



Dare County Sheriff's Office Mission:

The Dare County Sheriff's Office primary mission is the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of, and visitors to, Dare County. To that end, we will deliver professional, effective, and responsive law enforcement, detention, court security and communications services. Our approach to these duties will be community based. We will make ourselves available to respond to citizen needs. The Dare County Sheriff's Office will serve all people with respect, fairness and sensitivity. We will accomplish this mission with integrity, honor and commitment.

We will provide a fair, stable and friendly working environment for our deputies, detention officers, telecommunicators and clerical staff. We will cultivate good working relationships with other public and private service organizations. Together, we will endeavor to make every contact with the public one that places us in close partnership with our citizens and visitors. We will do our part to make Dare County a better, safer place to live, work, and visit.

Operation Medicine Drop

The Dare County Sheriff's Office's "Operation Medicine Drop" program helps residents dispose of unused or unneeded prescription drugs. Many people have unused medications in their medicine cabinets. Perhaps narcotics or other drugs were prescribed for an illness or a medical procedure, but the full prescription was not used.

"We have recognized that there is a need in the county for the safe disposal of prescription drugs in a way that does not harm the environment and also gets these unused drugs out of the household," said Dare County Sheriff Doug Doughtie. "This will also help prevent residents from being targeted by those looking to steal drugs."

Residents may drop off unused prescription drugs at the Dare County Sheriff's Office in Manteo, which is located in the Dare County Justice Center. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Residents who would like to drop off medications in Colington or Hatteras Island should call 252.475.5980 to make an appointment. If you are unable to deliver the items, you may also call to arrange for a deputy to pick up unused prescription drugs at a business or home location.

G.R.E.A.T. Program

Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) is led by Dare County School Resource Officers (Deputy Sheriffs) and is an evidence-based, national and international gang and violence prevention program that has been building trust between law enforcement and communities for almost 30 years.

G.R.E.A.T. is intended to be an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. It is designed for children in the years immediately before the prime ages for introduction into gangs and delinquent behavior.

The program is built around school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curricula. It provides a continuum of components for children and their families. These components include a 13-lesson middle school curriculum, a six-lesson elementary school curriculum, a summer component, and a families component.

More than 13,000 sworn officers from around the United States and various Central American countries have been trained and certified to teach the G.R.E.A.T. curricula. The curricula have been delivered to more than six million children, allowing law enforcement to foster strong relationships with these students as well as their schools and communities.



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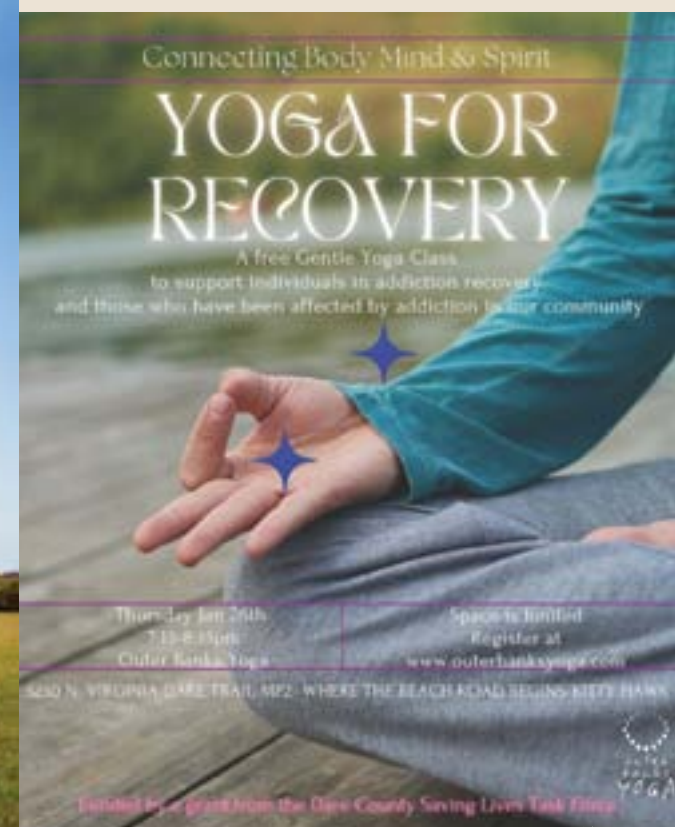


SAVING LIVES TASK FORCE

The Initiative is a quarterly newsletter presented by the Saving Lives Task Force, the goal of this publication is to educate, inform and engage residents of Dare County.

