



Southern Kenai Peninsula Opioid Task Force

March 20, 2020

Homer City Council

Updates & COVID-19 Response

In response to the COVID-19 Outbreak, the Southern Kenai Peninsula Opioid Task Force has been proactive in aligning with all recommendations to ensure the health of our community.

- All Opioid Task Force meetings have been moved to videoconferencing, including the monthly task force meetings and all work group meetings
- Currently, work groups are working to bring our website live with the aim of launching publicly in May 2020
 - The website will offer the community the most up to date information about local treatment and recovery resources, prevention and disease of addiction education as well as house all task force related information
- The Task Force has been running a social media campaign that has been extremely successful in expanding reach within the community and providing evidence-based education and messaging, follow the task force at www.facebook.com/SKPOpioidTaskForce

Updates to local community addiction & behavioral health treatment services:

- Local treatment providers are open and currently providing services to patients while following all state and federal guidelines, and continue to serve current clients and address any necessary emergency responses in the community
- Division of Behavioral Health assures that behavioral health is considered a necessary medical service during this crisis and will continue to support services
- Relaxing regulations regarding paperwork and remote services allow local agencies to continue to provide necessary services via telephone or videoconferencing
- Many local community agencies have replaced all group sessions & activities with telephone or videoconferencing

The Exchange, Syringe Access Program

- Continues to provide necessary services to the community for Harm Reduction, however, have adapted their process to align with all recommendations and to mitigate the spread of the virus

The next Southern Kenai Peninsula Opioid Task Force Meeting will be:

Wednesday, March 25th 11:00am-12:30pm via Zoom Teleconferencing: <https://zoom.us/j/873789663>

For additional information please email SKPOpioidTaskForce@gmail.com

The SKP Opioid Task Force is supported & made possible by MAPP of Southern Kenai Peninsula





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Additional Helpful Links:

Alcoholics Anonymous Online Intergroup: For information for virtual 12 step meetings

https://aa-intergroup.org/directory_telephone.php

Narcotics Anonymous Online Meetings:

http://na-recovery.org/Narcotics_Anonymous_Online_Meeting_Schedule.html

Taking Care of Your Behavioral Health: Tips for Social Distancing, Quarantine, and Isolation during an Infectious Disease Outbreak

Brochure from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration:

<https://store.samhsa.gov/system/files/sma14-4894.pdf>

Mental Health and Coping During COVID-19

Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on managing mental health stressors during this time

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

For people struggling, please continue to promote the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1800-273-TALK (5233) and the Crisis Text Line (Text "START" to 741-741).

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