MICAH'S HUGS

November 2026 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

What happens when a community comes together with purpose? Lives are touched, resources reach those who need them, and meaningful change begins.

It's been a remarkable season for Micah's Hugs. We took our story to Washington, DC, held our fourth annual job and resource fair, put Narcan stations into Sonoma County libraries, filled the Petaluma Fairgrounds with neighbors and makers, and won best scarecrow at Halloween. Every one of those days came back to the same thing: people showing up for each other.

Before the holidays pick up, we have a favor to ask. **Giving Tuesday is December 1.** Micah's Hugs is funded mostly by private donations, so every gift, of any size, helps us keep lifesaving Narcan in the community, extend prevention education in schools, and help individuals and families find support, treatment, and hope. **Give today for Giving Tuesday**.

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A Big Milestone: Narcan Stations at Sonoma County Libraries

We reached an important milestone we've been working toward: **Narcan stations are now being placed in Sonoma County libraries!** Thanks to our partnership with the Sonoma County Library, these *Save a Life* Stations make free Narcan and fentanyl test strips accessible in places where families, students, and neighbors already gather.

Some stations also serve as tributes to loved ones lost to substance use, honoring their lives while helping protect others. We are deeply grateful to the library team for making this initiative possible and to the local hosts who stepped forward to care for each station. Together, we're turning remembrance into action and making lifesaving resources more accessible throughout our community.

Thank you to John and Jilli Iverson, who initiated the contact that got these stations installed at the libraries. Thank you to Michel Degive for his craftsmanship of our neighborhood Narcan stations, to Holly Hunt for hosting three Healdsburg stations, and to Pura Vida for hosting a station.



Save a Life Station with free Narcan at the Healdsburg Public Library.



Some boxes honor lives lost to drugs and alcohol.



A neighborhood Save a Life Station in Healdsburg.



Neighbors welcoming a new handcrafted Save a Life Station



A handcrafted neighborhood Save a Life Station honoring loved ones lost



A Save a Life Station cabinet with free Narcan.

A New Website from Micah's Hugs - NarcanNearMe.org

Finding free life-saving Narcan just got a whole lot easier!

We are excited to announce our new website, narcannearme.org. **Narcan Near Me** is a community resource directory built to make finding Narcan/ Naloxone fast and easy—connecting individuals and families with lifesaving tools right in their area.

Our interactive map currently covers multiple counties across California, with plans to expand into more counties and states as additional resource information becomes available.



Together, we hope to make access to Narcan/Naloxone easier, save lives, and strengthen communities.

Taking our Voices to Washington, DC

In September, Micah's Hugs joined United Against Fentanyl's California delegation for

Hill Day in Washington, DC. The delegation met with staff from the offices of both California Senators and Congress members to share what overdose prevention looks like on the ground, and why young people and families need to be heard.

A 13-year-old from our community brought her powerful message about fentanyl awareness and prevention straight to Congress, proving that young voices can make a big impact. [Learn more on our website]



The United Against Fentanyl delegation at the U.S. Capitol.



Outside Congressman Mike Thompson's office.



Outside Congressman Jared Huffman's office



At the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

4th Annual Job & Resource Fair for the Unsheltered and At Risk



This fall, Micah's Hugs joined with many local organizations to put on the fourth annual Job & Resource Fair for neighbors who are unhoused or at risk. Guests lined up early, and the hall was filled with resource tables from local agencies and nonprofits, each offering a helping hand and a starting point for someone who needed it. We are grateful to all our partners and volunteers who came together to make this day possible—and to everyone who joined us and took a step toward a brighter future.

Giving4Life's Grand Bazaar of Petaluma

The Grand Bazaar brought the Petaluma Fairgrounds to life October 2–4 with more than 125 artists, crafters and vendors, delicious food, Santa, raffle prizes, and a life-saving Narcan training.

But beyond three days of shopping, creativity and community, the event had an even greater purpose: supporting the mission of **Micah's Hugs**.
We are incredibly grateful to **Giving4Life** for producing this wonderful event and dedicating its proceeds to our organization. Thanks to their hard work, generosity and commitment, Micah's Hugs received an amazing **$31,776!** That's $31,776 that will help us continue our work educating youth about substance abuse and fentanyl poisoning, raising awareness, breaking stigma and connecting people with resources that can save lives.

The weekend also featured the powerful **Today I Matter Poster Project**, sharing messages of remembrance, hope and the importance of every life. The display brought tears to many, and helped awaken awareness in the community.



Micah's Hugs booth at the Grand Bazaar.



Inside The Grand Bazaar



Poster Project

Events like this take a village, and we could never name everyone who helped make it happen. **Our biggest thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, goes to Susan Degive, Laurie Banks and Michel Degive.** We also want to thank Todd and Terri, Jason, Valerie, Mariah, Kaleiah, Missy, Gianna and Tanya.

