



LIVE LALI

2017 Annual Report

Saving lives, opening minds, healing hearts

LOOKING AHEAD

A MESSAGE FROM OUR COFOUNDERS, JODY DAITCHMAN & CHELSEA LALIBERTE



Thank you for taking the time to read our first ever annual report. Over the past eight years, Live4Lali has grown by leaps and bounds. We will never forget how it felt sitting on the couch at Alex's Shiva talking with friends and family about what we could do about such an unthinkable tragedy. Amidst immense devastation, confusion, and anger, this idea provided a glimmer of hope. Heartache drives our commitment and passion, and we are always astonished that it has grown into a powerful movement.

We miss Alex, but Live4Lali's mission has become about the hundreds of individuals and families impacted by substance use disorders across the state of Illinois and Chicagoland area. The destruction caused by addiction and overdose is mind-numbing. It affects our communities, hearts, and wallets. As we head into our ninth year of operation, we recognize the confusion and fatigue from caring community members who keep hearing about this ongoing crisis but are not seeing changes. There is truth in the idea that if an issue doesn't impact you, it is hard to wrap your head around its significance.

As we talk to more and more Generation X young adults who have lost multiple friends or loved ones to an overdose, we recognize their newfound awareness of abandonment and grief. As we talk to our partners in rural communities, we grow increasingly

LOOKING AHEAD

worried about the lack of available services, long emergency response times, and crippling stigma. As we meet with providers, we recognize how lucky we are to operate in a state with progressive, evidence-based approaches to treatment and recovery, including an incarceration system that is exploring new tactics to reduce recidivism and expand rehabilitation. However, we are shocked by the deception and greed of providers around the country, and lack of attention paid to racism and the epidemic's effects on communities of color. We are frustrated by biases and myths about medication-assisted treatment among professionals across the field, and misguided approaches from our leaders that aim to infuse messages and interventions that merely don't work.

174 Americans are going to die today from an overdose, which means we still have work to do, and we need to work harder than ever before. Data and the rise in destruction have shown us that there are specific strategies communities need to take to see change occur, reduce deaths, and rehabilitate lives. We advocate for these tactics and have even incorporated some into our current programming when we have the resources to do so.

In the coming months and years, Live4Lali will need to make essential changes to keep up with this moving target known as the opioid addiction and overdose crisis. Its wrath has occurred in such volatility due to the various broken systems the public relies on for daily support. As an organization, we will need to postpone specific initiatives to help people struggling and at risk of death by becoming increasingly proximate to those we serve and establishing partnerships to expand our reach. Some of the moves we make will be controversial, but all of these action steps are necessary. We've never shied away from taking a stand that's unpopular or misunderstood, and we are not going to stop now. Simply, lives are at stake. We invite you to join us as we shift into a new realm of our work. Please take a look at our Strategic Plan 2018-2021 to learn about our goals and objectives.

Lastly, none of this work could happen without the incredible support of our community, partners, donors, staff, and volunteers. The best way we know how to give back to the people who dedicate their time, energy, and resources to Live4Lali is through creating change and keeping the promises we make to those we serve.

LOOKING AHEAD

If you would like to get involved in our growing movement, we would love to talk to you about opportunities. And if you have any questions or suggestions, don't hesitate to reach out to us by phone at 844.584.5254, extension 802 for Chelsea and extension 801 for Jody. Or, reach out to us via email at chelsea@live4lali.org or jody@live4lali.org.

Sincerely,

Chelsea A. Laliberte, Executive Director & Co-Founder, Live4Lali

Jody Daitchman, Board Chairwoman & Co-Founder, Live4Lali

ABOUT US

OUR STORY



Since 2009, Live4Lali has been providing advocacy, education, support, and harm reduction programming and services to communities across the Chicago suburbs. Known for its leadership in the addiction and overdose awareness movement, Live4Lali has been a force for change.

