



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Feb.9**

Lincoln University basketball game

**Feb.20**

Lincoln University basketball game

**April 13**

Clash for a Cause Wrestling Show  
Octorara High School

**May 11**

Cars for Kacie  
Classic Auto Mall,  
Morgantown



**RESOURCES**

Looking for help for a loved one? Looking for support as you deal with addiction in a loved one? There are a number of resources available.

**Always call 911** if you see any signs/symptoms of a drug overdose.

**800-662-4357:** SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

**855-DRUGFREE:** Parent hotline by Partnership for Drug-Free Kids.

**866-268-3767:** Chester Co. Dept. of Drug and Alcohol Services

**Lawsuit To Be Filed Against Opioid Manufacturers, Distributors**

Chester County officials invited Kacie's Cause to a press conference Jan. 15 where they announced that the county will be filing a lawsuit against the makers and distributors of opioid pharmaceuticals.

This step will add to the county's four-year effort to combat the overdose epidemic.

Chester County Commissioners Chairwoman Michelle Kichline announced the decision to hire a law firm to press its claims in federal court, seeking to recover expenses spent to combat the impact of opioid addiction and its often fatal consequences.

There are at least 17 other counties that have taken similar steps against the product manufacturers and distributors.

Kichline said researchers have concluded that Americans are more likely to die from an opioid overdose than from an automobile accident.

According to the county coroner's office, as of December 2018 there were 108 fatal accidental overdoses in Chester County. That raises the number to 424 of deaths attributable to overdoses in the last four years.

"There is no compensation great enough to cover the cost of the lives we



have lost to opioid addiction," Kichline said at the press conference, where more than 70 people crowded into the commissioners' boardroom. "We have devoted a tremendous amount of resources to help address the opioid crisis for our citizens, but this problem is not going away. Funding is needed to sustain the programs, services and additional resources needed, and pharmaceutical manufacturers must shoulder a portion of that burden."

The Chester County Overdose Prevention Task Force distributes Naloxone to municipal police department in the county, other first responders and community organizations. It also created a program that provides support and direct links to treatment in emergency rooms to victims of an overdose, and has installed medication drop box sites, among other things.

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**Spotlight On The Board**

Daniel Nicewonger is the newest of the Kacie's Cause Board members who oversee the organization. Each month we will spotlight a different board member.

**Name:** Pastor Daniel Nicewonger, First Baptist Church of Kennett Square

**Background:** Originally from upstate New York, Daniel has spent time in Harrisburg, Malden, Mass., Cortland, N.Y., Springfield, Mass., and Locust, N.C. before moving to Kennett Square in 2014. Daniel is currently serving as pastor of First Baptist Church of Kennett Square. His passion is to help people encounter God in the midst of their everyday lives.

Daniel has worked to support the efforts of Kacie's cause over the past four years. First Baptist Church has hosted events such as the Annual International Overdose Awareness Day. A

Kacie's Cause parent support group meets at First Baptist every Thursday evening.

Daniel has a B.A. in Christian Education for Messiah College and a Masters of Divinity from Gordon-Conwell

Theological Seminary. Daniel has experience working to start and sustain non-profit organizations. While in North Carolina he helped start Live Again Ministries. Together, Daniel and Nancy (Dan's wife) started and sustain A Place in the Conversation. Daniel and Nancy have two adult children, Joseph and Rayann. Joseph recently graduated from UNC Charlotte and lives in Atlanta, Ga. Rayann is a student at West Chester University.



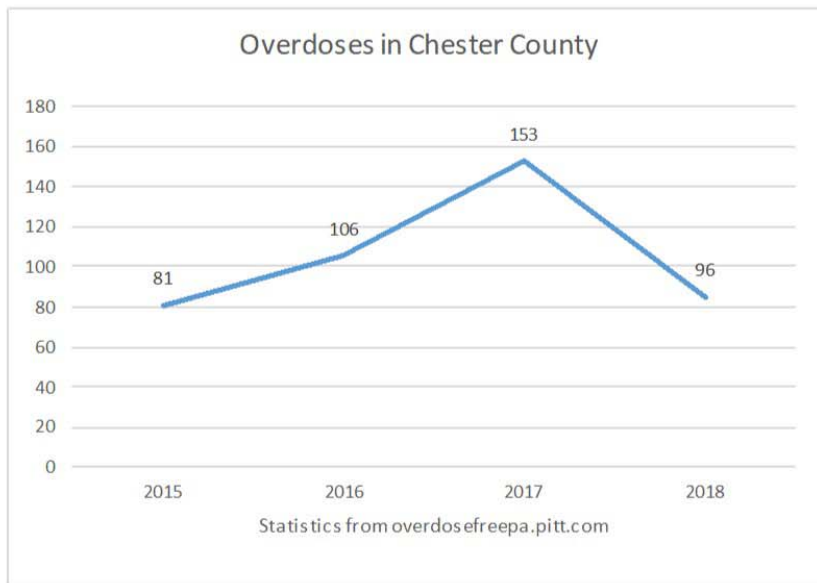
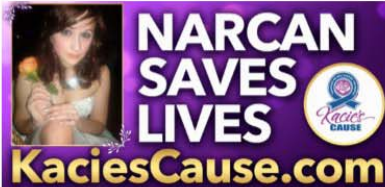
# Preventing Overdoses

