



# Bulletin

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE KENT COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY & THE KENT COUNTY OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION    SPRING 2023

— *Serving Physicians in Kent, Ottawa, Barry, Ionia, Montcalm, and Kalamazoo counties* —



National Doctors' Day  
MARCH 30  
*Thank you*

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## BULLETIN

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Barry County Medical Society  
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Kent County Medical Society Alliance  
Kent Medical Foundation  
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### Cover Photo

On March 30th each year, National Doctors' Day honors the professionals for their dedication and contributions to society and the community. Their dedication puts the patient first time and again. On National Doctors' Day, we say "thank you" to our physician members for all that you do for us, our loved ones, and our communities!

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### GET INVOLVED:

Learn more about the Kent County Medical Society at [www.kcms.org](http://www.kcms.org).

Learn more about the Kent County Osteopathic Association at [www.kcoa-mi.org](http://www.kcoa-mi.org).

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# In Memoriam

## **ROBERT H. HYDRICK, MD**

Dr. Robert Hydrick passed away on Tuesday January 24, 2023. He graduated from the University of South Carolina and Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, becoming the third generation of physicians in his family, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather.

Dr. Hydrick did his internship and residency in OB/GYN at Butterworth Hospital. He received a commission in the Medical Corps of the Michigan National Guard, rank of Major, and remained active in the National Guard through 1958. Dr. Hydrick practiced OB/GYN for nearly 50 years in Grand Rapids and was proud to deliver over 6,000 babies and provide comprehensive healthservices to women.

## **CARLETON A. SMITH, JR., MD**

Dr. Carleton Smith passed away on December 20, 2022. Born October 13, 1950, Chip grew up in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. He followed in his father's footsteps and went to medical school at Wayne State University training in emergency medicine. He moved to North Carolina for residency in anesthesia at Duke University. Chip's love for the outdoors brought him to Albuquerque, New Mexico where he practiced anesthesiology and raised a family. He then moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where Chip practiced medicine until his retirement.

## **RICHARD L. KREUZER, MD**

Dr. Richard Kreuzer passed away on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. Richard enlisted in the U.S. Air Force after high school and trained in Washington, D.C., as a German linguist. He was stationed in Hof an der Saale, Germany, where he served enjoyably formative years as part of

the 6915th Security Group. After returning stateside, he attended Calvin College, and then medical school at the University of Michigan. He did his residency in Grand Rapids and ran a solo practice in obstetrics and gynecology in the area. Richard had also furthered his military career by earning his Flight Surgeon wings, and he remained active in the Michigan Air National Guard until he retired with the rank of Lt. Col.

## **JAMES D. WEBB, MD**

Dr. James Webb passed away on November 26, 2022. He graduated from Wheaton College and Wayne State University School of Medicine. Jim interned at Butterworth Hospital for one year before serving for three years in the US Army in Germany. He did a five-year general surgery residency at Butterworth before going into private practice in Fremont beginning in 1977. Throughout his life, Jim made many trips to Africa and Haiti to work in mission hospitals. He was also an active board member of Bethesda Mission and Grace Ministries International.

## **EARL R. WILLIAMS, MD**

Dr. Earl Richard Williams passed away on January 5, 2023. Upon graduation from Grand Haven High School Earl was accepted into the United States Naval Air Cadet training program in Pensacola, Fla, earned his Naval wings, and was thereafter commissioned a 2nd lieutenant Marine Aviator in the United States Marine Corps. His Marine Corps service was primarily in Iwakuni Japan flying A-1 (AD) Skyraiders. After honorable discharge from the Marine Corps, Earl attended Ferris State University before beginning his formal medical education at Wayne State University School of Medicine and practicing as an obstetrician.

## Benefits that Work for You

Take advantage of the networking, education and community opportunities afforded through your county and state society memberships. By attending events, sharing resources, and interacting with other Members from West Michigan or around the state of Michigan, you will network with other member physicians across a wide range of specialties and experience, which impacts organized medicine.



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**OTTAWA COUNTY DELEGATION**

Bryan W. Huffman, MD, Delegate  
Andrew Cureton, MD Alternate Delegate



# Join Us

KCMS MEETINGS OF INTEREST

## APRIL 2023

### REGIONAL DIRECTORS' BRIEFING

*Date pending*

## APRIL 22-23, 2023

### MSMS HOUSE OF DELEGATES

The Henry, Autograph Collection | Dearborn, MI

## MAY 8, 2023

### WEST MICHIGAN COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Virtual meeting | Noon

### OUR MISSION:

*The Kent County Medical Society is a professional association, uniting the physicians in Kent County into a mutual, neutral organization; preserving and promoting the health of the citizens of Kent County, the physician/patient relationship, the medical profession, and the interests of physicians.*

## Visit us

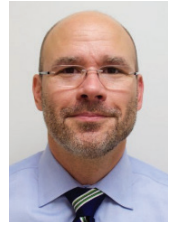
For event details, check out our website [kcms.org](http://kcms.org)



## Check Your Referral Guide Information

Have you updated your West Michigan Doctor Referral Guide listing? If you have yet to do so, please visit [www.WestMichiganDoctors.com](http://www.WestMichiganDoctors.com) and check to be sure your listing information is up to date. **Contact the office at (616) 458-4157 or [kcmsoffice@kcms.org](mailto:kcmsoffice@kcms.org) with any changes.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Adam J. Rush, MD  
2023 KCMS President

# KCMS 120th Annual Meeting of the Membership



Belén Amat, MD, congratulates Adam J. Rush, MD, newly installed 2023 KCMS President.

Members of the KCMS met in person and virtually to participate in the Annual Meeting. Adam J. Rush, MD was installed as the KCMS President!



Dr. Phil Wise enjoys the pre-meeting social with Dr. Joel Green and Paula Green.



Jayne Courts, MD provides an update on Kent Medical Foundation.



Warren Lanphear, MD, Anita Avery, MD, John LaGrand, MD, Jayne Courts, MD, and Rick Hodgson, MD.



Standing: Sue Condit visits with seated: (L-R) Dr. Patrick and Deborah Droste, Lorraine Hammond, Donald Condit, MD, MBA, David Hammond, MD, and Vincent Dubravec, MD.



Gerald Lee, MD was recognized for his leadership on the KCMS Board of Directors.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

# ANNUAL MEETING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

## Meet President-Elect Warren Lanphear, MD

Emergency medicine specialist Warren Lanphear, MD, was elected President-Elect of the Kent County Medical Society during the Annual Meeting



of the Membership in January 2023. Dr. Warren Lanphear graduated from Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and completed his emergency medicine residency with Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners (GRMEP). Dr.