Live4Lali's headquarters is located just 30 minutes from Chicago in the suburb of Arlington Heights, IL. Its close proximity to the epicenter of the U.S. drug trade has created a unique local crisis. Its founders, Jody Daitchman and Gary Laliberte, and their daughter, Live4Lali's Executive Director, Chelsea Laliberte lost their son/brother Alex to a polysubstance overdose of opioids and benzodiazepines on December 15, 2008. Out of their pain and desire to make an impact, they partnered with Roosevelt University's Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy to develop a data-driven, comprehensive approach addressing community systems, impacted individuals and families, and the broader public.

Live4Lali's mission is to reduce stigma and prevent substance use disorder among individuals, families, and communities, and minimize the overall health, legal and social harms associated with substance use. We envision a world in which we prevent substance use disorder when we can and offer compassionate support to reduce harms among individuals, families, and communities when we cannot.

SERVICES

EDUCATION

- **Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Training**
Audiences: Youth, adults, communities and professionals
- **Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Training**
Audiences: People who use substances and their loved ones, professionals, and the general public
- **Opioids and Overdose Crisis Training**
Audience: Professionals including first responders, health specialists, criminal justice authorities, media groups, and legislators
- **Awareness Campaigns**
Audience: General public and impacted people

PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT

- 24/7/365 peer support outreach
- Recovery meetings and support groups for people with a substance use disorder and their loved ones
- Network and support for loss to a substance-related passing
- Workshops and seminars
- Treatment navigation

HARM REDUCTION

- Syringe exchange/access
- Clean using supplies access
- Overdose prevention training and naloxone kits
- Hepatitis C and HIV Testing, and safe sex counseling (through partnership with Lake County Health Department)

ADVOCACY

- Recommending local, state, and federal policy change to support the needs of people with substance use disorders and their loved ones

LOCATIONS SERVED

LIVE4LALI LOCATIONS

Live4Lali provides services across Chicago, its suburbs, and the collar counties. While our offices may be placed in specific locations, we will travel to provide services to individuals, families, and professional groups across Illinois and the Midwest. Through partnerships with organizations across the United States, we can serve individuals, families and communities no matter their location.

Live4Lali Headquarters and Recovery Support Services

3255 N. Arlington Heights Road, Suite 508
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Live4Lali McHenry located at The Other Side

McHenry County Opioid Overdose Prevention Program
and Recovery Support Services
93 Berkshire Drive
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Live4Lali Chicago located at TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)

Wednesday Night Recovery Programming
700 S. Clinton St, 1st Floor
Chicago, IL 60607

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LIVE4LALI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Live4Lali is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors that provides financial, operational, programming, and events guidance and support. We continue to recruit passionate individuals to join our growing Board. If you are interested in learning more about joining the Board, please reach out to Jody@Live4Lali.org.

- **Phil Atteberry**, Chief Executive Officer, Brightside
- **Jody Daitchman**, Co-founder, Live4Lali
- **Melissa Hoble**, Chief Marketing Officer, OKCupid
- **Greg Klapman, PC**, Co-Owner, BKI Recycling
- **Chelsea A. Laliberte**, Vice President, Patient & Family Services, Addiction Policy Forum
- **The Reverend Alexander E. Sharp**, Executive Director, Clergy for a New Drug Policy

STAFF

LIVE4LALI STAFF MEMBERS & INTERNS

- **Jody Daitchman**, Cofounder and Angel Moms Network Coordinator
- **Joanne DiGuido**, Interim Deputy Director
- **Danielle Franzese**, Operations Coordinator
- **Laura Fry**, Director of Operations
- **Artemis Golzar**, Recovery Programs Coordinator
- **Chelsea Laliberte**, Executive Director and Cofounder
- **Mimi Maman**, Recovery Programs Intern
- **Danielle Mastriani**, Digital Education Associate
- **Alexander Mathiesen**, McHenry County Opioid Overdose Prevention Program Outreach Coordinator
- **Serena Pao**, Recovery Programs Intern
- **Genevieve Przybylo-Soulje**, Community Resource Center Manager & Overdose Education Program Manager
- **Salim Suterwalla**, Data Manager

LIVE4LALI PROGRAM CONSULTANTS

- **Lawrence Davis**, Website Engineer
- **Lily Gleicher**, Research Consultant
- **Melissa Lugo**, Research Consultant

