

Talbot Goes Purple is a substance abuse awareness and education program that engages our community and our youth to stand up against substance abuse.

Talbot Goes Purple includes purple clubs in our middle and high schools, through which students learn that they do not need drugs or alcohol to meet life's challenges. The project encourages our youth and community to 'Go Purple' as a sign of taking a stand against substance abuse.

The purpose of the project is to promote the 'new conversation' - one that includes prescription drugs.

Talbot Goes Purple is an initiative from Talbot County Sheriff's Office and Tidewater Rotary, in partnership with Talbot County Public Schools and Mid-Shore Community Foundation.

The project is based upon THP Project Purple, an initiative of The Herren Project, a 501(c)3 non-profit foundation established by former NBA basketball player, Chris Herren, that assists individuals and families struggling with addiction.

More information is available on our website at [www.TalbotGoesPurple.org](http://www.TalbotGoesPurple.org).

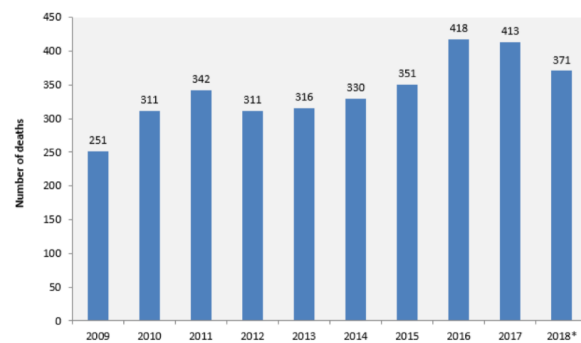
# TALBOT GOES PURPLE

We've got to continue the conversation and expand the discussion to include the 'path to addiction' that includes early use of substances that lead to addiction by our kids."

--Joe Gamble, Talbot County Sheriff

**2,114** people in Maryland died from an opioid overdose in 2018.

Number of prescription opioid-related deaths in Maryland from January through December of each year. \*



SOURCE: Opioid Operational Command Center  
(\*2018 data is preliminary)

## WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD IS USING DRUGS?

First, sit down and take a deep breath. You don't need to assume the worst but you do need to act. Prepare for a conversation with your child - there are many valuable tips online at [www.drugfree.org](http://www.drugfree.org).



**9** out of 10 people with substance use disorders starting using before the age of 18.

It may also help to reach out to a trained professional or support group - Talbot County Addictions is a good place to start: call 410-819-5602.

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR SHERIFF:

We should be encouraged by the progress we are making! Prescription opioid overdoses dropped in 2018, people are hearing the message about proper storage and disposal of prescription drugs. Our children are learning about the Good Samaritan Law.

However, there is much to still accomplish. We are seeing a staggering rise in the use of vaping and increases in the use of marijuana among our teens.

We need to continue to educate our families about recent trends, including the increase in fentanyl deaths locally and nationwide.

Take time this September to talk to your children about the articles and stories that will again appear in the Star Democrat, on our Facebook page and on our website

Studies show that children who have parents who talk regularly with them are less likely to become addicted later in life.

We are excited about the new school year and the opportunities we have to educate our children, parents and grandparents.

About a dozen counties in Maryland are "Going Purple" with us this year. Your efforts to get our educational messaging out is impacting our community.

We won't make a difference without your continued support. Thanks for "Going Purple" with us!

## HOW CAN I HELP?

Talk with your kids.  
Lock up your prescription medications.  
Properly dispose of unused medications.  
Get trained on Naloxone.  
Share our educational messages.  
Encourage your child to get involved with a TGP club at school.  
Don't accept the use of ANY substances, including e-cigs, tobacco, alcohol or marijuana!

## GOOD SAMARITAN LAW

Educate your kids on [Maryland's Good Samaritan Law](#), which protects people who call 911 when someone has overdosed on drugs or alcohol. It DOES NOT protect people who leave someone who has overdosed.

## GET NARCAN TRAINED!

Narcan (Naloxone) is a life-saving prescription drug that reverses the effects of an opioid overdose.

Call the Talbot County Health Department Prevention Office for [FREE](#) trainings at 410-819-5600.

Maryland now has a standing order for Narcan, which means you no longer need a prescription. Call your pharmacist for details.

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**CONTACT US:**  
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## LOCAL RESOURCES

Crisis Hotline: 888-407-8018  
Parent Support Line: 855-DRUGFREE  
Safe Stations: 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. every day;  
St. Michael's Police Station, 100 S. Fremont St.  
Talbot County Dept. of EMS, 605 Port St. Easton

## TREATMENT

Talbot County Health Department  
410-819-5602  
Shore Behavioral Health  
410-822-1000 x5452  
Life's Energy Wellness Center  
800-867-2395  
Corsica River Mental Health  
410-745-8028  
Eastern Shore Psychological Services  
410-822-5007

## SUPPORT: 12-step

Alcoholics anonymous: 410-822-4226  
Narcotics anonymous: 800-317-3222  
Al-Anon: 888-4AL-ANON  
Adult Children of Alcoholics: 410-822-1601

## PEER SUPPORT:

Talbot County Health Department 410-819-5620  
Chesapeake Voyagers 410-822-1601  
Maryland Coalition of Families 410-730-8267



**Tidewater**



# GET THE FACTS. GET INVOLVED. GET TALKING.

# TALBOT GOES PURPLE

# THE MOVEMENT CONTINUES.