Lanphear is board certified with the American Board of Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Warren Lanphear has been a member of the Kent County Medical Society since 1985 and has served on the Board since 2021.



KCMS President, Dr. Adam Rush poses with his wife Dr. Shana Rush, and daughter Isabella who were on hand for the installation.

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DOCTORS' DAY 2023 | MARCH 30

## Saluting Our Physicians

To all the dedicated physicians who are a part of West Michigan Medical Societies, Happy Doctors' Day! Thank you for all you do to provide compassionate, safe, and quality care to our communities. Thank you for all the sacrifices you make, the long hours you endure, and the life-changing work you do!



*Thank you*

### 120TH KCMS ANNUAL MEETING

## MSMS President Updates Members



At the 120th Annual Meeting of the KCMS, Thomas Veverka, MD, President of MSMS and Past President of Saginaw County Medical Society, presented an update to KCMS Members on projects of the MSMS Board.

### Highlights

- The MSMS Task Force to Advance Health Equity, chaired by Theodore Jones, MD, is meeting monthly. Most recently, the Task Force assisted in the creation of a physician survey to assess awareness of racial and ethnic health disparities; and further determine what tools are needed by physicians so they may address racial and ethnic health disparities in their practices.
- MSMS received a planning grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation allowing MSMS to host regional summits from March through May. A summit will be held in Kalamazoo at the Radisson Plaza Hotel Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 2:30-3:30pm.
- Senate committee assignments have been identified and MSMS is working on lobbying with the new legislature. Kevin Hertel (Southeast Michigan) is chairing Senate Health Policy, and Sylvia Santana (Southeast Michigan) is chairing the DHHS budget.
- Now that Medicaid eligibility redetermination is decoupled from the end of the public health emergency, members could see eligibility changes for their Medicaid patients very soon.
- Members who were not able to attend the virtual State of MSMS Address with Thomas M. George, MD, Interim CEO on January 11, can access a recording of the presentation [here](#).
- The MSMS House of Delegates will be held on April 22-23, 2023, at The Henry, Autograph Collection, in Dearborn. Members interested in serving on the County Delegation should contact the KCMS office.



# Join a Committee

The KCMS Board of Directors welcomes Members' involvement in committees. The following committees have openings:

## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

**Function:** To review editorial content and to review the layout and design of the Bulletin. Assist KCMS Staff with editing of the quarterly magazine, the Bulletin, via email and phone.

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**Function:** To be patient advocates and to educate area legislators of the effects of proposed legislation on the practice of medicine. The committee meets at Noon on Mondays of selected months and welcomes involvement by elected officials. These are held virtually or via a hybrid of in-person and virtual option meetings. Meetings usually are held quarterly but the committee of physicians and legislators at times may meet more frequently due to time-sensitive topics.

Legislators and physicians from Kent, Barry, Ottawa, and Kalamazoo counties are invited to join these meetings.

# Cara Poland, MD Nominated for Brilliance Award

Kent County Medical Society Member, Cara Anne Poland, MD, MEd, FACP, DFASAM is a nominee for Brilliant Woman of the Year by



*West Michigan Women Magazine*. The Annual Brilliance Awards program recognizes women and men in categories such as Mentorship, Connector, Social Change Agent, Tenacity, Entrepreneur, Emerging Leader, and more. Dr. Poland is one

of 30 nominees to be honored at a May 17 dinner gathering. The event celebrates the collaboration, networking, and mentoring shared in our community.

# VARNUM'S HEALTH CARE LEGAL TEAM



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Chloe N. Cunningham



Ronald G. DeWaard



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- Patient Care Issues
- Quality Assurance and Risk Management

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# CME Opportunities

## GRAND ROUNDS

### COVID Review

**Wednesday, April 5, 2023 | Noon–12:45pm**

Dr. Sandro Cinti (Professor of Infectious Disease, University of Michigan Hospital System/Ann Arbor VA Health System) will provide an overview on the current status of COVID in Michigan, including the current numbers and trends.

*Free registration. Approved for .75 AMA PRA Category Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>.*

## PRACTICE MANAGEMENT LIVE WEBINAR SERIES

### Human Resource Tips

**Wednesday, April 5, 2023 | 1–2pm**

Labor and employment attorney Felicia O'Connor will present on managing your workforce in the era of COVID requirements and employee pushback. Managing employee expectations and consistent implementation of rules and requirements lead to lower risk and liability for employers. This presentation will discuss best practices for employee management in a tight labor market as well as planning tips for the possible coming recession.

*Free Registration. Approved for 1 AMA PRA Category Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>.*

## 158TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING (ASM) VIRTUAL MONTHLY SERIES

### Hey Doc, What Are the Best Supplements to Take?

**Monday, April 24, 2023 | 6–8pm**

*Live virtual event hosted on Zoom. Approved for 2 AMA PRA Category Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>.*

## A DAY OF BOARD OF MEDICINE RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS

### Pain and Symptom Management; Medical Ethics; Implicit Bias

**Friday, May 5, 2023 | 8:30am–4:15pm**

This conference fulfills LARA's requirement for three hours in the area of pain and symptom management (meets the new one hour minimum of controlled substance prescribing training), one hour in the area of medical ethics, and three hours of implicit bias training.

*Live virtual event hosted on Zoom. AMA Credit Designation Statement: The MSMS designates this live activity for a maximum of 7 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.*

## GRAND ROUNDS

### Surviving Litigation

**Wednesday, May 10, 2023  
Noon–12:45pm**

This presentation will provide an overview of the litigation process: What happens when you get sued, the course of the litigation, and the potential emotional impact to a doctor when this happens.

## PRESENTERS

- **Cullen McKinney, Esq**  
*Tanoury, Nauts, McKinney and Dwaihy, PLLC*
- **Paul Nagel**  
Vice President, Patient Safety  
*The Doctors Company*
- **Lisa Wychgram**  
Assistant Vice President, Claims  
*The Doctors Company*

*Free registration. Approved for .75 AMA PRA Category Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>.*

## TWO PART SERIES

### Reducing Unconscious Bias—an Imperative (RUBI)

**Wednesday, May 24, 2023  
Noon–1pm**

- **Part 1**  
One-Hour On-Demand Webinar
- **Part 2**  
One-Hour Live Virtual Session

This conference meets LARA's requirement for two hours of implicit bias training. Please note, the implicit bias requirement for licensure has additional criteria of a pre and post-test assessment.