To every vendor, volunteer and shopper who gave their time, their talent, and their money, you made this possible. Every dollar goes toward keeping our community safe, and we are so grateful for each of you. Together, we are making a difference and helping save lives.

Marley Stainer Foundation Fundraiser



A heartfelt thank-you to the **Marley Stainer Foundation** for making space for Micah's Hugs at your annual fundraiser at Windsor Grange and for your generous donation in support of our mission!

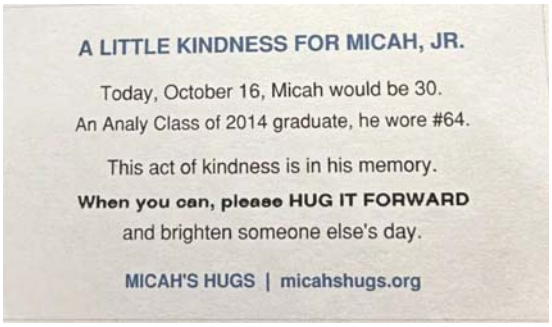
Daniel Kumec Lionett represented Micah's Hugs, joined by **Jason Reid**, as they connected with community members enjoying a day of music, fun and fellowship at Windsor Grange Hall. We are grateful to both of them for sharing important education, raising awareness about substance use and fentanyl poisoning, and providing life-saving resources and materials to everyone who stopped by. Every connection matters, and every life matters!

Align & Dine in Sonoma

On October 15th, Micah and Michelle Sawyer attended Align & Dine, the inaugural event in a new series of lectures and luncheons from Align Recovery Centers - Sonoma, held in collaboration with The Meadows. The lecture was "The Dopamine Hypothesis: Updated for 2026," presented by Kevin McCauley, MD, MPH. Thank you to Align for bringing the community together around recovery education.



Hug It Forward for Micah Jr.



A Hug It Forward card in Micah Jr.'s memory.



October 16 would have been Micah Jr.'s 30th birthday. We honored his day by spending time at Analy High School for West Sonoma County Fentanyl Awareness Day, sharing education and resources with students during lunch, then continuing our outreach at the homecoming football game.

We also **Hugged It Forward** in honor of Micah and #64, the number he proudly wore. Hugging it forward means passing along the love, kindness and compassion Micah shared with others—through a hug, a kind word, a helping hand or simply reminding someone they matter.
Happy 30th birthday, Micah. Your love lives on in every hug we pass forward. ❤️

First-Aid Kits for Teachers

Students in the Heart and Health Club Rancho Cotati built first-aid kits as a gift for their school's teachers and staff, holding fundraisers to pay for the supplies. Micah's Hugs contributed 60 Narcan boxes for the kits. Thank you to these students for caring for their school community.



Hope Takes the Stage with Choosing Hope Project

In October, Micah & Michelle joined the Choosing Hope Project—an organization that shares their common goal of uplifting families affected by substance use—at their *Hope Takes the Stage* event, an evening of comedy, connection, and community to raise funds and support families navigating addiction recovery.



Upcoming Events - Talks & Comedy

Connecting with State-wide Leaders

In November, we join Sonoma County's THREADS 2026 Symposium to talk about practical, low-cost overdose prevention and community partnership. We look forward to exchanging ideas at this statewide forum that brings leaders and partners together to find solutions.

Stand Up or Die: A night of comedy on December 11

Get your tickets now and join us! On Friday, December 11, Recover or Die presents *Stand Up or Die*, a comedy fundraiser at the Marin Center Showcase Theatre, 20 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael. Doors open at 5:00 PM and the show starts at 7:00 PM. Tickets are $75 for general admission and $125 for VIP, Marin Center fees included. The evening benefits Recover or Die, a nonprofit that helps people access substance abuse treatment and recovery services. Laugh hard. Give back. Help save lives. For more information or tickets, email michelle@micahshugs.org.

Help Us Finish the Year Strong

We hope that you consider supporting Micah's Hugs this year for **Giving Tuesday**—a global day of generosity—on December 1.

Micah's Hugs would not exist without the generosity of people like you! As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, we rely primarily on donations to continue our work. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference.

Your tax-deductible donation helps us educate youth about fentanyl and substance abuse, provide lifesaving Narcan, break the stigma surrounding addiction, and connect individuals and families with support, treatment, and hope.
Together, we can save lives and bring hope to those affected by substance use disorder.

Donate Today in honor of Giving Tuesday

Make a Donation

Please share this email with one or more friend who cares about our community. Thank you for every hug, every dollar and every hour you give.

If you do not wish to receive emails from us, kindly unsubscribe below. Thank you.

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