ADVISORS

- **Diane Geiser**, MSW, LCSW
- **Dr. Adam Rubinstein**, Addiction Medicine
- **Dr. Beth Dunlap**, Addiction Medicine
- **Hon. Michael G. Nerheim**, Criminal Justice
- **Dr. Kenji Oyasu**, Emergency and Addiction Medicine

VOLUNTEERS & EXPERT ADVISORS

VOLUNTEERS

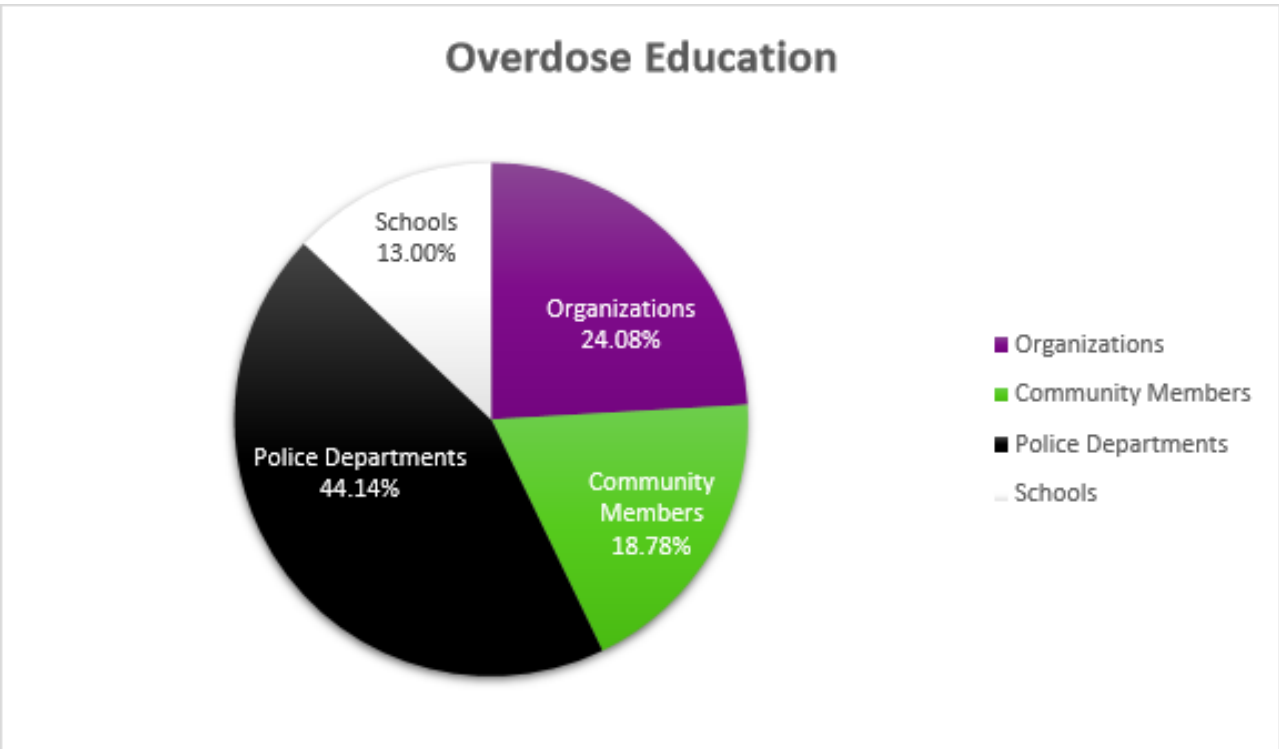
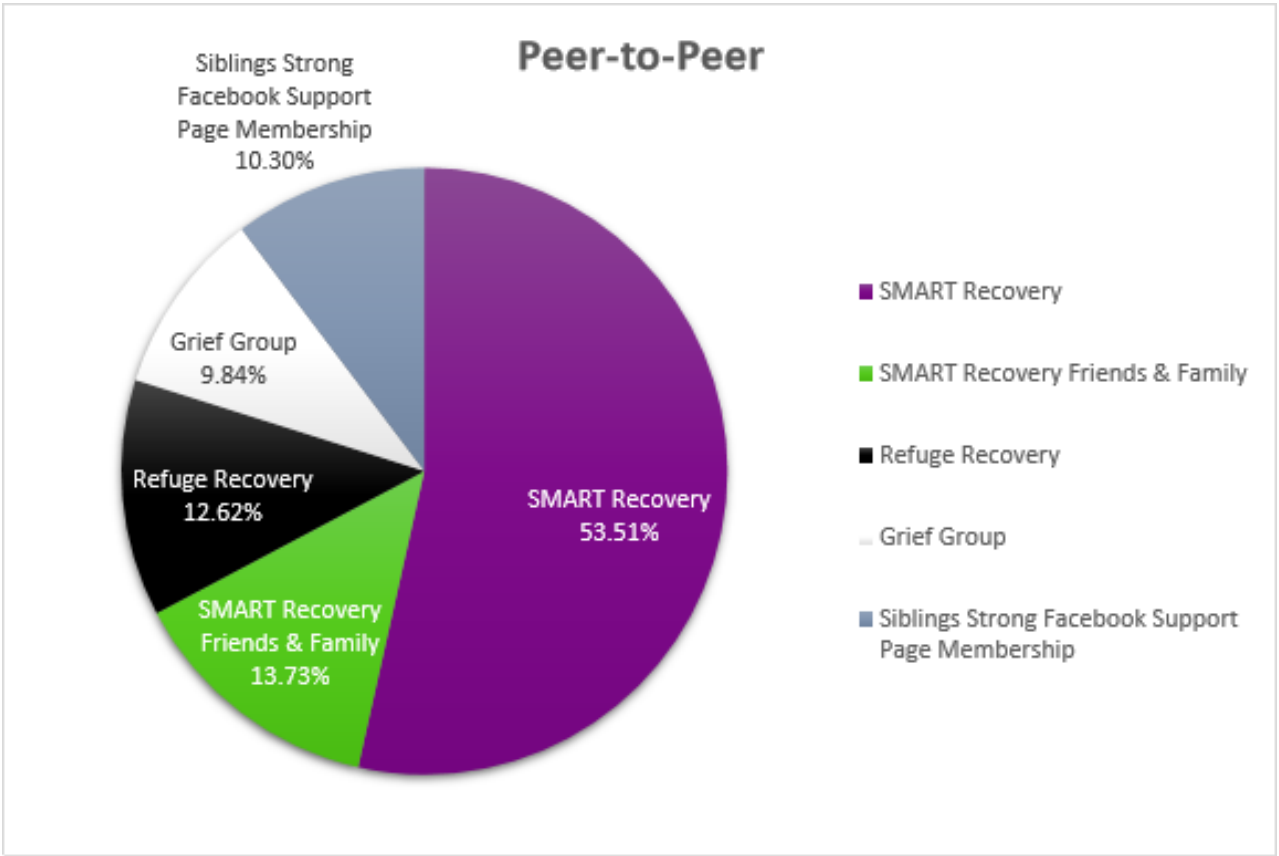
- Amy Alderson
- Georgia Alderson
- Staci Allan
- Lindsay Anderson
- Matt Barnes
- Virginie Bishop
- Sean Brennan
- Raquel Brinskelle
- Nicholas Brock
- Katie Bukiri
- Donna Burress
- Christopher Camp
- Stephen Cassell
- Bridget Chavez
- Martin Clancy
- Lisa Cobb
- Tom Corning
- Kim Corning
- Stephanie Cyrus
- Jody Daitchman
- Anthony Diaz
- Mary Fenchel
- George Filenko
- Jenny Finnerman
- Tina Franco
- Francisco Franco
- Danielle Franzese
- Laura Fry
- Carol Ginther
- Lily Gleicher
- Ellen Goldsmith
- Artemis Golzar
- Courtney Gunkleman
- Misty Halterman-Ahrens
- Michelle Hines
- Melissa Hobley
- Kathy Kelly
- Laurie & Stuart Kessler
- Laurie Klapman
- Chelsea Laliberte
- Elyse Landsman
- Judith Lucas
- Mimi Maman
- Mardi Meyers
- Susan Moore
- Alexandria Murillo
- Greg Neuschenufin
- Barb Newmark
- Tyra Notorangelo
- Doreen Orist
- Julie Oslan
- Serena Pao
- Michelle Perbohner
- Gen Przybylo-Soulje
- Kylie Rodriguez
- Pam Ross
- Kimberly Ross
- Mike Rubin
- Kelly Rubin
- Samara Rubin
- Jessy Santini
- Geri Santini
- Jackie Santini
- Bob Santini
- Abby Unger
- Ben Unger
- Mary Pat Venitucci
- Charlene Vlink
- Amy Voss
- Jess Weston
- Agy Wiewlechowski
- Jolene Wright
- Sherri Wrobel
- Zabrina Zajac