*The MSMS designates this other activity (Two Part Activity, Part 1 Enduring Material and Part 2 Live) for a maximum of 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>.*

# Legislative Update

Governor Gretchen Whitmer delivered her fifth State of the State address in late January, marking the first speech in the Michigan Capitol since the start of the pandemic. The speech carried a bi-partisan tone, urging lawmakers to work across the aisle to deliver on issues.

## Policy Priorities

The Governor outlined the following policy priorities during the address:

- **Education investment**  
Including free pre-K and a focus on individualized tutoring options for all students.
- **Targeted tax cuts**  
Including ending the tax on retiree public pensions and boosting the Earned Income Tax Credit.
- **Gun safety**  
Including universal background checks, red flag, and safe storage laws.
- **Expansion of Elliot-Larson Civil Rights Act**  
To include LGBTQ persons.
- **Repeal of the 1931 abortion ban**

- \$100 million for community revitalization and placemaking grants.
- \$25 million for blight elimination,
- \$75 million for small business smart zones,
- \$33 million in infrastructure grants.

The Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission also will receive \$3.2 million under the bill to cover additional legal costs. The appropriations for fiscal year 2021-22 included \$120 million in federal funds for the Department of Health and Human Services Food Assistance Program.

## Senate Bill 7

The House and Senate approved an appropriations supplemental bill. Senate Bill 7 included \$146.3 million to close the books for fiscal year 2021-22 and then added another \$946.2 million in new spending for current fiscal year 2022-23.

The bill contains funds for several projects in fiscal year 2022-23, including:

- \$200 million for an economic development project in the Escanaba region.
- \$150 million for affordable housing and housing gap financing.
- \$150 million for a deposit into the Strategic Outreach and Attraction Reserve (SOAR) fund.

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# Doctors Speaking Their Minds

Did you know, in 2022, there were 112 messages from Kent County physicians to elected officials? These were sent by physicians practicing in emergency medicine, pediatrics, clinic settings, anesthesiology, dermatology, internal medicine, neurology, medical administrators and more.

Group practices, hospital systems and individual practice owners reached out to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Lieutenant-Governor Garlin Gilchrist, Senators and Representatives representing Michigan to voice

concerns on Prior Authorization Reform, Increased Funding for Primary Care, Exemption of Federal CMS Guidelines, and more. Physicians also sent messages urging elected officials to move legislation and to support physicians to improve quality medical care for Michigan patients.

Thank you to those who took the time to reach out to your legislators. Members can do so easily by clicking [here](#). Another alternative is to contact your legislator using the information below.

## West Michigan Elected Officials

County	District	Party	Email	Website
<b>Barry County</b>				
Sen. Thomas Albert	18	R	SenTAlbert@senate.michigan.gov	www.Sen.thomasalbert.com
Rep. Gina Johnsen	78	R	GinaJohnsen@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repGinaJohnsen
Rep. Angela Rigas	79	R	AngelaRigas@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repAngelaRigas
Rep. Rachelle Smit	43	R	RachelleSmit@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repRachelleSmit
<b>Ionia County</b>				
Sen. Thomas Albert	18	R	SenTAlbert@senate.michigan.gov	www.Sen.thomasalbert.com
Sen. Rick Outman	33	R	SenROutman@senate.michigan.gov	www.Sen.rickoutman.com/contact
Rep. Graham Filler	93	R	GrahamFiller@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repgrahamfiller
Rep. Gina Johnsen	78	R	GinaJohnsen@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repGinaJohnsen
Rep. Pat Outman	91	R	PatOutman@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/reppatoutman
<b>Kalamazoo County</b>				
Sen. Thomas Albert	18	R	SenTAlbert@senate.michigan.gov	www.Sen.thomasalbert.com
Sen. Sean McCann	19	D	SenSMcCann@senate.michigan.gov	senatedems.com/mccann
Rep. Matt Hall	42	R	MattHall@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repmatthall
Rep. Sarah Lightner	45	R	SarahLightner@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repSarahlightner
Rep. Christine Morse	40	D	ChristineMorse@house.mi.gov	housedems.com/christine-morse
Rep. Julie Rogers	41	D	JulieRogers@house.mi.gov	housedems.com/julie-rogers

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# DOCTORS SPEAKING THEIR MINDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

County	District	Party	Email	Website
<b>Kent County</b>				
Sen. Thomas Albert	18	R	SenTAlbert@senate.michigan.gov	www.Sen.thomasalbert.com
Sen. Winnie Brinks	29	D	SenWBrinks@senate.michigan.gov	senatedems.com/brinks
Sen. Mark Huizenga	30	R	SenMHuizenga@senate.michigan.gov	www.Sen.markhuizenga.com
Sen. Aric Nesbitt	20	R	SenANesbitt@senate.michigan.gov	www.Sen.aricnesbitt.com
Sen. Rick Outman	33	R	SenROutman@senate.michigan.gov	www.Sen.rickoutman.com/contact
Rep. John Fitzgerald	83	D	JohnFitzgerald@house.mi.gov	housedems.com/john-fitzgerald
Rep. Carol Glanville	84	D	caglanville@house.mi.gov	housedems.com/carol-glanville/
Rep. Kristian Grant	82	D	KristianGrant@house.mi.gov	housedems.com/kristian-grant/
Rep. Rachel Hood	81	D	RachelHood@house.mi.gov	housedems.com/rachel-hood/
Rep. Gina Johnsen	78	R	GinaJohnsen@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repGinaJohnsen
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Rep. Pat Outman	91	R	PatOutman@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/reppatoutman
Rep. Bryan Posthumus	90	R	BryanPosthumus@house.mi.gov	gophouse.org/member/repbryanposthumus/about
Rep. Angela Rigas	79	R	AngelaRigas@house.mi.gov	www.house.mi.gov/repdetail/repAngelaRigas
Rep. Phil Skaggs	80	D	PhilSkaggs@house.mi.gov	housedems.com/Phil-Skaggs
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Rep. Greg VanWoerkom	88	R	GregVanWoerkom@house.mi.gov	gophouse.org/member/repgregvanwoerkom/posts

# Electronic-Prescribing Enforcement

Beginning January 1, 2023, Michigan physicians will be required to electronically transmit all prescriptions for controlled and non-controlled substances.

