

Concerned about yourself
or someone else?

For Treatment call:

1-800-327-5050

TTY: Use MassRelay at 711

or **1-800-720-3480**

Or Visit: mass.gov/stopaddiction

If you suspect your loved one has
a problem with prescription
opioids or heroin, call the MA
Substance Abuse Information and
Education Helpline

at **800-327-5050**

for free and confidential
information about substance
abuse, education and counseling
resources for adolescents, families
and adults.

For parent support call or visit:

Learn To Cope

www.learn2cope.org

508-738-5148

For Narcan training and overdose
prevention supplies call:

AIDS Project Worcester

508-755-3773

The Central Massachusetts Public Health Alliance



***Building a Better Regional,
Comprehensive Services Model
to Improve Public Health***

Who are we?

The Central Mass Regional Public Health Alliance is a coalition of seven municipalities (**Towns of Grafton, Holden, Leicester, Millbury, Shrewsbury, and West Boylston and the City of Worcester**) working cooperatively to create and sustain a viable, cost-effective and labor-efficient regional public health district. The regional health district provides a comprehensive array of services to partner municipalities through a single organization managed by Worcester's Division of Public Health.

For more information contact:

-Bryan Diehl: Prevention Specialist
(508) 799-1768
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REGIONAL RESPONSE
TO ADDICTION
PARTNERSHIP



The Regional Response to
Addiction Partnership is a
coalition made up of
Central Massachusetts
organizations and
community members
mobilizing to prevent and
treat addiction and
promote community
wellness.

*Striving together for a
healthier community*



What we do:

RRAP uses a collaborative team approach to engage the community in our work.

Teams meet monthly to:

- * Focus on raising awareness through community outreach, education, and engagement
- * Focus on building capacity to address problems through training and partnership development and recruiting new members
- * Focus on planning, promoting, and hosting events
- * Focus on measuring our collective impact by tracking and evaluating

Use Strategic Prevention Framework model to:

- * **Assess** the needs of our region
- * Improve **capacity** to address needs
- * Determine action through **planning**
- * Advocate for change in **implementation**
- * **Evaluate** progress

Addiction: Fact or Fiction

Addiction is only seen in certain

populations: **FICTION**

⇒ Addiction affects every community regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status.

Addiction is a disease: **FACT**

⇒ Addiction is a chronic brain disease and changes the way the brain works. It causes those addicted to use drugs regardless of consequences

Addiction is a choice: **FICTION**

⇒ Addiction is not a choice, it is a disease. It can be managed with treatment but not always be cured.

Drugs can take over someone's life: **FACT**

⇒ Using the drugs can become less about fun and more about feeling normal.

It's O.K. to call people "junkies": **FICTION**

⇒ Demeaning terms like "junkie" or "addict" are hurtful and can stop people from seeking treatment.

People use for many reasons: **FACT**

⇒ Some people use to try to feel better. Others take drugs because they think it will improve performance in school, work, or sports.

It takes years to be addicted: **FICTION**

⇒ Some substances can lead to addiction after only a few uses

To Learn More Visit:

National Institute on Drug Abuse

www.drugabuse.gov

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration www.samhsa.gov

Massachusetts Opioid Addiction State Initiative
www.mass.gov/StopAddiction

Partnerships

Our coalition partners work together to implement prevention, treatment, and recovery strategies, which promote healthy, safe, and supportive environments.

Organizational Partners

- AdCare Hospital
- Affiliated Tribes of New England Indians
- AIDS Project Worcester
- Clark University
- Community HealthLink
- CMRPHA
- DA Joseph D. Early Jr.
- Indigenous People's Network
- Jeremiah's Inn
- Hector Reyes House
- HOPE Coalition
- Learn To Cope
- MCPHS
- MOAR
- PPAL
- Rockdale Recovery High School
- Spectrum Health Systems
- Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services
- UMass Medical School
- UMass Memorial Hospital
- City of Worcester
- Worcester District Medical Society
- Worcester Public Schools
- YOU, Inc.
- YouthConnect



Get Involved

For more information or to learn how you can get involved please contact:

Bryan Diehl at **774-502-7027** or
diehlb@worcesterma.gov

Prevention Specialist, Central Massachusetts
Regional Public Health Alliance, Worcester
Division of Public Health