LONI FRANCO

Your smile, kind heart, and beautiful spirit will never be forgotten. Rest in Peace.

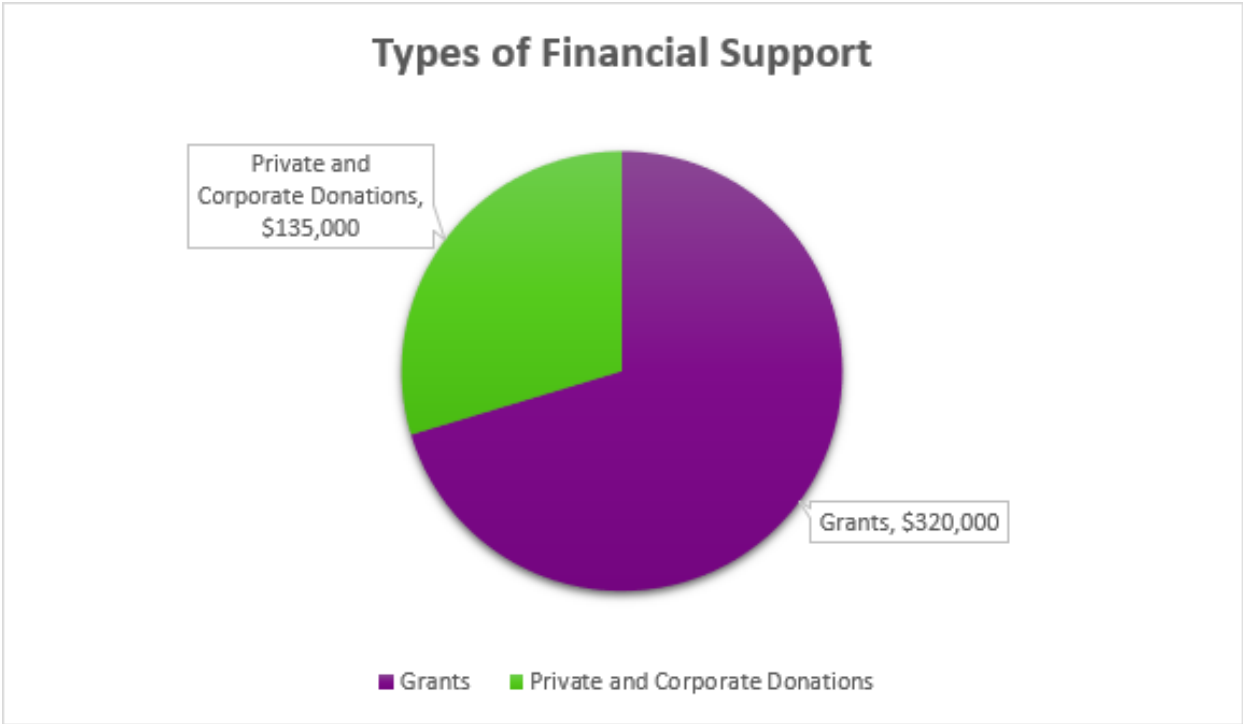
* We apologize if we have not recognized a volunteer. We value and appreciate everyone who supports our work.

SERVICE UTILIZATION BY NUMBER OF CLIENTS



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

SUPPORT & GROWTH



Check our website for additional financial information.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

NOVEMBER 2016

Live4Lali was grateful to receive a \$200,000 grant from Pfizer to develop its data collection and infrastructure program.