Since January 1, 2023, Michigan physicians have been required to electronically transmit all prescriptions for controlled and non-controlled substances.

Michigan's statute allows for a waiver to be issued if a prescriber cannot meet the electronic prescribing requirements. The form and instructions for applying for the waiver are posted on the BPL website.

In addition to the waiver, Michigan's statute provides the following exceptions to the e-prescribing mandate:

- If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who is a veterinarian licensed under this article.
- If the prescription is issued under a circumstance in which electronic transmission is not available due to a temporary technological or electrical failure.
- If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who has received a waiver from the department under subsection (7).
- If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who reasonably believes that electronically transmitting the prescription would make it impractical for the patient who is the subject of the prescription to obtain the prescription drug in a timely manner and that the delay would adversely affect the patient's medical condition. A prescriber who does not electronically transmit a prescription under this subdivision shall document the specific reason for his or her belief that the delay would adversely affect the patient's medical condition.
- If the prescription is orally prescribed under section 7333(3) or (4).
- If the prescription is issued by a prescriber to be dispensed outside of this state.
- If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who is located outside of this state to be dispensed by a pharmacy located inside of this state.
- If the prescription is issued and dispensed in the same health care facility and the individual for whom the prescription is issued uses the drug exclusively in the health care facility. As used in this subdivision, "health care facility" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:
  - A hospital.
  - A hospice.
  - A dialysis treatment clinic.
  - A freestanding surgical outpatient facility.
  - A skilled nursing facility.
  - A long-term care facility that provides rehabilitative, restorative, or ongoing skilled nursing care to an individual who is in need of assistance with activities of daily living.
- If the prescription contains content that is not supported by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Prescriber/Pharmacist Interface S CRIPT Standard.
- If the prescription is for a drug for which the FDA requires the prescription to contain content that cannot be transmitted electronically.
- If the prescription is issued under circumstances in which the prescriber is not required to include on the prescription a name of a patient for whom the prescription is issued including, but not limited to, a prescription issued under section 5110.
- If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who is prescribing the drug under a research protocol.
- If the prescription is dispensed by a dispensing prescriber.
- If the prescription is for a dialysis-related drug that is administered as part of or incident to a home-based dialysis treatment.

## RESOURCES

- [Electronic-Prescribing-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf](#)
- If you have further questions and wish to reach the Bureau for Professional Licensing, contact: (517) 241-0199 or email at [BPLHELP@michigan.gov](mailto:BPLHELP@michigan.gov).

# Regional Health Equity Summit

The Michigan State Medical Society invites medical and community leaders representing the West/Southwest Michigan region to the

Regional Health Equity Summit on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo.



Clinicians, health systems, community health centers, public health

representatives, neighborhood organizations, local officials and community service providers will discuss how to move from conversation to action to advance health equity.

## OBJECTIVES

- Rebuild trust in the medical professions as fundamental to achieving health equity
- Mitigate gaps hindering the ability to achieve improved outcomes and equity in health care
- Support individuals in attaining optimal health
- Adopt "best practice" protocols and community linkages to address social determinants of health
- Share multi-stakeholder consensus about areas for further research, practice change, and collaboration
- This program meets LARA's requirement for three hours of implicit bias training (pre- and post-test assessment required).

This program is supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

## REGISTRATION

Click [here](#) to register.

## MORE INFORMATION

Please contact the MSMS Healthy Equity Team with any questions at [health\\_equity@msms.org](mailto:health_equity@msms.org).



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# Join Us

KCOA MEETINGS OF INTEREST

## APRIL 11, 2023

6-8:30pm

**WEST MICHIGAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION  
SPRING INTERFACE**

Trillium Catering and Events Center | Spring Lake, MI

To RSVP, call (231) 720-0288 or email  
contact@osteopathicfoundation.org

## APRIL 17-23, 2023

**NATIONAL OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE WEEK**

## APRIL 29, 2023

**MICHIGAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
Virtual Meeting

## MAY 8, 2023

**WEST MICHIGAN COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**  
Noon | Virtual meeting

## MAY 17, 2023

**WMOA 2023 SPRING CONFERENCE**  
Trillium Catering and Event Center | Spring Lake, MI  
To RSVP, call (231) 720-0288 or email  
contact@osteopathicfoundation.org

## MAY 18-21, 2023

**2023 124TH ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE**  
Westin Southfield Detroit | Detroit

## JUNE 15-18, 2023

**NORTHERN MICHIGAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION  
SUMMER CONFERENCE**  
Mission Point Resort | Mackinac Island, MI

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## Check Your Referral Guide Information

Have you updated your West Michigan Doctor Referral Guide listing? If you have yet to do so, please visit [www.WestMichiganDoctors.com](http://www.WestMichiganDoctors.com) and check to be sure your listing information is up to date. **Contact the office at (616) 458-4157 or [kcmsoffice@kcms.org](mailto:kcmsoffice@kcms.org) with any changes.**





Adam Wolfe, DO  
2023 KCOA President,  
Board of Directors

# Investing in Our Future

January and February have somehow slipped away, reminding us of how quickly time passes. Thank you to the many members who have renewed their membership with the Kent County Osteopathic Association. Payment of 2023 dues is always appreciated by March 31; enabling you to receive the benefits of your KCOA Membership.

Our KCOA continues to serve Osteopathic physicians in West Michigan. By renewing your membership with KCOA, you will join other dedicated Osteopathic physicians to:

- **Promote research in the diagnostic and treatment of disease through an Osteopathic lens;**
- **Establish and improve upon the high standards of medical education and practice in Osteopathic institutions, which includes all systems in West Michigan;**
- **Improve public health;**
- **Maintain connection to other physicians with regular social events to foster communication with fellow Osteopathic and Allopathic colleagues, as well as our quarterly Bulletin magazine;**
- **Promote the philosophy of osteopathic medicine;**
- **Elevate and maintain the high standards of the osteopathic profession;**
- **Participate in and benefit from advocacy initiatives locally, regionally, and nationally; and assist in educating legislators on what physicians need for their patients;**
- **Add your practice to the online West Michigan Doctors Referral Guide**

## GAINING UNDERSTANDING FOR WHAT PHYSICIANS ARE REQUESTING

I personally appreciate the member connection at events with KCOA, as well as those with our colleagues in the surrounding counties for events, meetings and educational opportunities. I especially enjoy the Legislative Committee Meetings which gives the physicians an opportunity to discuss pertinent issues with regional legislators. The Legislative Committee

engages physicians from Kent, Ottawa, Barry, Kalamazoo and Muskegon counties to educate legislators and assist our practices and benefit our patients.

