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## **Shatter the Stigma 2020: Alliance Shifts to Virtual Fundraiser**

The Alliance has made a difficult decision to transition our biggest fundraiser of the year, the Shatter the Stigma Family Festival & 5K on September 20<sup>th</sup> to a virtual fundraising event, **Shatter the Stigma 2020**, that will take place during the month of September. We understand that so many families and volunteers that support our organization look forward to this event and we are committed to honor the memory of their loved one affected by the opioid crisis through a virtual experience as we celebrate prevention, recovery and wellness efforts during the month of September. We are grateful for the support of our donors, volunteers, sponsors and community partners during this time.

As the Covid-19 crisis continues, the Alliance has put a lot of energy into making our programs and trainings accessible online. Our creation of virtual programs and a coordinated Covid-19 response for members in our community that suffer from substance misuse and the opioid crisis has been key for many people that are struggling right now. We are seeing an increase in accidental overdoses and have found that our services have been of upmost need for families in Oakland County. Unfortunately we will continue to see the effects of this crisis in our community for some time. All of our efforts in response to this unprecedented crisis wouldn't exist without our donors. We rely on the Family Festival as our biggest fundraiser each year to fund our mission so now we will rely on **Shatter the Stigma 2020**.

The Alliance will be kicking off our first ever virtual event honoring family's members and friends that were lost to overdose on August 31<sup>st</sup>, **International Overdose Awareness Day**. Also, **September is National Recovery Month** and our fundraising efforts will continue throughout the month as we feature prevention, wellness and recovery support programs that work in Oakland County. Look for details soon on how you can participate and help us move the meter and reach our goal!

We are looking forward to a successful fundraising effort and hope that we can count on your continued support.

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Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities, founded in 2004, is a 21 coalition prevention partnership based in Oakland County and predominantly funded by Oakland Community Health Network. The Alliance also provides Shatter the Stigma Support Groups throughout Oakland County and free Save A Life Narcan trainings. Through substance abuse prevention, mental and physical wellness, and recovery support programs, the Alliance connects, strengthens, and mobilizes strategic partners to promote healthier communities. [www.achcmi.org](http://www.achcmi.org)