



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**PUBLIC INVITED TO AUGUST 9 COMMUNITY FORUM ON RISING DRUG USE, ADDICTION IN DOOR COUNTY**

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***League of Women Voters Door County, Door County Knock Host Community Forum Series***

DOOR COUNTY, WI, July 18, 2023 – The public is invited to join leaders from the frontlines of drug use and addiction in Door County at a community forum August 9 at Crossroads at Big Creek, Collins Learning Center, Sturgeon Bay. Public input from the discussion will help inform a future article in the [Door County Knock series](#) on opioid and methamphetamine use.

Speakers confirmed as of this date include:

- Lisa Barnaby, addiction/substance abuse counselor and member of the Door County Treatment Court Steering Committee
- Joe Krebsbach, Health and Human Services Director and Treatment Court Steering Committee member
- Timmie Sinclair, United Way of Door County, Community Impact Coordinator of Health and Basic Needs
- Colleen Nordin, Door County District Attorney and member of the Treatment Court steering committee

Individuals recovering from addiction will also participate in the discussion and share their stories.

This is the first in a series of public forums hosted by *Door County Knock* and the [League of Women Voters Door County](#) to drive awareness and conversation around critical issues facing Door County.

“Our reporting on addiction and substance abuse reveals that Door County has caught up with the rest of the country,” said Andrew Phillips, executive director/editor of *Door County Knock*. “This is a complex issue that requires collaboration across communities, nonprofit groups, government agencies and the public to find effective solutions,” he added. “We hope to bring these groups together to forge an important dialogue.”

LWVDC has a study group examining mental health issues in the county and, in 2020, issued the report, [Door County Community's Responses to Mental Health and Substance Use Issues.](#)

“Substance use and mental health issues affect not only the individual and the immediate family, but also impact the community in significant ways,” said Susan Kohout, LWVDC chair. “It’s time a broader segment of the public knows the facts and hears directly from people at the frontlines of this critical issue,” she added. “We partnered with *Door County Knock* to elevate this important conversation and, hopefully, advance toward effective solutions.”

The August 9 forum begins at 6:30 p.m. and is expected to run until 8:30 p.m. Crossroads at Big Creek is located at 2041 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay. The forum will also broadcast live via Zoom and be recorded for future viewing. For more event information or to obtain the Zoom link, visit <https://doorcountyknock.org/events>.

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### ***About the League of Women Voters Door County***

*Founded in 1952 by Sturgeon Bay resident Jay Jacquelyn (Draeb) Bass, Mary Berg, Eunice Schlintz and several others, the League of Women Voters Door County is the local chapter of a national nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. It does not support or oppose any political party or endorse candidates. LWVDC has three separate and distinct roles:*

*Voter Service – To make voting easier through varied voter education programs and encouraging citizen participation*

*Citizen Education & Studies - To study national, state, and local issues in an unbiased manner and provide information on how citizens can influence public policy*

*Action/Advocacy – To take a stand on issues when supported by league positions.*

*For more information visit [lwvdoorcounty.org](http://lwvdoorcounty.org)*

### ***About Door County Knock***

*Door County Knock is an independent, nonprofit news organization covering Door County, Wisconsin. It is committed to being a resource for in-depth local news and information you can trust, for all of Door County. It reports on the issues, institutions and decision-makers that affect residents’ lives—including independent coverage of our county government and other institutions, as well as in-depth reporting on economic and social issues affecting Door County residents, such as affordable housing, childcare, mental health, addiction and development.*

*Door County Knock is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization operated by a professional staff under the guidance of an experienced board of directors. It is a member of the Institute for Nonprofit News, a group of nonprofit journalism organizations dedicated to news as a public service.*