## PROVIDING ADVOCACY

Influencing improvements in policy development, is the upcoming House of Delegates for the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA). The 2023 MOA will meet virtually on Saturday, April 29 from 9am-Noon. I hope you will consider joining in the KCOA effort as a Delegate from West Michigan.

As stated in the bylaws: Article 5, Section 2, delegate certification reads as follows:

*“... such delegates and alternates must be members in good standing of the association eligible to be seated in the House of Delegates and must be elected by the component societies which they represent. They shall serve for one (1) year or until their successors are selected.”*

Contact me or Patricia Dalton, Executive Director for KCOA at (616) 560-5336.

## MOPAC ENDORSEMENT

The Michigan Osteopathic Political Action Committee (MOPAC) fights to elect and re-elect pro-physician candidates through direct contributions, voter education and targeted political activism. MOPAC is the best resource for you to learn who supports the osteopathic profession and how you can help elect candidates that represent you and your patients.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

# In Memoriam

## **LAURA A. TINNING REISTER, DO**

Dr. Laura Tinning Reister passed away on January 8, 2023. She studied pre-med and earned her B.A. in Biology, with honors, from William Jewell College. While there, she studied abroad and spent her Junior year at Cambridge University in England. Dr. Tinning graduated with her doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from A. T. Still University, Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, Missouri. She went on to specialize in Family Medicine and Osteopathic Manipulative (Neuromusculoskeletal) Medicine.

## **JOHN R. WOLFE, DO**

Dr. John Wolfe passed away on December 22, 2022. He completed his undergraduate degree at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, MI in 1966 and was a member of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. John completed his medical degree at the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City, Missouri in 1971 and his internship and residency in general surgery at the Pontiac Michigan Osteopathic Hospital in 1976. He was a practicing surgeon for 30 years in Saginaw, Michigan.

## **OUR FUTURE**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

MOPAC is the political arm of the MOA and the sole voice of the osteopathic profession in campaigns and elections on the state level. Governed by a committee made up of osteopathic physicians, MOPAC is constantly working to increase our effectiveness in elections and strengthen the clout of the physician community.

I look forward to your continued membership in the KCOA and hope you'll join me and other colleagues in influencing change and improvement. Let's roll up our sleeves and work on behalf of our profession and our future in caring for local patients.

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KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION



Jayne E. Courts, MD  
2023 Kent Medical  
Foundation, Board Chair

# Complementing Physician Care

I have asked many physicians about his/her reason for applying to medical school, studying for many hours, and working through the long hours of a residency. The answer is often a strong desire to help other people. Other health care professionals often share this same motivating drive.

This desire to serve led to the development of the Kent Medical Foundation (KMF). KMF is the philanthropic outreach arm (or hands?) for physicians who are members of Kent County Medical Society and our neighboring county societies of Ottawa, Barry, and Kalamazoo Counties. KMF provides one additional way that physicians choose to serve people by providing grant money for healthcare-related projects in our community.

We meet quarterly to review grant applications, and we have money to give to organizations who complement the care that physicians provide enabling families in our community to remain healthy and to embrace health!

## Grant Recipients

Here are some examples of grant applications we have funded in the past.

- **Autism Support of Kent County (ASK)**
- **Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired**
- **Boy Scouts of America Michigan Crossroads Council**
- **Calvin University HEALTH Camp**
- **Catherine’s Health Center**
- **Cherry Health Foundation**
- **Comprehensive Therapy Center**
- **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services**
- **Emmanuel Hospice**
- **Equine Assisted Development**
- **Exalta Health Center**
- **Exodus Place**
- **Feeding America West Michigan**
- **Fireside Chat Series on Racism, Equality & Inclusion**

- **Fit Kids 360**
- **Gilda’s Club – Grand Rapids**
- **Grand Rapids Children’s Museum**
- **Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys**
- **GRIEF: Preparing the Pathway to Healing for the Bereaved and the Professional**
- **Hand2Hand**
- **In The Image**
- **Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Ride to Cure**
- **Michigan State University – Daniel Shumaker, MD, Memorial Endowed Scholarship**
- **Myasthenia Gravis Foundation**
- **NicoTEAM Poster Contest**
- **Senior Sing Along**

## RECOGNITION AND GRANT SUPPORT FOR PHYSICIAN VOLUNTEERS IN KENT COUNTY

We welcome new grant applications. Please visit our website at [www.kentmedicalfoundation.org](http://www.kentmedicalfoundation.org) to locate the grant application form. You are also welcome to discuss ideas for a grant with our Executive Director, Patricia Dalton, at [patricia@kcms.org](mailto:patricia@kcms.org).

As a Michigan non-profit organization, the Kent Medical Foundation can accept donations throughout the year. We recently completed our annual Holiday Card Campaign, and we received \$9,025. Thank you to our generous donors who provide support for our community through the Kent Medical Foundation. If you wish to make a donation, please visit the Kent Medical Foundation website or contact our Executive Director, Patricia Dalton, at [patricia@kcms.org](mailto:patricia@kcms.org).

Thank you for your support of the Kent Medical Foundation.



# Thank You!

The Kent Medical Foundation Board of Trustees would like to thank you for your continued support! Your contributions to the annual Holiday Card campaign allow us to provide meaningful gifts to our community throughout the year.

**Anonymous**

**Dr. Mary Appelt**

**Jeff and Anita Avery**

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# heartbeat



**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*I am so proud of our Alliance and our membership. Individually, we are experiencing a range of exciting milestones: Children going to school for the first time, children*

*heading to college, children marrying, the birth of grandchildren, new frontiers in professional work, retirement, travel, and more. The gift of Alliance membership is meeting other people who are all striving toward accomplishment individually, but*

*also giving of themselves toward the greater good. As an Alliance, we've gathered to volunteer in our community, raise money for charity, learn about advancements in medicine, read great books, and even learn mahjong! We have so much on the horizon. It's an exciting time to be a member of KCMSA!*

