



BHC September Meeting

In September, we will have a virtual meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, September 14th at 8:30am. As always, please register beforehand if you plan to attend, the registration link can be found [here](#). Once you register, you will receive a link to access the meeting. At this meeting we will discuss the impacts that the COVID pandemic has made on mental health in our communities, as well as updates on progress made in BHC subcommittees. We look forward to seeing you next month!

Trevor Project Releases National LGBTQ Youth Survey Data

The Trevor Project, a national nonprofit organization focused on suicide prevention among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth, has released the results of its [2021 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health](#). With nearly 35,000 LGBTQ youth respondents between 13 and 24 years old, it is a comprehensive look at the impacts of several different ongoing topics including COVID-19, food insecurity, and mental health care availability and disparities. Among the shocking data is that 42% of LGBTQ youth reported seriously considering attempting suicide in the past year, and more than half of transgender and nonbinary youth. The survey results can be viewed on [the web](#) or a [downloadable PDF](#). For more information about the Trevor Project, visit their [webpage](#).

COVID-19 Teen Mental Health Impact Survey

The [DuPage County Prevention Leadership Team \(PLT\)](#) is a county-wide community coalition working to prevent substance use and increase mental wellness among DuPage County youth, 18 years and younger. In order to understand risk and protective factors that influence substance use and mental health challenges among youth, local level data collection is imperative. That is why, we are asking teens, ages 11-18, to participate in a [short survey](#) to help us understand how COVID-19 may have impacted them over the past year. This survey should take no more than five minutes to complete, and all survey responses will be anonymous. Please feel free to share widely with any partners that can share the survey directly with DuPage youth. Thank you in advance for assisting the PLT with this important data collection. For questions about this survey or the PLT, please contact Project Coordinator, Jordan Esser at Jordan.esser@dupagehealth.org.



HOPE Taskforce Grantees

The DuPage Heroin/Opioid Prevention and Education (HOPE) Taskforce has announced a total of \$125,000 towards four organizations with programs to help combat the spread of the opioid epidemic in our community. Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital will use funding to improve support for patients with opioid use disorders. Haymarket Center will fund a recovery coach that works with individuals leaving the DuPage County Correctional Facility. Hope for Healing will partner with Live 4 Lali to utilize harm reductions strategies through a mobile outreach van. Finally, NAMI DuPage will host a bimonthly peer support group for NAMI clients that are also struggling with substance use disorders. This is the third round of funding that has been provided by the DuPage County Board through the HOPE Taskforce. For more information on these projects and others funded through the HOPE Taskforce, visit [this website](#).

September is National Suicide Prevention Month

We are happy to join community partners in celebrating National Suicide Prevention Month this September. This is an opportunity to share the great prevention work being done here in DuPage and nationally to reduce deaths by suicide. The [Suicide Prevention Resource Center](#) has an extensive list of ways to take action during September. The [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#) developed posts, videos, and written stories to engender conversation about suicide and what can be done to make honest conversations about suicide more normalized. Is your organization holding an event for National Suicide Prevention Month? If you'd like to share with the Behavioral Health Collaborative, send an email to Scott.Kaufmann@dupagehealth.org and we can send it out to BHC partners or feel free to bring information about it to our meeting in September.