



Andover Cares is a group created by the Rotary Club of Andover to address the problem of substance abuse in our community. We support Education, Prevention, Treatment and Awareness about substance use and addiction.

Andover Cares supports resources within our community to help families navigate through the reality of destructive substances. The Andover Cares Fund (the "Fund") is an arm of the Andover Rotary Charitable Trust. The Fund raises and awards money to organizations that can make a difference in the fight against substance abuse. The problem is complex and cannot be addressed by one solution. The best approaches come from collaboration between all of those on the front lines—educators, law enforcement professionals, addiction specialists, parents, concerned citizens, and health professionals.

What is the problem?

In 2014 two people died from overdoses. In 2015 the number of deaths was nine and there were over fifty overdoses. We took action, and the statistics since early 2016 are showing GREAT improvement, but we're not done yet! One or two overdoses per year is too many. We also foresee additional new challenges coming for our community, regarding addiction and substance abuse, with the legalization of recreational marijuana, and the supply of fentanyl (powerful synthetic heroin) in the region.

How will Rotary attack the problem?

We understand that the problem is complex and there is no one answer. The best solutions will come from those on the front lines—our educators, law enforcement and health professionals, and numerous local nonprofits. We've purchased a Hidden in Plain Sight Kit that's educated hundreds of parents in town, sponsored multiple speakers, provided education materials with MVPASAP to thousands of local families, brought educational theater and musical entertainment to local families, paid for addiction treatment for a town resident, supported local school wellness programs, funded a program for veterans recovering from addiction using equine therapy at Ironstone Farm, paid for local taxi rides to services for people in early recovery, and more! We have set up a fund that's awarding thousands of dollars to local organizations each year, making a difference in the fight against substance abuse and addiction.

Who can apply for funds

Organizations that have a connection to one of the three areas of focus may apply, on a rolling basis, may apply for funding for any amount between \$100 and \$5,000.

How do I apply?

An application for funding can be downloaded from www.AndoverCares.org.

What are the Three Areas of Focus?

Awareness — Educating the general public
Prevention — Educating at-risk groups
Treatment, Support, and Intervention — Helping affected individuals, and their families
We seek proposals that offer concrete solutions within any of these three areas

What is the Andover Cares Community Festival?

Each fall the Rotary Club of Andover and Andover Cares hosts a community block party or festival, featuring entertainment, food, education, and other resources related to the fight against addiction. This year, on September 15 2018 we are again co-sponsoring the event with the Town of Andover Community Services Department.

How can I help?

Go to the block party on September 15, and bring your family and friends. You can also support the *Andover Cares Fund* financially. Every penny we take in supports the fight against addiction.

Where can I go for more information?

Check out our website, www.AndoverCares.org.
E-mail us at andovercaresinfo@gmail.com

Need help now?

Call Andover Community Support Coordinator, Sobhan Namvar, LICSW at 617-642-7274 or e-mail him at SNam@andoverps.net