Sincerely,

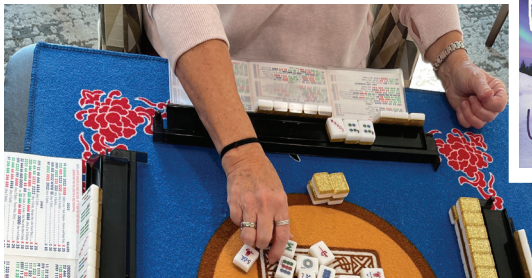
*Laura Kozminski*

President

**kcmsa Calendar**

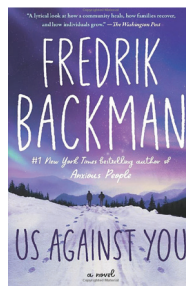
**4 | 13** **Trivia Night FUNraiser**  
6:30pm *A fun, fast-paced event benefiting our Foundation mini-grant program. See page 23 for more information. The Corner Bar, Rockford*

**TBA** **Annual Meeting & Luncheon**



**Monthly events**

**Mahjong Group**  
*Every Thursday morning a growing group of members meet to learn and play Mahjong. Interested in joining us? Email eileenbrader@gmail.com.*



**Book Club**  
*The third Tuesday of every month, a group of members and friends of the Alliance gather to discuss the book of the month. Our March selection is "Us Against You" by Fredrik Backman. Interested in joining us? Email ktkski13@gmail.com.*

**For the most up-to-date information on events and activities, follow us on Facebook, or contact [president@kcmsalliance.org](mailto:president@kcmsalliance.org).**

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YOUTUBE  
[www.kcmsalliance.org](https://www.kcmsalliance.org)



# heartbeat

## Event Recap winter 2022

**October 27**

### **Volunteering at Kids Food Basket**

*We packed lunches for children in need. Spouses and children joined in this service project!*



**November 19**

### **Volunteering at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Breakfast Cafe**

*We served food to downtown people experiencing homelessness. We also collected and distributed hand warmers, washcloths, socks and small toiletry items to this vulnerable population.*



**December 15**

### **Holiday Open House**

*We were so glad to gather in-person at the Bruce residence to welcome the holiday season! Members shared delicious food and drink, and participated in a fun activity (making our own mulling spices). As part of our celebration, we gathered children's books for the Baxter Community Center preschool, and diapers for Grace's Table, a local non-profit that helps teenage mothers.*

**January 11**

### **Membership Meeting and MSU College of Human Medicine Tour**

*At one of our four membership meetings throughout our year, members were able to tour Michigan State University Innovation Building and BAMF Health research and treatment facility.*



**January 23**

### **FUNdraiser Pizza Party Social**

*We had a wonderful turnout and time socializing at Licari's in January. We filled the restaurant with patrons and take-out orders. Thank you all for your support!*

## Foundation Spotlight

The KCMSA Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Kent County Alliance. The Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization, was established in 1997 to receive and disburse funds under the designation as a charity by the IRS.

The KCMSA Foundation Board met in August and November to discuss mini-grant applications and to fund appropriate requests. The Board

has funded \$11,665 in mini-grants thus far this fiscal year.

The Board members voted to approve the following requests this past quarter:

- **Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired**  
Toolkits for Low-Vision Clinics at residential facilities and in-home.

- **Mary Free Bed Rehab Hospital**  
Removing Barriers Project providing recreation uniforms for Junior Paces Wheelchair basketball.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

If you are interested in giving, or know of an organization that might like to apply for a grant, please reach out to foundation.president@kcmsalliance.org.



4/13/23

A fun, fast-paced event benefiting our Foundation mini-grant program.

6:30-9:30pm  
The Corner Bar  
Rockford

pub food  
beverages  
trivia  
door prizes

KENT COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY ALLIANCE 

# Trivia night

## FUNDRAISER



[kcmsalliance.org](http://kcmsalliance.org)



# Laura Kozminski

KCMS Alliance President

## How long have you been a Member with the KCMS Alliance? What drew you to the Alliance?

I joined the Kent County Alliance in 2016 when my husband and I moved to Grand Rapids to begin his practice. In the fall of that year, my three boys went to school and I wasn't working, so I was looking for something to do with my time and also really feeling lonely. I met a woman in my area, Andrea, who invited me to coffee and encouraged me to join the Alliance. I loved talking with Andrea because even though she was in a different time of life, she just really seemed to get it—the joyful privileges of being a doctor's spouse, but also the challenges. When I went to my first meeting I found a whole group of people who were so interesting and diverse, and yet were united by this common experience of leading physician families. The Alliance members I met were making good use of their talents and intelligence, using their privilege to give back to the community. I was glad to be a part of that.



Laura and Michael Kozminski, MD

Center and Grace's Table. Our Foundation also gave over \$20,000 in grants in 2022. As an Alliance, we took some amazing tours of local medical facilities that were just incredibly inspirational. We got a fantastic behind-the-scenes look at Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital and recently toured both the brand new MSU medical research center and BAMF, a cutting edge cancer research center. It's an exciting time to be in medicine, but also support the medical community.



KCMS Alliance Members toured BAMF, a cutting-edge cancer research center

## Can you highlight a few goals, events, activities?

My goal at the beginning of 2022 was to re-engage with our membership and bring us back together for joyful, in-person gatherings after all the hardship and alienation of Covid. So far this year I've been most proud of all our philanthropic work. We packed free, healthy lunches for kids in need through Kids' Food Basket. We served breakfast and distributed personal care items to the homeless through the St. Mark's Breakfast Cafe in downtown Grand Rapids. We gathered books, diapers and wipes for Baxter Community

## What's next and new for 2023?

I am very excited about our Trivia Night fundraiser on April 13th. We're partnering with the Corner Bar in Rockford for this fast-paced, fun night of trivia, food, drinks and a small auction. The event benefits our Foundation which provides grants in the community for health-related needs. Our trivia questions will be a mix of pop-culture, art, music, history and also some medically-themed questions. Tickets are available and we would love for anyone and everyone to attend. More information can be found on our website: [kcmsalliance.org](https://kcmsalliance.org).

## How do people become a Member?

Membership is open to all spouses and partners of physicians in the West Michigan area, including the spouses of medical students, residents, and fellows. The cost is only \$30 (less if your spouse/partner is still in training) and the form is on our website: [kcmsalliance.org](https://kcmsalliance.org).



# Q & A

## Amber Nettleton

Kalamazoo Academy of Medicine Alliance President



Amber Nettleton

### How long have you been a Member with the KAM Alliance? What drew you to the Alliance?

I have been a member of the KAM Alliance since 2017. During my first meeting, I noticed the Parliamentary position was open. Part of my training as a Presbyterian minister is in parliamentary procedure, so I offered to fill the position. Because of this, I had a reason to attend those initial meetings, which ended up creating deep friendships.

