

## Drug Safe Hudson Partners with reLink.org

### **Hudson Community Foundation and Hudson Community First enter new phase in drive to alleviate substance abuse**

The Hudson Community Foundation and Hudson Community First are entering a new phase in their joint effort to alleviate substance abuse in our community by partnering with reLink.org, an online resource of the Twinsburg-based Dalton Foundation.

Now a part of the ongoing Drug Safe Hudson movement, reLink.org is a free, user-friendly online addiction recovery, human trafficking and incarceration reentry resource tool that provides users with access to a range of services across the entire continuum of care. From detox, to community supports, to employment opportunities, reLink.org organizes and displays relevant service providers by geo-location and categories of help in real-time -- dramatically streamlining the connection between individuals in need and the critical services they seek to get help.

“reLink.org bridges the gap between those in need and the care community with one visit to one website, with simple-to-use prompts,” said Amy Jordan, president of Hudson Community Foundation. “reLink.org aims to digitally connect the disconnected, empower those desiring help, and restore lives by giving those struggling the help they need, when and where they need it.”

Drug Safe Hudson was developed to enhance drug and alcohol awareness, reduce stigma and improve opportunities for help to Hudson residents who have been affected by drug and alcohol use. Created in 2017 with funding from The Hudson Community Foundation and Hudson Community First, an Advisory Board was developed with Cover2 Resources a Twinsburg-based business that identified a strong need to organize and provide drug and alcohol resources to those living, working and going to school in the City of Hudson. Drug Safe Hudson is a unified effort of Hudson residents who care about individuals getting the help they need.

Initially, the Drug Safe Hudson program was supported by Jamie Messenger, an outreach specialist who worked to establish positive and sustainable relationships with various community organizations and resources in order to better assist those living and working in Hudson with drug and alcohol prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery. With Messenger now pursuing an advanced degree full-time, Drug Safe Hudson is evolving to a new phase of work to make drug and alcohol abuse-related services easy to find and locate.

Hudson Community Foundation and Hudson Community First are proud to partner with Ray Dalton and his team at the Dalton Foundation. The reLink.org website hotlink will be added to both organizations' websites, along with the Drug Safe Hudson website. Anyone needing help can use reLink.org without charge or obligation. In addition, anyone needing help can dial 2-1-1, a service of United Way of Summit County, for referrals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

As part of an ongoing quest to provide the highest possible drug and alcohol education and resources to the Hudson community, Hudson Community First is funding a strategic plan that will be partnered by Cover2 Resources founder, Greg McNeil. This 6-month project will provide further direction and sustainability recommendations for the Drug Safe Hudson effort. To further assist in funding this project and future Drug Safe Hudson programs, donations can be made to Hudson Community First's annual fund at [www.hudsoncommunityfirst.com](http://www.hudsoncommunityfirst.com).

Contributions to the Hudson Community Foundation's Hudson Prevention & Addiction Resource Fund can be made online at [www.myhcf.org](http://www.myhcf.org) or by calling the Foundation at 330-655-3580 or go to [www.hudsoncommunityfirst.com](http://www.hudsoncommunityfirst.com) to make an annual fund donation.

Founded in 2000, Hudson Community Foundation's mission is to enhance the overall quality of life in Hudson by increasing charitable giving, educating and connecting donors to community needs and leading on community issues. HCF is confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.

Hudson Community First is a local nonprofit supporting positive youth development in the community.

Both organizations operate from offices in the historic Baldwin House on Hudson's village green and are governed by volunteer boards of directors.