- Our Task Force is a team of professionals and community members working toward the prevention of substance use disorders and the availability of effective treatment for all Dare county citizens in need of help.
- **Join us for our In-Person Meetings** on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 2:00 pm.
- **For More Information** please contact Roxana Ballinger, Saving Lives Task Force Co-Chair, at 252.475.5619 or roxana.ballinger@darenc.com.

savinglivesobx.com
facebook.com/savinglivesobx



THE INITIATIVE Resources:

savinglivesobx.com

PORT/New Horizons
2808 S Croatan Hwy,
Nags Head, NC 27959
252.441.2324

Trillium Health Resources
www.trilliumncaccesspoint.org
877.685.2415 – 24 Hours a Day

Mobile Crisis Team
24 Hours a Day / 7 Days a Week
866.437.1821

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
988lifeline.org
or call or text 988

Community Care Clinic of Dare
Syringe Services Program
M-Th | 9 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
252.261.3041

Contact your insurance company to find out more information on local providers and your plan's benefits.



EVENTS

- **Faith Leader Substance Use / Mental Health Conference**
St. Andrews Church by the Sea
March 30, 2023, 9 am -12 pm
For information, contact Richard Martin at rjmconsults@gmail.com
- **Crossroads OBX**
Crossroads OBX is Christ-centered outreach offering discernment, guidance and objective planning for those who desire to change the course of their lives and help those who have been thrown off course by homelessness, addiction, incarceration or other events.
For more information contact 252.455.2510, crossroadsobx.org or crossroadsobx@gmail.com
- **Recovery & Overdose Support Services (ROSS)**
Recovery and Overdose Support Services (ROSS) provides support groups, harm reduction education and resources, overdose response, and assistance with recovery planning.
**Katy Haslar, PSS, 252.473.7861 or Jesse Ruby PSS, 475-7923
RecoveryServices@DareNC.com**
- **SMART Recovery OBX Addiction Support Group**
When: Mondays, 6-7pm for 60 minutes
Where: The Studio at 3022 S. Croatan Hwy., Nags Head, NC
Facilitators: Scott and Katy Haslar, smartrecoveryobx@gmail.com
- **Alcoholics Anonymous: Meetings 7 days a week. Visit the website AAOBX.com for current virtual meeting schedule. Outer Banks AA Hotline 252-256-0850 and <https://aaobx.com/>**
- **Outer Banks Alateen, Outer Banks Alateen Meeting, Saturdays, 10-11am, Kitty Hawk Baptist Church, email alateen@alanonobx.com for information.**
Alateen is a fellowship of young people whose lives have been affected by alcoholism in a family member or friend.
- **OBX Nar-anon** is a means of coping with the insanity brought about from having a family member or friend struggling with addiction.
For more details, please contact Holly Henry West at 252-489-7778.
- **Women of Worth**
Groups are being held virtually on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00am-12:00pm. The groups will focus on recovery from the evidence-based curriculum, "Helping Women Recover."
Please contact Catisha Bryant at catisha.bryant@darenc.com for more information or if you would like to join.
- **Breaking Through Task Force, 2nd Tuesday of the month, 8:30 am**
The Breaking Through Task Force is composed of community members who wish to address communication and stigma concerns about mental health conditions and substance use disorders.
**Contact Kelly.Nettin@darenc.com
www.breakthestigmaobx.com**
- **Dare Community Collaborative, 2nd Tuesday of the month, 1:30-2:30 pm**
A partnership among providers and families of youth and adults with mental health issues and/or substance use issues.
Contact Stephanie Webb, stephanie.webb@trilliumnc.org

First Flight Rotary To Distribute Naloxone

First Flight Rotary Club of Kill Devil Hills has received a Rotary District grant, which will be used for the purchase and distribution of naloxone kits. With the assistance of the Saving Lives Task Force, Rotarians will receive training and education on naloxone and then distribute these kits to area businesses and care facilities that may otherwise not have direct access to this lifesaving treatment. First Flight Rotarians recognize that opioid use in our community poses a serious public health risk and by partnering with the Saving Lives Task Force, we can raise public awareness, provide education and continue club service projects to help curb this epidemic. Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders and problem solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. First Flight Rotary is dedicated to changing lives in our community and around the world in "Service Above Self."



