The Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) in partnership with the United Way of Connecticut (UWC), has launched the Adult Telephone Intervention and Options Network (ACTION) line for adults 18 years of age or older who are in the community and experiencing a mental health or emotional crisis for which an immediate response may be required. The ACTION line is a centralized phone number answered by 2-1-1 staff trained to offer an array of supports and options to individuals in distress, including telephonic support; referrals and information about community resources and services; warm-transfer to the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) of their area; and, when necessary, direct connection to 911.

This valuable resource offers round the clock support to adults in crisis. Any individuals seeking immediate response to a mental health and/or substance use issue can contact the ACTION line team at 2-1-1 or 1-800-HOPE-135. DMHAS Commissioner Miriam Delphin-Rittman encourages anyone who needs help to reach out for support: "Immediate access to local support and resources is vital in assisting those in crisis."

The ACTION line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year with the availability of multilingual staff or interpreters as needed. The centralized line is available to provide after-hours coverage for mobile crisis providers throughout the state. The ACTION line team is comprised of dedicated contact specialists, licensed clinicians and a peer support specialist with lived experience with mental health and substance use/addiction. The services and supports offered through the ACTION line are available to all residents of Connecticut at no financial cost to the caller. DMHAS funds and operates MCT services throughout the state. MCT services are mobile, readily accessible, short-term services for individuals and families experiencing acute mental health and/or substance use/addiction crises offered in a rapid response framework. MCTs aim to promote the prevention of crises among persons and families, as well as postvention activities that support individuals in developing a meaningful sense of belonging in their communities.

The MCT and ACTION Line staff work in collaboration with family members, peer-run organizations, faith-based communities, law enforcement, and other civic and community organizations to ensure that persons in distress and their loved ones have the support and resources they need within their local community.
The stigma surrounding SUD makes matters worse. That’s a key part of being a Recovery Friendly Workplace (RFW)
- reducing negative judgments and perceptions around workers with a SUD, which can:
  - Damage self esteem
  - Increase stress and isolation
  - Prevent people from seeking help
  - Increase prejudice and discrimination
  - Increase lost productivity further
  - Reduce morale in the workplace

A FEW FACTS THAT MAY SURPRISE YOU

- People don’t need to “hit bottom” before finding help
- There is no single recovery or treatment program that works for everyone
- The Affordable Care Act includes benefits for SUD treatment
- Remaining kind, compassionate, and human is the best approach
- Recovery Friendly Workplace programs are being created all over the country

A FEW FACTS TO REMEMBER

- Workers with SUD didn’t choose the condition
- SUD doesn’t define who and what a person is
- Listening is a powerful tool
- Using evidence-based facts is good for business and for people
- Research has proven that positive organizational psychology has significant benefits for employers, employees, and stakeholders

LANGUAGE MATTERS

Constructive language tends to emphasize the person, not the condition.

**Replace:** “Addict,” “junkie,” and “druggie” with “person with a substance use disorder” or “person in recovery.”

**Replace:** “Drug abuse” with “drug use” or “substance misuse.”

**Replace:** “Dirty” with “using,” or “actively using.”

**Replace:** “Clean” with “in recovery” or “substance-free.”

**Replace:** “Medication is a crutch” with “Medication is a recovery tool” in the context of medication-assisted treatment.
Sustaining Our Community During COVID-19 Uncertainty
A Connecticut Clearinghouse Educational Forum

Thursday, January 21, 2021
From 2:00 to 3:00 PM, via Zoom

Because of its fluid nature and indefinite duration, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to present new challenges. People everywhere are grappling with how to adjust to perpetual changes in their lives at work, at home, and in their community, while balancing added anxiety, fear, and the emotional challenges related to loss.

Dan Fallon, EAP Manager at Wheeler Clinic will share information that can help us consciously reduce stress, boost our resilience, improve our emotional well-being, and cope with the uncharted road ahead.

Register Today:
www.ctclearinghouse.org/registration

Approved for 1 contact hour with the Connecticut Certification Board
The Change the Script van is heading out to events this winter (weather-permitting), and is stocked with medication lock boxes, Deterra bags, masks, hand sanitizer, free children's books and timely health literature.

Request the van for your location or event by calling 1.800.232.4424 or by visiting www.drugfreect.org.