Live4Lali attended the 11th National Harm Reduction Conference in San Diego, CA, to gather with other leaders and frontline service providers, community activists, and people who use drugs or love them, to learn and build strategies together.

JANUARY 2017

The Community Resource Center (CRC) - known then as the Walk-In Clinic - relocated to a larger facility in Arlington Heights to accommodate for a rapidly growing client base across all programming.

Live4Lali's Executive Director, Chelsea Laliberte, joined the Illinois State Opioid Crisis Advisory Council, developed by the Illinois Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, the Illinois Department of Public Health, and Governor Rauner's Office. Chelsea became the Co-Chair of the Public Awareness & Education Committee, and along with 100+ subject matter experts, assisted in the development of the [State of Illinois Opioid Action Plan](#), which was released in September 2017. One of the first directives of the plan was to create a statewide standing order for naloxone access. Implementation and evaluation of the plan is ongoing.

In partnership with the Arlington Heights Police Department, Arlington Heights Fire Department, and Northwest Community Hospital, Live4Lali became a primary organizer of a new treatment access program for Arlington Heights residents, which will be announced publicly in 2018.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

FEBRUARY 2017



As a founding organizer of the Chicago Area Opioid Task Force, Live4Lali co-hosted a legislator breakfast at Gateway Foundation Chicago West to inform local, state, and federal legislators across northern Illinois about the latest trends, concerns, and recommendations of the task force.

Along with Lake County State's Attorney Michael G. Nerheim, our Executive Director hosted a roundtable with Kenosha County leaders, first responders, and treatment providers, to provide information and guidance to implement a task force based on the Lake County Opioid Initiative model. Since that time, Kenosha County formed the Kenosha County Opioid Task Force, which recently received a \$300,000 grant to battle opioid addiction.

Our Executive Director presented Live4Lali's model to providers at the Northern Illinois Employee Assistance Program Association Quarterly Meeting.

Following the passage of the Comprehensive Addiction & Recovery Act (CARA), Live4Lali attended the 2017 CARA Implementation Conference and CARA Family Day in Washington D.C., hosted by Addiction Policy Forum. There, our Executive Director shared Live4Lali's work and her story as an impacted sibling with the Bipartisan Heroin Task Force. CARA included "Lali's Law," a bill developed by former Congressman Robert J. Dold (D-10), to provide funding nationwide for naloxone access, named in memory of Alex N. Laliberte and developed in tandem with Live4Lali.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

MARCH 2017



Our Executive Director presented at SUD Talks in Delray Beach, Florida, to inform a passionate audience in a changing treatment landscape about the importance of harm reduction, and utilizing evidence to inform programming in order to save lives and truly assist people impacted by substance use disorders. One week later, Chelsea participated on a panel with Addiction Medicine Physician, Dr. Adam Rubinstein, at the Cook County Health Department staff about the opioid crisis and evidence-based approaches to assisting patients. Dr. Rubinstein currently serves as Live4Lali’s medical advisor and director of the Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) Program.

Live4Lali hosted the fourth installment of its series, “From Use to Abuse” at the Buffalo Grove Park District Community Arts Center. Over 100 people toured the resource fair featuring treatment and recovery service providers, and listened to an expert panel explaining various levels of care, treatment approaches, and recovery strategies.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

APRIL 2017



Live4Lali's Director of Operations, Laura Fry, was a subject matter expert panelist at a Community Drug Forum at Barrington High School along with members of the Lake County Opioid Initiative.

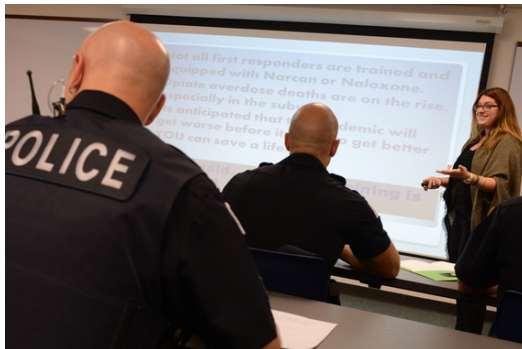
Chelsea attended the National Rx Abuse & Heroin Summit in Atlanta, Georgia, on behalf of Lake County Opioid Initiative where Mundelein Police Chief Eric Guenther and Gateway Foundation Lake County Executive Director, Karen Wolownik-Albert, presented *A Way Out* to an audience of criminal justice professionals from across the U.S.

