

THE COALITION CONNECTION



Quarterly Newsletter of the South Mountain W.O.R.K.S Coalition

UPCOMING ACTION TEAMS/EVENTS

POLICY & SUSTAINABILITY
MONTHLY | 1ST MONDAY | 10:30-11:30 AM

COALITION MEETING
MONTHLY | 2ND FRIDAY | 10AM-11:30 AM

EVENT & ACTIVITIES
MONTHLY | 3RD TUESDAY | 2:30PM-3:00 PM

PUBLIC RELATIONS
MONTHLY | 3RD WEDNESDAY | 1PM-2 PM

TRAUMA INFORMED COMMUNITY
MONTHLY | 3RD FRIDAY | 2:00PM-3:30 PM

SOUTH PHOENIX HARM REDUCTION
MONTHLY | 4TH SATURDAY | 2:00PM-3:30 PM

COMMUNITY STRENGTHS & ENGAGEMENT SERIES | JAN. 12TH AND 19TH 4-5:30 PM

NARCAN TRAINING + METH 2.0 | JAN. 14TH | 10:30-11:30 AM

EVENT STAFF HARM REDUCTION | JAN. 19TH | 7-9:30 PM

MISSION CONTINUES MLK DAY OF SERVICE @ GARDEN OF TOMORROW | JAN. 22ND 7:45-11 AM

HEALED, HEALTHY, AND WHOLE WITH 2:TEN CHURCH | JAN. 22ND 10-12 PM

DRUG TAKE BACK - WALGREENS 7TH ST AND BASELINE | JAN. 29TH 8-11 AM

FIND MEETINGS AND EVENTS LINKS HERE:
[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/SOUTH MOUNTAIN WORKS](https://linktr.ee/south_mountain_works)



Meeting People Where They Are

BY KARA JEAN BREI, MC, NCC - COORDINATOR

As a coalition, we have been really emphasizing building relationships by meeting our community members where they are already at. We learned a lot from our recent community strength and assessment survey, as well as first hand through our recruiting efforts. We discovered that faith-based organizations are twenty-five times more prevalent in the South Phoenix area than behavioral health organizations. Our community members reported that they got more strength and comfort from faith-based practices than anywhere else.

And as I drove around my community sharing resources and making connections, I found that our faith-based organizations are already very skilled at organizing community events and reaching people. There are banners everywhere advertising food distributions, and teen nights. I asked myself, how can we be right there with them?

The answer came quickly. The most important thing that anyone can do is show up. It is vital for a parent to show up for a child, and vital for our coalition to show up for our community. The time is now for our coalition to join. Join efforts with our community and simply start showing up everywhere that South Mountain Village is already flourishing.



Think you know how dangerous meth is? Think again!

NEED NALOXONE
CONNECT TO
WWW.NALOXONEAZ.COM

METH 2.0
LEARN ABOUT
THE NEW METH @
WWW.THENEWMEH.COM



What is Harm Reduction?

BY DAISY BELTRAN OF THE GOOD EGGS - SACLAZ SOR

Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas used to reduce negative consequences associated with drug use. It is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs.

As a philosophy, harm reduction acknowledges the dignity and humanity of people who misuse substances by “meeting people where they are” rather than making judgments about where they should be. As a practice, harm reduction includes a wide variety of policies, programs, services, and social supports to help individuals who use substances to make positive changes without requiring that they be substance-free first.

Fentanyl overdose deaths are now the leading cause of death in adults 18-45, surpassing the number lost at the height of the HIV/AIDS crisis. Our South Mountain Community is affected and vulnerable to these statistics. However, overdose deaths are preventable.

We reduce harm in our lives every day, like washing our hands. The more harm reduction is practiced, the more effective it becomes. The first step in creating widespread practice is widespread education.

The South Mountain W.O.R.K.S. Coalition is built on these principles. For our implementation plan, passionate and conscious individuals who feel called to make actionable plans to help our efforts, are encouraged to join our Harm Reduction Workgroup. This workgroup is every fourth Saturday of the month. Check our events for more details.

OVERDOSE
DEATH IS
PREVENTABLE.



SOUTH MOUNTAIN WORKS COALITION MISSION:

TO EDUCATE, EQUIP, AND EMPOWER COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO CREATE A DRUG FREE FUTURE FOR CHILDREN YOUTH AND FAMILIES.

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