



## GAGNON FAMILY FOUNDATION

In NJ alone, over 3,000 people died of an overdose in 2019. On average, more than eight people die from a drug overdose each and every day in NJ. It was noted in a Star Ledger article,\* that NJ has lost the equivalent of a small town every year during this past decade.

Community in Crisis (CiC) began in 2014 with a powerful movement of volunteers committed to ending opioid overdose deaths as its driving force. Our primary target populations are youth to deter substance abuse in the first place and the 20-35 year olds when most opioid overdose deaths occur. CiC's targeted substances are opioids and vaping of nicotine. Our goals are to build awareness of the opioid and vaping epidemics; the pills to heroin pathway; the impact of substances on the adolescent brain; and reducing the supply of prescription opioids by promoting proper prescribing, safeguarding and disposal.

In 2019, CiC served over 4,093 individuals with programs and support; provided six-week programming and prevention education to 78 middle school students; held 39 vaping education workshops; offered 143 individuals in recovery socialization programs and support groups; and helped 94 high school students complete volunteer projects. In 2020, we plan on expanding our outreach and support even more.

The goal of our 2020 fundraiser is to raise \$100,000 which will underwrite two of our major pillars - programs that offer youth volunteer opportunities whilst raising awareness about the dangers of substance use and misuse, as well as to support individuals in recovery. This fundraiser is critical to our mission and impact.

All proceeds will directly support programming that raises awareness of the dangers of opioids and heroin, increases parents' education on the impact of substances on the adolescent brain, supports initiatives to reduce the supply of unused medications in the community, strengthens messaging on the need to safeguard medications in the home, and offers sober social opportunities for individuals in recovery. Please help us with sponsorships and by attending. We look forward to seeing you soon and, in the meantime, thank you very much for your support.

\* <https://www.nj.com/data/2018/07/nj-on-pace-to-shatter-this-grim-record-for-the-fourth-straight-year.html>

[www.communityincrisis.org](http://www.communityincrisis.org)    [www.facebook.com/groups/EndOverdoses](https://www.facebook.com/groups/EndOverdoses)



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