Visit www.ctclearinghouse.org/observances to learn about health observances. Contact Connecticut Clearinghouse to add your events to the page.
Adolescent SBIRT:
Adolescent Girls and Opioids

*** This training is approved for CECs by NASW-CT ***

Thursday, January 21, 2021
9:00 AM — 12:30 PM
Via Zoom

FREE Training Includes:

- Virtual interactive training on Adolescent Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment
- Curriculum supplement on the unique risks of adolescent girls for opioid misuse
- Helpful resource materials and referral information

Register NOW at www.ctclearinghouse.org/registration
Call 800.232.4424 for additional information

The Connecticut Opioid Misuse Prevention (COMP) initiative is made possible with funding from grant no. ASTWH170052-01-00 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women’s Health.
New Pamphlets

- Quitting Vaping: A Guide for Young People
- Stress & Worry: What Young People Want to Know
- Opioid Use Disorder: Dealing with Relapse
- Nicotine and Addiction: What You Need to Know
- Los Vaporizadores de Cartucho
- Cómo el Alcohol te Afecta el Cuerpo
Vaping & Marijuana Resources

How to Tell if Your Child is Vaping THC

Secondhand Vaping

Marijuana and Your Grades

The Brain-Scrambling Marijuana Quiz

Vaping and E-Cigarettes: 8 Things Every Parent Should Know

Marijuana, Other Drugs and Driving

Contact Connecticut Clearinghouse at 1.800.232.4424 or Click Here to Order
Contact Connecticut Clearinghouse at 1.800.232.4424 or Click Here to Order
January Is National Birth Defects Prevention Month

2021 Theme: "Best For You. Best For Baby."

@NBDPM
@CDC_NCBDDD

#Best4YouBest4Baby
#folic

Connecticut Clearinghouse Resources

Women and Drinking: Preventing Alcohol-Exposed Pregnancies (Book)

Treating Women With Substance Use Disorders During Pregnancy: A Comprehensive Approach to Caring For Mother and Child (Book)

No Safe Amount: Women, Alcohol, and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (DVD)

Connecticut Resources

Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
www.ct.gov/DMHAS

24/7 Treatment Access Line
1.800.563.4086

Connecticut Department of Public Health
www.ct.gov/DPH

March of Dimes Connecticut
www.marchofdimes.org
860.815.9365

National Resources

National Birth Defects Prevention Network
www.nbdpn.org

Centers For Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/preconception
In 2019, 11,500 human trafficking cases in the United States were reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

#WearBlueDay
#EndTrafficking

January is National Slavery & Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Blue is the international color of human trafficking awareness. Wear blue on 1.11.21 to raise public awareness about human trafficking.

Connecticut Resources

CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
www.ct.gov/DMHAS

CT Department of Children and Families Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team (HART)
www.ct.gov/DCF/HART/Home

National Resources

National Human Trafficking Hotline
1.888.373.7888

National Childhood Traumatic Stress Network
www.nctsn.org

Blue Campaign
www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign

Connecticut Clearinghouse Resources

Fact Sheets
- Human Trafficking
- Identify & Assist A Human Trafficking Victim

DVD
- Responding to Victims of Human Trafficking: A Training Video for Victim Service Providers
Bullying affects all youth, including those who are bullied, those who bully others, and those who witness bullying. The effects of bullying may continue into adulthood. Bystanders, or those who see bullying, can make a huge difference when they intervene on behalf of someone being bullied.

Resources

Connecticut Resources
CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
www.ct.gov/DMHAS

CT State Department of Education
www.ct.gov/SDE

National Resources
GLSEN
(Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network)
www.glsen.org/no-name-calling-week

National Bullying Prevention Center
www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/

StopBullying.gov
www.stopbullying.gov

Connecticut Clearinghouse Resources

Know What? Bullying Hurts! (Pamphlet)
Top 10 Reasons Not To Bully (Poster)
Cyberbullying: Perpetrators, Bystanders & Victims (Book)
Cyber Bullying: A Prevention Curriculum for Grades 6 – 12 (Book)
Bully (DVD)
Follow us
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Courier Online

The e-newsletter of Wheeler Clinic's Connecticut Clearinghouse

334 Farmington Avenue · Plainville, CT 06062
800.232.4424 or 860.793.9791

www.ctclearinghouse.org
info@ctclearinghouse.org

Staff are available Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
We are currently offering curbside pickup or mail

Connecticut Clearinghouse is funded by the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services