

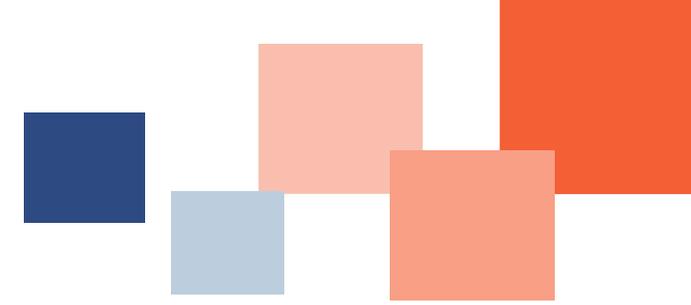
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Michigan Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

Opioid and Substance Use Disorder Task Force



MICHIGAN ALLIANCE
FOR DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN
Rescue. Defend. Shelter. Support.

What Is A Drug Endangered Child?

A drug endangered child (DEC) is one who is exposed to drug use, possession, sale, or manufacturing by their caregiver(s). Drug endangered children are three times more likely to be physically, emotionally, and/or sexually abused and four times more likely to be neglected.¹ DEC have a higher likelihood of struggling with mental health issues and developing their own substance use disorder than other children do.



MICHIGAN DEC ALLIANCE

The Michigan State Police (MSP) recognizes that children are uniquely affected by the opioid epidemic and seeks to reduce the harm experienced by youth and communities caused by caregiver opioid and substance misuse. To achieve this goal, the MSP has established a statewide DEC alliance, comprised of representatives from various fields that interact with drug and opioid endangered children, such as law enforcement, child welfare, medicine, education, prosecutors, and others. Coordinating these diverse disciplines will improve collaboration and innovation, which will result in better outcomes for children in need.

Purpose

- To enhance collaboration between all professions that interact with drug endangered children to better serve this population.
- To assist local and regional DEC alliances in establishing and coordinating multidisciplinary response teams.
- To form a relationship with the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children and act as a link between this organization and local DEC alliances.
- To reduce the harm experienced by youth and communities due to caregiver opioid and substance misuse.

RESOURCES

National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

National DEC is a nonprofit that works with communities across the United States and Canada to implement and support DEC alliances. Since forming in 2003, National DEC has worked in 32 states and countless communities to train thousands of professionals in the various DEC fields

The MSP is partnering with National DEC to provide training and technical assistance for communities implementing the DEC approach. For more information on National DEC, visit their [website](#).



¹

Lander, L., Howsare, J., & Byrne, M. (2013). The impact of substance use disorders on families and children: From theory to practice. *Social Work in Public Health*, 28(3-4), 194-205.