What drew me to the alliance was the intergenerational perspective and support I received from other members. When I was juggling a baby and my spouse's call schedule,



A group of KAM Alliance members cooking up some fun!

KAMA was there with their stories of that time in their lives. I received care and support when I had another baby, and care and support during the death of my father in 2020. KAMA has

carried me through some of the most challenging moments of my life, and I love them for that.

### Can you highlight a few goals, events, activities?

Something to celebrate this year is the diversity of attendance we've had overall. While some of our gatherings are smaller, different members are attracted to different offerings. If we calculate the number of people who participated throughout the year, then we are reaching a bigger group than we realize! It is so fun to see different members at various events!

Some of our social successes this year were a family cookout in late summer, a time of fall wreath making with the "Do Something Lady" of Kalamazoo, and a couple of partner nights out at local brew pubs. Some of our service success this year were sponsoring a white coat and medical supplies for a local WMed student, cooking and stocking the pantry at our local Hospital Hospitality House, and sponsoring a diaper and wipe drive for the YWCA.

### Tell us about the recent success of the Holiday event?

We have two annual holiday events: the cookie exchange for WMed students and our holiday mingle. We provided hundreds of cookies and treats for medical students the day of their final exams. As they exited their exam rooms, there were tables set up with trays of treats and confections. Our annual holiday party was in a private room at a local restaurant, which brought together many generations and medical specialties for a time of feast and fun! We are already looking forward to next year with thoughts of using the same location!

### What's next and new for 2023?

As with many alliances, we are always working to make our meeting and leadership structure accessible to all. A big goal of ours is to create more events that more directly support physicians themselves, as we value social groups where physicians can form relationships across practices, as opposed to more siloed hospital groups.

### How do people become a Member?

People tend to become members of KAMA through personal invitations, which is why it is vital we share all the wonderful things KAMA is doing. We typically invited prospective members to social events first, as forming relationships among members is a big draw. Registering through our website or through our membership chair is the next logistical step! The key to being a KAMA member? Simply showing up!

ALLIANCE



Nirali Bora, MD  
Kent County  
Health Department  
Medical Director

# Current Trends of the Opioid Epidemic in Kent County

Rachel Jantz, MPH and Nirali Bora, MD

While the United States was experiencing the greatest pandemic in modern history, the opioid epidemic continued to impact the lives of residents. Through a variety of factors such as an increasingly potent drug supply, disruption in resource access, and interrupted social networks, the number of opioid-involved overdose deaths in the United States increased by 60% from 2019 to 2021.

## RACIAL DISPARITIES

Although Kent County did not experience an increase in opioid-involved overdose deaths between 2019 and 2021 [Figure 1], the aggregate count of deaths hides a significant increase in how the epidemic has impacted black residents. The three-year average opioid overdose death rate among blacks in Kent County increased 57% between the years 2018-2020 and 2019-2021, while the rate among whites did not change [Figure 2]. While the reason for the difference in overdose death rates cannot be fully elucidated, racial minorities with substance use disorders often experience more stigma, criminalization, and barriers to accessing to evidence-based treatments.<sup>2</sup>

## SUBSTANCE TRENDS

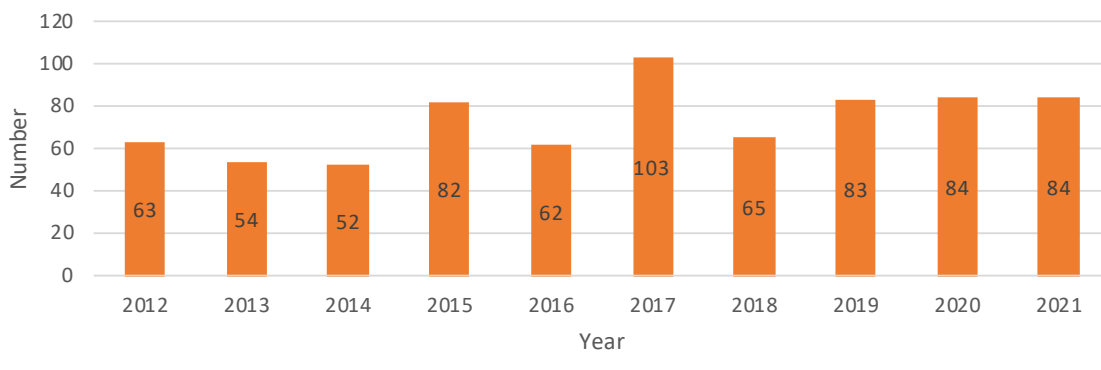
Fentanyl contamination in the drug supply remains prevalent and is now involved in 90% of opioid-involved overdose deaths, compared to less than 20% in 2015 [Figure 3]. Fentanyl has also been identified in 86% of overdose deaths involving methamphetamine and 66% involving cocaine.

Xylazine, a non-opioid veterinary tranquilizer, has become increasingly prevalent in the drug supply in the United States.<sup>3</sup> Its effects include skin ulcers and abscesses, and it can increase the risk of an overdose through respiratory depression. Xylazine has been identified in forensic toxicology re-ports in Kent County, although its prevalence is unknown.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

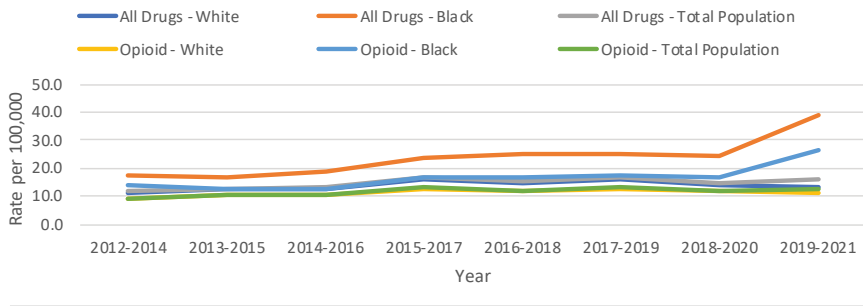
**FIGURE 1**

Number of Opioid-Involved Overdose Deaths (Kent County, 2012-2021)



