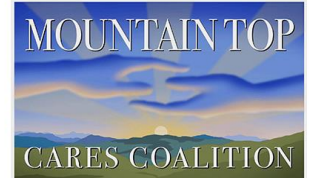


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Press Release

For Immediate Release

Recovery Helpline Expanded to include Greene County

Maplecrest NY April 13, 2020: Since April of 2017, Columbia County Pathways to Recovery has operated a Recovery Helpline to provide the community with information, resources and referrals for those affected by substance use disorder. Columbia County Pathways to Recovery Acting President Lori Antonson is excited to announce that they have partnered with the Greene County based Recovery Community Organization Mountain Top Cares Coalition to expand the recovery helpline to now cover all of Greene County as well as Columbia County. Lori stated, “The opioid epidemic continues to dramatically impact Columbia & Greene County and our organizations saw this as a way to join forces and make a greater impact in both Counties”. Jonathan Gross from Mountain Top Cares Coalition stated, “We are thrilled to be able to bring this service to our Greene County residents and most especially to the Mountain Top of Greene County, where our residents have been especially hard hit by the opioid epidemic.” Desiree Graziano who manages the day to day operations of the Recovery Helpline stated, “We are in the process of training additional volunteers from the Mountain Top Cares Coalition and look forward to being able to help residents of the Mountain Top get connected to vital recovery resources.” The Recovery Helpline, staffed by recovery volunteers, is available 9am to 9pm, 7 days a week and can be reached by calling 877-HOPE-365. (877-467-3365). All calls are confidential with non-judgmental, compassionate individuals waiting to assist you. Volunteers provide detox/rehab placement, referral services and offer support, compassion and assistance to people as they navigate their journey to recovery. In addition, during this COVID-19 outbreak, we are maintaining a list of online virtual support options available to the community to be sure people are staying connected to recovery supports and minimizing their self-isolation. This is not a crisis line. Volunteers answer calls from their own location using a system developed so that there is no need to travel to an office to take Helpline calls. More volunteers are always welcome.

Columbia Pathways to Recovery is a 501(c)(3) not for profit based in Ghent. Our mission is to provide Columbia County with comprehensive resources for those impacted by the crisis of substance use disorder. We offer hope, awareness, advocacy, education and pathways for those who seek support, relief *and recovery*. The Recovery Helpline operates in part with the generous financial support from the Columbia County Board of Supervisors. We thank them for their support. Mountain Top Cares Coalition is based on the Mountain Top of Greene County. Our mission is to empower a community of volunteers joining together as a service-based alliance of local citizens. We employ a holistic, wellness model, addressing issues of addiction, treatment, prevention and recovery in our mountain top community.

Columbia County Pathways To Recovery can be reached on the web by going to www.columbiapathwaystorecovery.org or by phone at 518-966-2775. Mountain Top Cares Coalition can be reached on the web by going to at www.mountaintopcarescoalition.com or by phone at 914-523-3766.