



Pennsylvania is still in a battle with an epidemic of major proportion. We're dealing with rampant opioid misuse disorder cases and the loss of children and family members. It's devastating our families and changing our community. The loss of young mothers and fathers is also causing other impacts to our communities as well. Grandmothers, Grandfathers, Aunts and Uncles are stepping up to the plate to raise children that have been left orphaned by this disease.

And remember, This IS a disease, documented and detailed by our medical community and highlighted in the last Surgeon General Report on Addiction. Many of our leaders in government are doing all that they can to help correct the rapid increase in opioid addiction and death. But we can't legislate our way out of this. It's our communities that must respond and protect our children and our streets. That's why we at NCD AF continue to work with our families, to assist them in every way we can. Our NCD AF scholarship program assist their loved ones into recovery, we educating our communities with media and town halls, and help save lives by distributing Narcan to everyone and anyone who needs it.

We work with our partners to bring immediate necessities to our friends that need it via our Community Pantries, and we work will our local law enforcement agencies and legislators to continue to bring a change in the way we view things and do things as a community. We fight the stigma of addiction on a daily basis and continue to drive the positive approaches of recovery, love, caring and empathy for those in need. The numbers are alarming. Central Pennsylvania overdose rates - In 2017, Pennsylvania coroners and medical examiners reported 5500 drug-related overdose deaths an increase of 43%. The rate of drug-related overdose deaths in Pennsylvania increased from 26.7 per 100,000 in 2015 to 36.5 per 100,000 in 2016, far exceeding the national average (16.3 per 100,000) deaths has double each year.

CDC Reports In 2017, more than 70,000 people died from drug overdoses, making it a leading cause of injury-related death in the United States. Of those deaths, almost 68% involved a prescription or illicit opioid. Data released by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) revealed that opioid overdose deaths increased from 2016 to 2017.

In summary. NCD AF is doing all we can. Please help us continue our work. Please join the fight, Partner with us, Sponsor us, Help NCD AF continue doing many positive initiatives' in our community.

John Cribari

NCD AF President

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