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94 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601 DuffyHealthCenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Email: [sgrambach@duffyhealthcenter.org](mailto:sgrambach@duffyhealthcenter.org)Date: May 3, 2023  
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Duffy Health Center and Yarmouth Police Department

Partner to Support Access to Substance Use Treatment  
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Duffy Health Center and Yarmouth Police Department are excited to announce a new opportunity to support Yarmouth residents seeking guidance about substance use disorders. Beginning Thursday May 25th from 4pm-6pm, the Yarmouth Police Department will be hosting weekly open access meetings with a Peer Recovery Specialist from Duffy Health Center. The Peer Recovery Specialists have lived experience with substance use, identify as being in recovery, and are well-versed in navigating our complex care system. This confidential and safe space is open to individuals seeking support for their substance use disorder, as well as guidance for loved ones. Peer Recovery Specialists will be available to support individuals with accessing acute care services, outpatient treatment, harm reduction resources, as well as information on local support groups.

“This demonstrates a community approach to destigmatize substance use disorder and offering a new access point for resources,” said Daniel Rodrigues, LICSW, PMH-C Director of Substance Use Disorder and Outreach Programs at Duffy Health Center. Melissa Payne, Recovery Support Navigator Supervisor at Duffy Health Center, shared her gratitude for the Yarmouth Police Department, “We are grateful to the Yarmouth police for inviting us into their department to create an anonymous and non-judgmental opportunity to provide care to our community.” The Yarmouth Police Department is very excited to partner with Duffy Health Center on this new program. “We recognize the need for programs like this to help our community members and are looking forward to establishing this partnership and developing additional programs in the future,” said Yarmouth Police Chief Kevin Lennon.

Since 2018, Duffy Health Center has partnered with the Town of Yarmouth to provide Recovery Support Navigator services to Yarmouth residents. Last year, the Recovery Support Navigator served 213 people in the Yarmouth community. If you would like additional information, please email Melissa Payne at Mpayne@duffyhealthcenter.org or call (774) 470-8868.

*The mission of Duffy Health Center is to provide equitable, integrated health care and support services to persons who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness on Cape Cod, and to improve the quality of life for vulnerable and marginalized populations through community collaborations, leadership, and advocacy.*

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