



IOAD Middle TN 2023: Reflections of Hope and Healing

When: August 31, 2023 (4:30-8:30 PM)

Where: East Brentwood Presbyterian Church "EBPC" (9000 Concord Road, Brentwood, TN)

Type of Event: Outdoor Community Gathering (Weather Plan-Inside the building)

Background:

International Overdose Awareness Day began in Australia in 2001 as an annual campaign to end overdose, destigmatize ones who died from it and recognize the tremendous grief of the families and friends left behind. It is meant to stimulate both discussions and actionable policies to reduce the future deaths from one of the world's worst public health crises. The movement's goals include:

- Provide an opportunity for public mourning without fear of being guilted or shamed.
- Provide community members with information about the issue of fatal and non-fatal overdose.
- Send the message to those struggling with substance misuse disorder that they are valued.
- Stimulate discussion about overdose prevention and drug policy
- Provide basic information on available support services
- Prevent and reduce drug-related harm by supporting evidence-based policy and practice.
- To inform people around the world about the risk of overdose.

Description of the Event:

EBPC is partnering with community organizations for a late afternoon/evening to bring awareness to substance misuse and other mental health-related issues impacting individuals and families in Middle Tennessee. It is EBPC's hope that attendees will leave this event empowered with new insights and focused on some action steps that they might take to make a difference over the next 365 days before we meet again in August 2024.

From 4:30-6:15 PM Participants Will Have the Opportunity to:

- Interact with 20+ Organizational Booths with Representatives from Community Organizations offering materials and other information on resources available to those impacted by substance misuse and mental health issues.
- Attend a Naloxone Training Workshop (5:15-6:00 PM) hosted by the WillCo Anti-Drug Coalition in the Church Sanctuary
- Visit the Outdoor Reflections Arts Gallery in the campus "Grove," featuring works created by artists, photographers and poets (including local high school students) who

have been inspired by this year's theme, "Reflections of Hope and Healing" and a tribute to those lost as well as ones still struggling, and others impacted by these issues.

- Grab some dinner at one of the Food Trucks

From 6:15-8:30 PM:

- There will be a staged show with speakers and musical performances that will comfort, inspire, and unite the community to make a difference in the coming year.
- A Candlelight Tribute will close the evening.

Other Aspects of the Week:

- August 27th: Brentwood United Methodist Church's Youth Ministry will be sponsoring an event that will kick off the week and bring together youth and parents to explore topics around mental health issues affecting our youth.
- A student film group from Brentwood High School will be documenting the 8/31 event and creating a short film/PSA that will be used to inform the community about these topics.
- A corner display with 1000 purple and white pinwheels spelling out the number of overdose deaths in Tennessee in the latest year with available data will draw attention to the event and the degree of households impacted. Over 15K cars pass through this intersection each morning and afternoon.

Funding and Sponsorships:

EBPC is a small/medium-sized church who is reaching out to community partners to help finance this event. Donations of any size received by EBPC would be utilized to help offset some of the costs of hosting this event. Organizations and individuals donating financially or in-kind to the event will be recognized for their sponsorship. Projected expenses include:

- City of Brentwood Permit
- Rental for Stage, Audio Support and Lighting
- Chairs and Tables Rental
- Portable Toilets
- Marketing Materials
- Other Potential Logistical Needs
- Potential Security

Donations can be sent to EBPC through one of the following ways. Please specify "IOAD 2023" in the Memo Section:

- Check to EBPC sent to "Finance Office 9000 Concord Road, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027"
- VENMO to @EastBrentwoodPC
- Text "EBPC" followed by your donation amount to 73256
- Online via EBPC's website: www.ebpctn.org/ways-to-give

Thank you in advance for your consideration and your token of generosity to support a community event that potentially could save lives.