Rotary Club of First Flight - Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina



Where the Good Samaritan Law Falls Short

Not much has changed since the 911 Good Samaritan Laws became law in North Carolina in 2013. As a refresher, the law protects overdose victims by ensuring that neither they nor the person calling 911 for help will be prosecuted for possession of small amounts of drugs and paraphernalia, or for underage drinking. The purpose of the law is to remove the fear of criminal repercussions for calling 911 to report an overdose, and to instead focus efforts on getting help to the victim. Under the law, a person who seeks medical assistance for someone experiencing a drug overdose also cannot be considered in violation of a condition of parole, probation, or post-release. The caller must provide his or her name to 911 or law enforcement to qualify for the immunity.

In 2013, however, fentanyl was just beginning to show up on the drug scene, with the sharpest rise in fentanyl-related deaths not occurring until three years later. Fentanyl (and methamphetamines) were not covered in the original 911 Samaritan Laws, meaning individuals could still be prosecuted for possession of those drugs even when they called for help related to an overdose. One practical fear of this exposure to prosecution is that people helping the victim may waste precious moments cleaning up the scene or hiding drugs in order to avoid criminal charges.

The law also limits the quantity of drugs for which victims and 911 callers can possess in order to be immune from prosecution. Victims and callers have limited immunity for possession of less than one gram of cocaine, one gram of heroin, drug paraphernalia and misdemeanor possession of other controlled substances. As noted, fentanyl and methamphetamines are not included. Fentanyl has found its way into a variety of drugs including cocaine, marijuana and pills that are manufactured to resemble legitimate prescription pills. The combination is sometimes purposeful and sometimes accidental. Regardless, the result may be an overdose for which a quick response from emergency personnel is urgently needed. The chance of surviving an overdose depends on how fast one receives medical assistance, and the most common reason people cite for not calling 911 is fear of prosecution.

The law also does not protect a category of individuals, those who might be classified as "bystanders" or people at the scene, when law enforcement arrives. This might include other people using drugs in the same location as the victim, even if they were also attempting to render aid. The law specifically protects only the overdose victim, the 911 caller and anyone using naloxone to reverse an overdose from civil and criminal liability.

Synthetic opioids (primarily fentanyl) were responsible for more than two thirds of the 107,000 overdose deaths reported between August 2021 and August 2022. Naloxone distribution is at an all-time high (1.2 million doses dispensed from retail pharmacies in 2021, according to the American Medical Association) and has undoubtedly kept the number of deaths from being even higher. More needs to be done and for North Carolina, revisiting and expanding the 911 Samaritan Laws might be a good place to start.

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Since its inception, G.R.E.A.T. has developed partnerships with nationally-recognized organizations such as Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Inc.; Families and Schools Together®; and the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. These partnerships encourage positive collaboration among the community, parents, schools, and law enforcement.

Sheriff's Office Narcotics Division and Drug Task Force

The Dare County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Division and Drug Task Force consists of officers from the Sheriff's Office as well as Nags Head and the Kill Devil Hills police departments. These municipal officers are sworn in and housed by Dare County Sheriff Doug Doughtie.

The primary function of the Narcotics Division is to investigate cases involving narcotics activities as well as the sale, possession and use of narcotics throughout Dare County.

The deputies and officers working within the Narcotics Division are highly trained and extremely motivated professionals who are experienced in conducting specialized narcotics investigations. These investigations lead to the arrest and conviction of individuals and groups in state and federal courts. These deputies and officers must be current with the recognition and detection of all illicit drugs as well as distribution methods in order to maintain the high level of service that members of the Dare County community deserve.

As a tourism-driven vacation community, Dare County is certainly a unique place; however, when it comes to the drug trade, the county unfortunately faces many of the same issues involving the sale, possession and use of illegal substances as large cities throughout both North Carolina as well as the rest of the United States.

The Sheriff's Office has conducted 251 drug investigations to date and has successfully administered Narcan12 times while assisting the public.

If you have information about drug-related activity anywhere in Dare County, please report it. You could save the life of a friend, family member, neighbor or coworker.