000 people died in the U.S. from overdoses related to prescription opioids. Families and communities across the country are coping with the health, emotional, and economic effects of this epidemic.

To address this public health crisis, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) launched the Rx Awareness communications campaign, its latest effort, to fight against opioid overdose.

The Rx Awareness campaign tells the real stories of people whose lives were torn apart by opioid use and abuse. The campaign aims to increase awareness and knowledge among Americans about the risks of opioids and deter inappropriate use.

With the tagline, “It only takes a little to lose a lot,” the Rx Awareness campaign uses testimonials to educate the public, focusing on the dangers of prescription opioids whether used for medical or non-medical purposes.

The cornerstone of the campaign is a series of videos that feature individuals who are living in recovery from opioid use disorder, or who are family members who lost someone to a prescription opioid overdose. Other campaign materials include audio advertisements, social media advertisements, internet banners, web graphics, billboards, and posters all highlighting the importance of knowing the risks associated with prescription opioids in order to prevent overdoses.

Spread the Word

Everyone can help stop prescription opioid overdose. The success of the Rx Awareness campaign relies on individuals, plus partnerships with state and local agencies and organizations across the country to share the messages and resources.

We need your support to spread the word! You can share and promote the Rx Awareness campaign on your social media channels, including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Download shareable images and the Rx Awareness Social Media Kit from the Social Media web page.

- **Take part in our #RxAwareness Thunderclap:** Support the Rx Awareness Thunderclap to Help Prevent Prescription Opioid Overdose. Join today and share on your social media channels to help us gain more support: www.thunderclap.it/projects/62514-raise-rxawareness
- **Twitter: It only takes a little to lose a lot.** Raise awareness about Rx opioids and prevent Rx opioid overdose. #RxAwareness cdc.gov/RxAwareness
- **Facebook and Instagram: #RxAwareness starts with you.** Tell others how prescription #opioids have affected you. Learn more at cdc.gov/RxAwareness.

Learn More about Rx Awareness

For more information about the campaign or for additional materials, visit the website www.cdc.gov/RxAwareness.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Your Online Source for Credible Health Information

TALKING POINTS

- The heroin epidemic **has reached crisis levels** in our country and our state.
- **Ohio is at the epicenter** of this crisis.
- They estimate that **1,000 people will die** in Ohio this year because of heroin overdose.
- In 2016, **Ohio had the most deaths related to heroin** in the country: one in nine heroin deaths across the U.S. happened in Ohio. (Source: www.dispatch.com).
- A March 16th *The Washington Post* story reported that Ohio is resorting to using cold-storage trailers as morgues because **they can't keep up** with the number of drug deaths. (Source: www.washingtonpost.com.)
- **Most people know someone who is addicted**, or has a family member or co-worker who has suffered as the result of this crisis.
- Most heroin addicts begin their path to addiction because of **pain medication**.
- **We need to break the silence**. So many hold their struggle and/or their pain to themselves out of fear or shame.
- Understanding both the crisis and pain of addiction are the **first steps to breaking the grip** of this epidemic.
- Many **recovery resources and opportunities** are available to help in our region and state.
- **We can all do a few things:**
 - Make certain that all opiates prescribed by physicians are kept in a secure location away from children and the public.
 - Safely dispose of opiates at your local county sheriff's office.
 - Pray for those who struggle.
 - Pray for those who are working to protect us.
 - Learn more by going to www.GreaterThanHeroin.com
 - Reach out to your minister/pastor/religious leader for guidance.
- **Saturday, October 28 is Drug Take-Back Day**. Take a few minutes to clean out your old/unused pain medications and drop them off to the local police or sheriff's department.
- All faith leaders in our region are being asked to **bring attention and awareness** to this painful and difficult issue.
- **Together, we are stronger than this epidemic**. We can make a difference, and bring help and hope to all in need.

FIND THESE TOOLS ON THE WEBSITE

HELP US SPREAD
THE MESSAGE.

Find logos, ads, flyers,
posters, videos and more at
www.GreaterThanHeroin.com/Tools

We have great marketing tools available for use to print or include on your own websites with a link back to www.GreaterThanHeroin.com.



Rx Drug TAKEBACK DAY 10.28.17

FACT:
3 out of 4 heroin addicts started with prescription opioids.

Find a dropoff location. 

GreaterThanHeroin.com

Many do not UNDERSTAND why or how other people become addicted to drugs. It is often mistakenly assumed that drug abusers lack moral principles or willpower and that they could stop using drugs simply by choosing to change their behavior.

In reality, drug addiction is a complex disease, and quitting takes more than good intentions or a strong will. In fact, because drugs change the brain in ways that foster compulsive drug abuse, quitting is difficult, even for those who are ready to do so.

– National Institute on Drug Abuse

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BE THE CHANGE.

Each of us knows someone impacted by heroin:
a friend, family member or colleague.

Visit the website for more information and resources
on how you can help, get help or learn more.

Understanding. Collaboration. Awareness.

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FIND THESE ADS ON THE WEBSITE

Use this 1/2 or 1/4 page ad in
your bulletin or other
publications to your members.

Visit the website
for downloadable files.

www.GreaterThanHeroin.com/Tools



Rx Drug **10.28.17**
TAKEBACK DAY

National Rx Drug Take-Back Day

LUNCH CONVERSATION + WAYS YOU CAN HELP



Learn about the next steps and plans for our efforts as we collaborate to fight the heroin epidemic in our region including: October 28th Drug Takeback Day and the November 8th Regional Prayer Services.

Together we are Greater Than Heroin.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

11:30AM – 1:00PM

LANDERHAVEN

6111 Landerhaven Drive
Mayfield Heights, Ohio

RSVP

by October 20th to Jake Bihari
Jake@TheFEST.us or 216.215.5015

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