



## The Deadliest Drug Crisis in American History:

**64,000 Americans died from drug overdose in 2016...that is more than the total number of US soldiers killed in the entire Vietnam War.**

(Source: Overdose statistic is from CDC, comparison to Vietnam War is from a report by the Police Executive Research Forum)

**More Americans die of overdose than car crashes or guns...and at a rate faster than that recorded at the peak of the AIDS crisis.**

(Source: Report by the Police Executive Research Forum)

**Drug overdose is now the leading cause of death among Americans under 50.**

(Source: CDC)

**Life expectancy rate has now dropped for 2 years in a row.**

(Source: CDC)

**175 people in the US will die today of a drug overdose...that is the equivalent of a fully loaded 737 crashing and killing everyone on board.**

(Based on the 2016 statistic of 64,000 Americans dying from overdoses and the 175 seat capacity of most 737 airplanes)

**About 75% of overdose deaths are due to opioids.**

(Source: NIDA)

**Over 2,300 people in Michigan and over 300 in Macomb County died due to overdose in 2016.**

(Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services)

**Michigan ranks #14 in the nation for overdose deaths per capita & #8 for actual number of deaths.**

(Source: CDC; also, please note media has referred to Michigan's ranking as #15)

**Macomb ranks #2 among Michigan counties for overdose deaths.**

(Source: County Health Rankings has Macomb tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place with Monroe County for overdose mortality rate and 2<sup>nd</sup> for actual number of overdose deaths)

**In Michigan and in Macomb County, more prescriptions for opioid pain medications are written per year than there are residents.**

(Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services)

**80% of heroin users first misused prescription opioids.**

(Source: Muhuri PK, Gfroerer JC, Davies MC. Associations of Nonmedical Pain Reliever Use and Initiation of Heroin Use in the United States. *CBHSQ Data Rev.* August 2013)

**People misusing prescription drugs are getting them from family, friends and the home medicine cabinet.**

(Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2015)