

PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

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Kent County Supports Drug Addiction Awareness

Dover, Del. – Kent County Levy Court recognized Drug Addiction Awareness Month at its September 29, 2020 meeting. Resolution 3806 was presented to Rev. Carol Harris of The Vines Community Project, in support of Drug Addiction Awareness Month and the impact the Coronavirus has had on substance use. City of Dover Councilman, David Anderson, joined the presentation portion of the meeting via teleconference.

According to the Delaware’s Division of Forensic Science, “through August of this year, 256 deaths from suspected overdoses were reported, an increase of about 32% from the same period in 2019.”

A study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found elevated adverse mental health conditions associated with COVID-19 among U.S. adults. That study found 31% of respondents reported symptoms of anxiety or depression, 26% reported symptoms of trauma or stressor-related disorder, 13% said they had started or increased substance use, and 11% reported having seriously considered suicide in the 30 days prior to the study.

Kent County Department of Public Safety, Emergency Medical Services reports a steady increase in the number of opioid related calls for service from 2018 to today. “We have seen over a 10% increase in overdose calls last year, in 2019, when compared to 2018. We responded 939 times in 2019 and are close to that number already in 2020, with three more months left of this year. I am confident this unfortunate upward trend will continue into next year” said Captain John Tinger, Administrative Officer.

Kent County Levy Court for the third year supports Project Purple with the State of Delaware, City of Dover and other Delaware businesses in recognition of Drug Addiction Awareness.

For those struggling with substance use, visit www.helpsherede.com or call 833-946-7333.

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