Live4Lali staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers participated in a day-long Strategic Planning Session, which focused on reviewing past and current programming, the evolution of the opioid crisis, and determining priorities for the 2018-2021 framework.

Lights, Camera, Awareness! On April 24, 2017, after almost two years working with the filmmakers at HBO Documentary Films, Live4Lali co-hosted a premier of the film, **Warning: This Drug May Kill You**, which featured Live4Lali's Laura Fry and volunteers, and the work of Lake County Opioid Initiative. Live4Lali served as consultants to the filmmakers. The premier included a screening of the film and a Q&A with individuals featured in the film and subject matter experts. Chelsea was featured in a **web extra about naloxone** along with Dr. Nora Volkow of NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse) and Dr. Andrew Kolodny of PROP (Physicians for Responsible Opioid Prescribing).

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

MAY 2017



Chelsea provided a comprehensive harm reduction training to over 200 local counselors and other mental health and medical professionals at SUSTAIN Lake County. SUSTAIN is a collaborative at the College of Lake County, which provides continuing education opportunities for helping professionals.

Live4Lali staff presented at the Communities for Positive Youth Development (CYPD) Town Hall Meeting “Understanding Your Teen,” providing information and strategies for parents of adolescents and young adults.

Live4Lali staff presented on its model to the New Hope Recovery Center of Lake County to 30 volunteers and patients.

JUNE 2017

Chelsea provided a training on Live4Lali’s model, trends, advocacy, and strategies for Employee Assistance Program administrators of major national airlines.

JULY 2017

Live4Lali and the Lake County Health Department launched the first Lake County-based harm reduction outreach pilot program, Naloxone, Needles & Nice People. Every Saturday from July to October 2017, a volunteer team provided resources, naloxone/Narcan, clean using supplies, basic needs items (toiletries, food, etc.), HIV and Hepatitis C testing and counseling, and treatment in Round Lake Park. The pilot served more than 50 individuals who commuted from across the county to access services. Plans to expand programming are currently underway. In the interim, anyone in need can access supplies and resources through Live4Lali’s headquarters in Arlington Heights.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

AUGUST 2017



The Mikey's Message Golf Outing & Banquet Fundraiser was held on August 4, 2017. Co-hosted by The Santini Family, who lost Mikey to a heroin overdose in 2015, the fundraiser brought in over \$50,000 to sustain Live4Lali's programming.

Live4Lali staff attended a two-day leadership academy for Recovery Community Organizations (RCOs), provided by Faces and Voices of Recovery (FAVOR). Live4Lali aims to become a member of the Association of Recovery Community Organizations (ARCO) to expand knowledge and offer more to our community members.

Live4Lali staff became an Addiction Policy Forum **"What is Addiction?"** training agency. In 2018, every public or private education program will incorporate this four-minute video and presentation to provide audiences with evidence-based details about addiction.

McHenry County Substance Abuse Coalition hosted a fantastic program about cannabis policy and its impact on youth and the broader community. Live4Lali staff attended and participated in the conversation, which helped to inform Live4Lali's position on the issue.

Our Executive Director co-organized and hosted the Lake County Opioid Initiative's A Way Out program press conference at Zion Police Department, which announced expansion to include four new Lake County police agencies. The event featured the story of Danya Vasquez, an A Way Out graduate, who shared her journey and met the officers who helped get her into the program over a year ago.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

AUGUST 2017

Live4Lali kicked off its week of activities to honor Overdose Awareness Day, which included:

- The Franco Family of Mundelein hosted its third annual Overdose Awareness Day Event at New Hope Christian Fellowship. This important event included a resource fair, powerful presentation with subject matter experts and community leaders, a naloxone training hosted by Live4Lali, and a Q&A session with Dr. Rubinstein.
- A showing of Warning: This Drug May Kill You and panel at the Northbrook Public Library
- Live4Lali's Chicago Chapter launched with a highly attended and informative kickoff event in which participants were introduced to Live4Lali's model and the young women organizing programming in the city of Chicago.
- Arlington Heights Police Department & Buffalo Grove Police Department co-hosted a Rx Take Back event and naloxone trainings.
- International Overdose Awareness Day event at National Safety Council followed by a candlelight vigil in Arlington Heights.



LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

SEPTEMBER 2017

Chelsea was honored to be selected as a panelist at The Kennedy Forum's Mind Matters Speaker Series, "A State of Emergency: Opioids, Heroin, Addiction" where she shared Alex's story, concerning gaps and barriers, and solutions.

Laura Fry attended the Annual SMART Recovery Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where she met with and learned technical strategies from peers and leaders focused on SMART Recovery-based programming.

Live4Lali volunteers represented Live4Lali at the Mental Health Recovery Conference in North Chicago, the Mental Health Wellness and Recovery Conference in Crystal Lake.

Live4Lali staff attended the Harm Reduction in the House Conference and Harm Reduction Coalition Initiative, put on by the Harm Reduction Coalition and Heartland Alliance, in which groups from across Chicagoland met to discuss successes, struggles and strategies.

Due to the increasing volume of community members reaching out for assistance, Live4Lali recruited volunteers to serve on the On-Call Support Team, which provides an added layer of assistance to serve more people, quickly and efficiently.

Live4Lali's Chicago Chapter launched its **Wednesday Recovery Program** in partnership with **TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)**. Chapter Ambassadors Courtney Gunkelman, Jess Weston, Stephanie Cyrus, and Jenny Finnerman provide naloxone trainings, SMART Recovery meetings, and SMART Recovery Family and Friends Meetings every week.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

OCTOBER 2017



Live4Lali was thrilled to receive a one-year \$120,000 grant from the McHenry County Mental Health Board to launch the McHenry County Opioid Overdose Prevention Program, which is designed to provide on-the-ground education and supplies to people who use substances and their families. The program will also provide trainings to professional groups interested in incorporating overdose responses practices and policies into their operational protocols.

Chelsea spoke at the State Opioid Planning Hearing at the Dirksen Federal Building, providing information and recommendations to the Executive Council.

Laura Fry attended the International Drug Policy Reform Conference in Atlanta, GA, where she commiserated with other advocates and organizations focused on legislative advocacy regarding substances and people who use substances, learned about the evidence and implementation of global drug policies, and brought back sensible strategies for improving local, state and federal policy.

Chelsea presented on Harm Reduction and Advocacy at the Soft Landing Recovery Symposium at College of DuPage to a large group of counselors and mental health professionals.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

NOVEMBER 2017



Live4Lali sponsored and participated in panels at the “The Criminal Justice Response to the Opioid Crisis: Referrals, Resources, and Research,” hosted by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. The conference provided criminal justice professionals across Illinois with the most recent data and evidence-based practices on treatment and assistance for populations impacted by substance use disorders who are justice-involved.

Live4Lali staff, Board members, and volunteers came together for the final Strategic Planning Meeting to determine the specific areas of focus, goals, and strategies. The **Strategic Plan for 2018-2021** was publicly announced in early January.

Chelsea educated social workers at the National Association of Social Workers Illinois Chapter on the opioid crisis, Live4Lali’s model, and effective micro and macro social work strategies.

Live4Lali staff and volunteers participated in a two-day education program at Adlai E. Stevenson High School to educate students and staff in health classes about their unique experiences as individuals impacted by substance use disorder and overdose.

The Angel Moms Network, created and organized by Co-founder and Alex’s mom, Jody Daitchman, hit a milestone with 110 Illinois-based women who have lost a child (and in some cases, two children) to a substance-related passing. Sadly, the statistics are headed in the wrong direction, but we will be there through it all.

LIVE4LALI YEAR IN REVIEW

DECEMBER 2017

The Live4Lali team spent the month of December planning for the launch of a major national project with Addiction Policy Forum, which aims to provide guidance, support, education, and access to treatment for millions of people. Stay tuned for forthcoming announcements about this exciting program!

