MICAH'S HUGS

Fall 2026 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

This has been a season of growth for Micah's Hugs - expanding prevention education, strengthening community partnerships and creating new opportunities for young people to use their voices as leaders and advocates.

FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION

43,000+	$106,000+	4,185
Narcan doses distributed	Sober living scholarships	Students reached in 2025

A New Investment in Prevention

Micah's Hugs has received a $95,000 State Opioid Response (SOR IV) award supporting substance use and fentanyl prevention education from September 2026 through August 2027. The work will help expand school and community education across Sonoma, Marin and Napa counties, strengthen referral partnerships, increase bilingual outreach and continue connecting communities with naloxone and fentanyl test strips.

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Youth Voice: What's Next

We are developing deeper youth leadership opportunities that move beyond one-time prevention presentations. Our vision is to help young people research issues that matter to them, strengthen public speaking and advocacy skills, become credible messengers, and create youth-led prevention media - including podcasts, video, interviews, public-service messages and storytelling projects.

Schools & Community Education

Micah's Hugs continues to bring real-life, trauma-informed substance use and fentanyl prevention education into schools, colleges and community settings. Presentations address fentanyl and counterfeit pills, overdose recognition and response, naloxone, stigma reduction and help-seeking. In 2025, Micah's Hugs delivered 68 drug education and fentanyl awareness presentations throughout Sonoma County and parts of Northern California.

Help Us Turn Awareness into Action

Invite Micah's Hugs to your school or organization • Partner on youth programming • Host a Narcan training • Support recovery • Collaborate on community prevention
Request Information about our Opiod Education

Micah's Hugs prevention and overdose-response education with students at Santa Rosa Junior College.

Expanding School Reach

New grant support is helping us deepen existing school relationships and build new partnerships. Programs can include classroom presentations, assemblies, health classes, student groups, staff trainings, parent education and larger campus prevention events - at no cost to participating schools. Request Information about our Opiod Education

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT IN ACTION

Expanding Access to Narcan/Naloxone

SAVE A LIFE STATIONS Micah’s Hugs continues to expand low-barrier access to naloxone through community Save a Life Stations. These publicly accessible boxes provide free Narcan while also connecting community members to overdose-response education and resources. Each new location represents what can happen when nonprofits, local organizations and community leaders work together to make lifesaving tools easier to access. On our website you can:

- Find Narcan/Naloxone near you.
- Submit a new Narcan/Naloxone Location
- Host, Adopt or Sponsor a Station

Walk for Lives - San Francisco

On July 11, Micah's Hugs led the San Francisco flagship Walk For Lives event at Levi Plaza, bringing families, prevention partners, public agencies, recovery organizations and community advocates together around overdose awareness, remembrance and action.

Awareness on the Road

The Micah's Hugs awareness wrap created with S.S. Skikos Trucking - carrying the faces and stories of lives lost to fentanyl out into the community

Advocacy & What's Next

Micah's Hugs is Going to Washington DC

We are preparing to take our prevention and advocacy work to Washington, D.C. The goal is to bring lived experience, the voices of families and young people, and lessons from our community work into conversations with national leaders. We want policymakers to understand what communities are facing, what practical prevention looks like on the ground, and why youth education, naloxone access, recovery support and family voices matter.

Youth Voice, Media & Civic Engagement

As our youth programming grows, we want young people to have opportunities not only to learn about substance use prevention, but also to research issues, tell stories, create media, speak publicly and participate in civic engagement. Partnerships with organizations that bring media, technical, educational and youth-development expertise can help turn that vision into meaningful hands-on experiences.

Threads 2026

In November, Micah's Hugs will participate in Sonoma County DHS's THREADS conference in the session “From Awareness to Action: A Community Partnership with Daniel Lionett.” The session will focus on practical, low-cost overdose prevention, partnerships, naloxone access, education and lived experience.

Food NOT Fentanyl 2026

OVER $50,000 RAISED.

A community that showed up in a big way. Food Not Fentanyl 2026 raised over $50,000 in support of this work. We are deeply grateful to everyone who came out, brought friends and family, supported the event, and helped turn an evening together into meaningful impact.

A very special thank-you to Sax's Joint. We are especially grateful for the extraordinary heart, energy and generosity behind Sax's Joint's support of Food Not Fentanyl. The commitment to this event and to our community helped make the day possible, and we cannot thank them enough for believing in the mission, showing up for families, and helping bring people together around hope, prevention and remembrance.

Thank you, Pronzini's Ranch. We are incredibly thankful to Pronzini's Ranch for helping provide the space and support for this community event. And to every sponsor, volunteer, vendor, performer, family and community member who participated: thank you. This success belongs to all of you.

Food Not Fentanyl 2026 was made possible by an incredible community of sponsors and supporters.

Remembrance at Oracle Park

Families and advocates came together at Oracle Park carrying the faces and stories of loved ones lost. Moments like these bring remembrance into public view and help keep prevention, education and compassionate action at the center of the conversation.

COMING UP - VOLUNTEERS WE NEED YOU!

Giving4Life's Grand Bazaar of Petaluma

October 2, 3 & 4, 2026 | Petaluma Fairgrounds

Micah's Hugs is excited to be the beneficiary of Giving4Life's Grand Bazaar of Petaluma - and we need volunteers to help make this three-day community event a success!

The Grand Bazaar will feature more than 130 artists, crafters and vendors, food by Sax's Joint and more, Santa visits, shopping, free parking and a parking lot shuttle, plus Micah's Hugs 'Save a Life' training. All proceeds benefit Micah's Hugs. More Info

The 2025 Grand Bazaar was attended by over 3,000 community members and raised over $20,000 for Micah's Hugs.

Volunteers We Need You!

Choose the volunteer spot or shift that works for you. No SignUp account or password is required. Grab a friend and come be part of something fun while supporting the lifesaving work of Micah's Hugs.

Make a Donation

Micah's Hugs would not exist without your generous donations!
Your tax deductible donation will help as we are funded primarily through private donations so every gift of any amount matters!

Together we can make a difference for those affected by substance use disorder and help prevent the misuse of substances in our community.

Make a Donation

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