

*Town of Weymouth  
Massachusetts*

Robert L. Hedlund  
Mayor  
  
75 Middle Street  
Weymouth, MA 02189



Office: 781.340.5012  
Fax: 781.335.8184  
  
TTY: 781.331.5124

# Press Release

For Immediate Release – August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## **Weymouth to hold Candlelight Vigil in Remembrance of Overdose Victims August 31st**

Contact(s): Casey Tocchio, Community Information Officer  
ctocchio@weymouth.ma.us, 781-340-5012

Weymouth, MA – On Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. 2023 at 6:30pm the Town of Weymouth Prevention Alliance and community partners will honor and remember those lost to substance overdose with a candlelight vigil. The vigil will be held at Bradford Hawes Park, located at 167 Lakehurst Ave in Weymouth.

"Each year on August 31st we take time to honor those lost to substance overdose on National Overdose Awareness Day. State-wide there were 2,416 lives lost too soon; of which, 24 were from Weymouth," **said Substance Use Prevention Coordinator Keryn Jacobs.** "We continue to work with healthcare systems, community organizations, first responders, schools, and residents to create a healthier community by implementing harm reduction strategies, recovery programming, and increasing access to mental health resources."

The Weymouth Prevention Alliance's mission is to create a strong and healthy community where they've changed the social norms and minimized the impact of substance misuse. Currently they are working with Building Up Youth (BUY); a regional youth focuses substance use prevention grant involving the communities of Braintree, Milton, Quincy, Randolph, and Weymouth. They are also part of the HEALing communities Research Study with Boston Medical Center. This grassroots research study is committed to bridging the gaps that prevent people with opioid use disorder from accessing quality care and treatment.

For more information about this event, please call the Substance Use Prevention Coordinator, Keryn Jacobs, at 781-340-5008.