

Monthly Happenings Gazette

July 2023

hello
SUNSHINE

Greetings Alabama and Arkansas Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Coalitions.

Welcome to the **Monthly Happenings Gazette**; our monthly snapshot resource for highlighting and sharing current events, announcements, learning opportunities, resources and **YOUR** coalition's success stories. Please note that this is NOT a formal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), DFC or Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) approved gazette, but a safe space for sharing resources and other information that others may find useful.

It was great seeing many of you at the Mid-Year in Dallas. Also, congratulations to our coalitions who served as presenters during the conference. For those I may have missed, I am looking forward to other opportunities to meet and catch-up (even if we must use Microsoft Teams).

This month, be sure to get all DFC Progress Reports and other DFC and CARA Me reports submitted by August 15, 2023. If there are any questions, feel free to contact me anytime.

Our reminders for the month of August can be found below:

- For programmatic questions and concerns, feel free to contact me, your assigned Project Officer.
- Contact your assigned Grants Management Specialist (GMS) with questions and concerns regarding day-to-day fiscal and grants management topics. Be sure to CC me on emails for my awareness.
- Include your grant number in the Subject Line of all emails.
- **Notify myself and your GMS of immediate key personnel changes.**
- Continuously check DFC and CARA Me to ensure all requirements are met.
- Reach out to peers and other DFC coalitions to seek out solutions, share information, and COLLABORATE!

Happy Reading!

~ Bianca (aka Your DFC MC)



Alabama Coalitions

- [Addiction Prevention Coalition](#) – Birmingham, AL
- [Alabaster for Tomorrow](#) – Alabaster, AL
- [Children's Policy Council of Dallas County, Alabama Inc.](#) – Selma, AL
- [Drug Free Andalusia](#) – Andalusia, AL
- [Impact Montevallo](#) – Montevallo, AL
- [Safe and Healthy Homewood](#) – Homewood, AL



Arkansas Coalitions

- [Boone County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition](#) – Harrison, AR
- Cross County Hometown Health Coalition – Wynne, AR
- [Drug-Free Ashley County Coalition](#) – Crossett, AR
- Independence County Hometown Wellness Coalition – Batesville, AR
- Approaching Crisis Through Intervention & Education (ACTIVE) Coalition – El Dorado, AR
- [NWA Tobacco and Drug Free Coalition](#) – Springdale, AR

Current Events

- [988 Lifeline marks first anniversary](#)
- [A new bipartisan bill aims to increase access to fentanyl test strips amid overdose deaths](#)
- [After child's suicide, parents can be engulfed in self-blame and guilt](#)
- [Anti-LGBTQ Laws Increase Youth Suicide Risk](#)
- [As the nation grapples with a youth mental health crisis, parents are suffering too](#)
- [Black suicide rates, once among the nation's lowest, have risen dramatically among youths](#)
- [ER visits for children sickened from marijuana surged during the pandemic](#)
- [Overdose deaths from fentanyl laced with xylazine jumped 276% in just 3 years](#)
- [Preventing Suicide Using a Mindfulness-Based Intervention](#)
- [U.S. FDA approves second over-the-counter opioid overdose reversal drug](#)





Don't
Miss out!

Future Happenings

Deadlines and Deliverables

- **DFC Progress Report** – The 2023 DFC Progress Report will be due on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, and covers the reporting period of August 1, 2022, to July 31, 2023. Data entry can begin now, and report submission begins August 1, 2023. Also, check your DFC and CARA Me profiles to ensure that all requirements are met (i.e., sustainability plans, sector reps, etc.). Note that support materials (i.e., data entry tool) and recorded webinars can be found in the DFC and CARA Me Learning Center.
- **Coalition Classification Tool (CCT) and Data Management Plan (DMP)** – The CCT and DMP are due Tuesday, August 15, 2023. To complete, visit the Reporting Tab of DFC and CARA Me.

Webinars and Conferences

- **Equitable Language: Why it Matters** – Words have power and the way in which we do our work as prevention professionals relies greatly on how we communicate and engage with the audience we are trying to reach. During this 1.5-hour webinar on Thursday, August 31, 2023, from 1:00pm to 2:30pm EST, attendees will define equitable language and learn about the benefits of using such language in communication tools.

Articles

- Folk, J., Ramos, L., Bath, E., Rosen, B., Marshall, B., et al. (2021). The prospective impact of adverse childhood experiences on justice-involved youth's psychiatric symptoms and substance use. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 89(6), 483–498. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ccp0000655>
- Kariisa, M., O'Donnell, J., Kumar, S., Mattson, C., & Goldberger, B. (2023). Illicitly Manufactured Fentanyl-Involved Overdose Deaths with Detected Xylazine — United States, January 2019–June 2022. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, 72(26), 721-727. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/wr/pdfs/mm7226a4-H.pdf>
- Roehler, D., Smith, H., Radhakrishnan, L., Holland, K., Gates., et al. (2023). Cannabis-Involved Emergency Department Visits Among Persons Aged <25 Years Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, 2019–2022. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, 72(28), 758-765. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7228a1>
- Sekman, M., Grijalva, C., Zhu, Y., Williams, D., Feinstein, J., et al. (2023). Characteristics Associated With Serious Self-Harm Events in Children and Adolescents. *Pediatrics*, 151(6), 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2022-059817>

Tools and Resources

- [CDC's Drug Overdose Surveillance and Epidemiology \(DOSE\) Data Dashboard](#)
- [CDC's Stop Overdose Implementation Toolkit](#)
- [CDC's What You Should Know About Xylazine](#)
- [Get Smart About Drug's Addiction 101 Course](#)
- [National Council for Mental Wellbeing's Motivational Conversations for Youth and Young Adults: Peer-to-Peer Guidance for Talking about Substance Use, Including Tobacco and E-Cigarettes](#)
- [National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention's Youth Mental Health Report](#)
- [Overdose Response Strategy \(ORS\) 2022 Annual Report](#)
- [SAMHSA's Practical Guide for Implementing a Trauma-Informed Approach](#)
- [Veto Violence DatingMatters Toolkit](#)

Monthly Playlist:

- Walking on Sunshine – Katrina and the Waves
- Sun is Shining – Bob Marley
- You Are the Sunshine of My Life – Stevie Wonder

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DISCLAIMER: The Monthly Happenings Gazette is published by Bianca Anderson. THIS IS NOT a CDC, DFC or ONDCP endorsed product, and the views of this gazette do not represent those of CDC, DFC, or ONDCP.