Thanks to a partnership with the Chester County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services, Kacie's Cause has received 1,725 doses of Naloxone (Narcan) that can treat opioid overdoses.

Seventy of those doses have been distributed in the last three months.

Fentanyl, an opioid pain medicine, has been found in more than 50 percent of overdose deaths statewide since 2015, according to state statistics. Heroin is the second-most common drug found in overdose victims.

**If you are a Chester County resident and need Naloxone, please contact one of our chapters or Andy Rumford ([andy.kaciescause@gmail.com](mailto:andy.kaciescause@gmail.com)).**



## Brochures Available

Kacie's Cause has provided educational brochures to West Chester Family Practice.

If your business would like to receive brochures for your customers or to display, contact [andy.Rumford@KaciesCause.org](mailto:andy.Rumford@KaciesCause.org).

## Medication Boxes

There are a number of places to go in Chester County to drop off unwanted and expired drugs and medication.

Products that are accepted include prescription and over-the-counter solid medications; tablets and capsules; prescription patches; medical creams and ointments; vitamins; nasal sprays; and pet medicines.

A full list of drop-off locations is available at [www.chesco.org](http://www.chesco.org). Local ones include:

- Kennett Borough Police;
- Easttown Police;
- West Chester Sheriff's Office;
- West Chester University Police; and
- Southern Chester County Regional Police.

## County To Sue Opioid Manufacturers, Distributors

**CONTINUED** from front

Commissioner Terence Farrell said it was alarming to see how the crisis has grown beyond socioeconomic boundaries and generations.

"The prevalence of opioid-based drugs throughout our community, throughout the region, the state and the nation, is evident in the loss of children, young adults, parents and even grandparents," Farrell said.

Also at the conference were parents of youth who died after becoming addicted to opioid drugs.

Beth Perz's 24-year-old son Bradley died of an overdose in December.

"I can't believe I am standing here, but I am here because I want to fight this fight."

Kacie's Cause Founder Andy Rumford lost his daughter Kacie to an overdose in March 2013.

He urged everyone to continue educating themselves about the deadly impact of the drug epidemic, and applauded the commissioners for taking action.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**Parkesburg: Wednesdays 7-8 p.m.**  
Upper Octorara Presbyterian Church  
1121 Octorara Trail (Route 10)  
Parkesburg, PA 19365

**Kennett Square: Thursdays 7-9 p.m.**  
First Baptist Church of Kennett Square  
415 W. State St.  
Kennett Square, PA 19348

## CHAPTERS

Each chapter of Kacie's Cause has a Facebook page with information relating to their group.

To contact them, use the information below.

**Kennett Square:** /kaciescausecom

**Parkesburg:** /Kaciescauseparkesburg

**Exton/Downingtown:** /Kaciescauseexton

**Oxford:** /Oxford-Chapter-Kacies-Cause

**Newark, Del.:** /Kacies-Cause-Newark-Chapter

**Coatesville:** /Kaciescausecoatesville

**Indiana, PA:** Coming soon

**West Chester:** /Kacies-Cause-West-Chester-Chapter

**Poconos:** /poconosregionkaciescause

## WHO WE ARE

Kacie's Cause is a nonprofit organization for parents, family and friends of those battling the disease of addiction.

It was founded by Andy and Donna Rumford on March 12, 2013 — the day their daughter, Kacie Erin Rumford, died of a heroin overdose.

The 501(c)3 organization is dedicated to Kacie Erin Rumford, her memory, her love of all of us and her desire to change this world to be a better place to live ... from her family and friends who love her.

To contact Kacie's Cause, e-mail [andy.kaciescause@gmail.com](mailto:andy.kaciescause@gmail.com) or go online at [www.kaciescause.com](http://www.kaciescause.com).

Newsletter prepared by First Baptist Church of Kennett Square and in partnership with Kacie's Cause



[www.firstbaptistkennettsquare.com](http://www.firstbaptistkennettsquare.com)