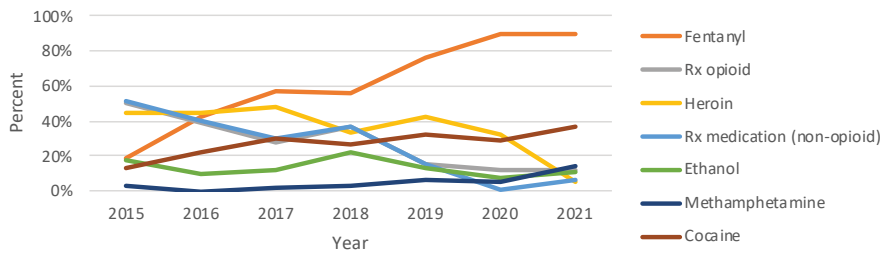
**FIGURE 2**

**Three-Year Average Opioid-Involved Overdose Death Rate by Race (Kent County, 2012-2021)**



**FIGURE 3**

**Percent of Opioid-Involved Deaths with Select Substances Present (Kent County, 2015-2021)**



## CURRENT TRENDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

### COMMUNITY UPDATES

The Grand Rapids Red Project received funding from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to purchase naloxone vending machines for several locations in Kent County: Kent County Health Department (700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids); Cherry Health (100 Cherry St SE, Grand Rapids); Grand Rapids Red Project (401 Hall St SE, Grand Rapids). These outdoor vending machines stock the intranasal form of naloxone, Narcan®, as well as fentanyl test strips.

Kent County recently convened an Overdose Fatality Review (OFR), a multidisciplinary group of stakeholders tasked with reviewing individual overdose fatalities to identify opportunities to prevent similar events from occurring in the future. The OFR has been meeting monthly since September 2022. During each meeting, the group discusses two to three opioid overdose fatalities, utilizing records from health systems, law enforcement, treatment, and social services.

Through assessing various aspects of a person’s life, the OFR can piece together a detailed tapestry of how our systems work together and how they could work even more effectively. Recommendations from the OFR range from the individual level, such as increasing access to medication for opioid use disorder, to the systemic level, such as improving coordination among multiple systems to improve patient support and follow-up. Depending on the type, recommendations may be provided to organizations directly or they may be referred to the Kent County Opioid Task Force.

### GUIDANCE FOR PHYSICIANS AND HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Prescribing medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) is one of the most effective strategies for treating opioid use disorder.<sup>4</sup> There are many resources available to providers who are interested in prescribing MOUD, such as the Michigan Opioid Collaborative.<sup>5</sup> Referrals can also be made to local centers that provide treatment for opioid use disorder. A list of specialty clinics in the Grand Rapids area that prescribe medications for opioid use disorder can be found on the [Kent County Health Department’s website](#).

### RESOURCES

1. Drug Overdose Death Rates; National Institute on Drug Abuse; <https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>
2. Kariisa M, Davis NL, Kumar S, et al. Vital Signs: Drug Overdose Deaths, by Selected Socio-demographic and Social Determinants of Health Characteristics — 25 States and the District of Columbia, 2019–2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2022;71:940–947. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/wr/mm7129e2.htm>
3. Xylazine; National Institute on Drug Abuse; <https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/xylazine>
4. Madras BK, Ahmad NJ, Wen J, Sharfstein JS. Improving Access to Evidence-Based Medical Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder: Strategies to Address Key Barriers within the Treatment System. NAM Perspect. 2020 Apr 27;2020:10.31478/202004b. doi: 10.31478/202004b. PMID: 35291732; PMCID: PMC8916813. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8916813/>
5. Michigan Opioid Collaborative; <https://michiganopioidcollaborative.org/>



# Notifiable Disease Report

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Communicable Disease Section  
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## January 2023

Notifiable diseases reported for Kent County residents through end of month listed below.

DISEASE	NUMBER REPORTED		MEDIAN CUMULATIVE
	This Month	Cumulative 2023	Through January 2018-2022
AIDS	0	0	0
HIV	3	3	2
CAMPYLOBACTER	8	8	6
CORONAVIRUS NOVEL, COVID-19	1161	1161	N/A
CHICKEN POX <sup>a</sup>	10	10	0
CHLAMYDIA	330	330	310
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	1	1	1
Shiga Toxin Producing E. Coli	1	1	2
GIARDIASIS	2	2	1
GONORRHEA	159	159	132
H. INFLUENZAE DISEASE, INV	2	2	0
HEPATITIS A	1	1	0
HEPATITIS B (Acute)	1	1	0
HEPATITIS C (Acute)	0	0	0
HEPATITIS C (Chronic/Unknown)	12	12	0
INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS <sup>b</sup>	2037	2037	2827
LEGIONELLOSIS	2	2	0
LYME DISEASE	0	0	0
MENINGITIS, ASEPTIC	0	0	0
MENINGITIS, BACTERIAL, OTHER <sup>c</sup>	3	3	1
MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE, INV	0	0	0
MUMPS	0	0	0
PERTUSSIS	0	0	0
SALMONELLOSIS	6	6	5
SHIGELLOSIS	1	1	0
STREP, GRP A, INV	9	9	2
STREP PNEUMO, INV	10	10	4
SYPHILIS (Congenital)	0	0	N/A
SYPHILIS (Primary & Secondary)	10	10	3
TUBERCULOSIS	0	0	1
WEST NILE VIRUS	0	0	0

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OF LOW FREQUENCY

DISEASE	NUMBER REPORTED Cumulative 2023	DISEASE	NUMBER REPORTED Cumulative 2023
CARBAPENEMASE PRODUCING CRE	0	MALARIA	0
CYCLOSPORIASIS	0	MULTISYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME	0
GUILLAIN-BARRE SYNDROME	0	SHINGLES	0
HISTOPLASMOSIS	0	STREPTOCOCCAL TOXIC SHOCK	0
KAWASKI SYNDROME	0	TOXIC SHOCK	8
LISTERIOSIS	0	VIBRIOSIS-NON CHOLERA	0

a. Chickenpox cases are reported primarily from schools. Confirmed and probable cases are included.  
 b. Includes "Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)" and lab-confirmed influenza. ILI cases have flu-like symptoms and are reported primarily by schools. b. "Meningitis, Bacterial, Other" includes meningitis and bacteremia caused by bacteria OTHER THAN H. influenzae, N. meningitidis, or S. pneumoniae. Except for Chickenpox, Campylobacter, Coronavirus, Cryptosporidiosis, Shiga-Toxin Producing E. Coli, Salmonellosis, Shigellosis Influenza-Like Illness, Syphilis, Chlamydia, & Gonorrhea, only confirmed cases (as defined by National Surveillance Case Definitions: <http://www.cdc.gov/nndss/script/casedefDefault.aspx>) are included. Reports are considered provisional and subject to updating when more specific information becomes available.