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PRESS RELEASE

Livingston County Catholic Charities (LCCC) is excited to share that the DTE Foundation is investing in Livingston County by bestowing a grant to LCCC in support of our Substance Abuse Treatment program.

The opioid and overdose crisis has been gripping America for quite some time now. It has devastated families and communities across America and here in Livingston County.

A recent U.S. government report shared in the American Press noted that overdose deaths “soared to a record 93,000 last year with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.” The report noted that this number is up 29% from the previous year.

COVID-19 exacerbated the overdose and drug crisis in America. For many persons with mental health and substance abuse issues, isolation, lost jobs or loved ones, financial struggles, political strife and more were enough to either push someone who may have been managing their situation over the edge or contribute to addiction relapses. LCCC’s Substance Abuse Case Manager shared that approximately 70% of her attendees in the Substance Abuse Engagement Group who had been clean, relapsed during the first 6 months of Covid.

In light of the current state of affairs, LCCC has seen a tremendous increase in the number of persons seeking both Substance Abuse Counseling and Mental Health Counseling in the last 18 months. Thus, with the continued critical problem in the US with substance use, abuse and overdose, LCCC remains committed to our mission to offer counseling to all with a focus on serving the poor. LCCC offers a sliding fee scale for the uninsured, underinsured and unemployed. The special grant funding from the DTE Foundation will help to strengthen our ability to offer the sliding fee scale and meet the growing demands for substance abuse treatment needs. Mark Robinson, Executive Director, states “We ae very grateful for this gift as we respond to the important community need. We very much value this support from the DTE Foundation to help enhance our ability to serve those struggling with addiction.”