Preventing drug use and alcohol abuse improves quality of life, academic performance, workplace productivity and military preparedness. Living substance-free, including tobacco-free, increases people’s chances of living long, healthy and productive lives.

### Severity

**Risk of mortality and morbidity associated with the problem**

- 6.8% of the population age 18+ in the US is estimated to have Alcohol Use Disorder.
- 9.4% of the population age 12+ in the US reported using an illicit drug in the last month.
- 9% of children live with at least one parent who abuses alcohol or other drugs. They are more likely to experience physical, sexual or emotional abuse or neglect and more likely to be placed in foster care.
- More than 25% of the U.S. population and more than half of all children in the U.S are exposed to secondhand smoke on a regular basis.

### Magnitude

**Number of people impacted by the problem**

- An estimated 9,258 adults in the five-county region have Alcohol Use Disorder (6.8% of 136,143 residents age 18+).
- An estimated 4,353 adolescents and adults in the region recently used an illicit drug (9.4% of the 46,314 residents in the region age 12+).
- An estimated 3,126 children age in the region live with at least one parent who abuses alcohol or other drugs (9% of the 0-17 population of 34,734).
- As estimated 34,035 adults (25% of the 136,143 population age 18+) and 17,367 (50% of 34,734 children age 0-17) are exposed regularly to secondhand smoke in the five-county region.

### Impact

**Improving this problem would have a positive impact on health, quality of life or health disparities**

- Substance use is associated with a range of destructive social conditions, including family disruptions, financial problems, lost productivity, failure in school, domestic violence, child abuse, and crime.
- Substance abuse contributes to a number of negative health outcomes and public health problems, including cardiovascular conditions, pregnancy complications, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, motor vehicle crashes, homicide and suicide.
- Estimates of the total overall costs of substance abuse in the US, including lost productivity and health- and crime-related costs, exceed $600 billion annually.
- Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in the US, yet more deaths are caused each year by tobacco use than by all deaths from HIV, illegal drug use, alcohol use, motor vehicle injuries, suicides, and murders combined.
- Several biological, social, environmental, psychological, and genetic factors are associated with alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, including gender, race, age, income level, educational attainment, and sexual orientation.

### Sustainability

**Resources are available and barriers are surmountable**

- Munson Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center
- Primary care providers and specialists
- Psychologists, counselors, and clinical social workers in private practice
- Community Mental Health agencies
- Northern Michigan Regional Entity
- Catholic Human Services
- Local health departments

### Achievability

**Achievable and measureable outcomes are possible within three years**

- Adults who drink excessively
- Teens who binge drink
- Death rate due to drug poisoning
- Teens who use marijuana
- Adults who smoke
- Mothers who smoked during pregnancy
### Grand Traverse Region Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use Statistics

**Adults who drink excessively:** “Drinking excessively” is defined as binge drinking (5+ drinks in a single occasion for men and 4+ for women) or heavy drinking (2 drinks per day for men and 1 drink per day for women). The proportion of the population who drinks excessively ranges from 18.9% in Leelanau and 22.6% in Grand Traverse County.

**Teens who binge drink:** The proportion of teens who report drinking 5+ drinks in a single occasion (no matter if they are male or female) tracks or exceeds State rate (6.7%) in all counties except Benzie County, Antrim County (12.5%), Grand Traverse (9.2%), Kalkaska (14.0%) and Leelanau (6.7%). Benzie County data is not available.

**Death rate due to drug poisoning:** Compared to State rate (13 deaths per 100,000), Antrim County, at 16.2 deaths per 100,000, and Leelanau County, at 15.3 per 100,000, exceeds State, with Grand Traverse at 11.9, Kalkaska at 11.5. Benzie County data is not available. Overall, there is an average of 112 deaths annually due to drug overdose in the region.

**Teens who use marijuana:** The proportion of teens who used marijuana recently tracks or exceeds State rate (10.2%) in all counties reporting: Antrim—20.7%; Grand Traverse—12.2%; Kalkaska—12.2% and Leelanau—10.2%. Benzie County data is not available.

**Adults who smoke:** Adult smoking rates vary widely, from 12% in Benzie County to 36% in Kalkaska County. Rates in Antrim (21%) and Kalkaska (36%) exceed State rate (20%). Leelanau County data is not available.

**Mothers who smoked during pregnancy:** The proportion of women who smoked during pregnancy exceeds State (19.7%) in all five counties: Antrim—30.5%; Benzie—30.1%; Grand Traverse—23.2%; Kalkaska—29.9%; and Leelanau—20.2%. Rates are even higher among low-income pregnant women.

### Community Conversations

111 community residents and stakeholders participated in one of five Community Conversations sponsored by local multipurpose collaborative bodies. Each one answered the question, “What can we do here to move closer to our vision of a healthy community?” Addressing prevention, screening, treatment, and recovery of substance use was a focus of discussion in every county:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antrim</th>
<th>Benzie</th>
<th>Grand Traverse</th>
<th>Kalkaska</th>
<th>Leelanau</th>
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</tbody>
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### Major Forces of Change in the Community

16 members of the Munson CHNA Advisory Committee participated in a facilitated discussion to identify forces of change in the community. The following forces impact substance use in the region:

- Munson programs and services
- State Improvement Model (SIM)
- Funding streams, initiatives, resources available
- Elections and implications for the Affordable Care Act
- Increases in opiate addiction
- Abundance of meth labs
- Collaboration/collective impact
- Technological improvements
- Easy access to information

### What Matters to You? Survey

246 residents of Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau counties completed the “What Matters to You?” Survey. Overall, they ranked “substance use” as the most important community health issue in their county.

### Health Care Provider Survey

50 physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants from Kalkaska Memorial Medical Center, Munson Medical Center and Paul Oliver Hospital completed a brief Health Care Provider Survey. Overall, they ranked “substance use” as the second most important community health issue in their county, behind “overweight and obesity”.

Visit [http://www.munsonhealthcare.org/CHNA-Community-Dashboard](http://www.munsonhealthcare.org/CHNA-Community-Dashboard) for data sources, including indicator description and year.

Narrative adopted from [Healthy People 2020](https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020) and [National Prevention Strategy](https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/strategies/prevention-strategy)