



TOGETHER FOR RESILIENT YOUTH (TRY) COALITION

DJT Community Activity Report: April 2026 – June 2026

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From April 2026 through August 2026, TRY Coalition continued its work as a comprehensive community health and resilience infrastructure. Over this period, TRY advanced youth leadership and family programming, expanded naloxone outreach, deepened protocol-level partnerships with hospital, justice, and public health systems, and submitted major new program applications extending its reach into overdose prevention, reentry support, and youth prevention education. Three Alerts were issued during the period and forwarded to DJT.

This report documents TRY's work across four interconnected areas: (1) youth and family programming including substance use prevention); (2) naloxone distribution and harm reduction; (3) community and systems partnerships; and (4) curriculum and materials development ("Mind Your Thoughts" (K4-Seniors), "Check on Your Strong Friends" (Ages 13-17) Both received Statewide recognition. Together, these areas reflect TRY's continued approach of meeting young people and families where overlapping community crises are concentrated and building infrastructure that responds to all of them at once.

Youth & Family Programming Highlights

LIFT (Lead, Inspire, Flourish, Thrive) remained one of TRY's most active youth programs across the reporting period, with a different monthly focus each month. April centered on Autism Acceptance Month and Alcohol Awareness Month, pairing a community guide on autism understanding with a stress-management piece aimed at underage and all-ages drinking prevention. May carried the autism topic forward through a discussion card built around reflection prompts on the autism spectrum and respectful peer engagement and included a presentation (Representative Zack Hawkins, Guest Speaker and discussion lead by families and siblings. June shifted to Self-Awareness, guiding youth through their self-picture, internal and external self-awareness, and how these combine to build resilience.

TRY completed its final summary report for LIFT's DART-supported programming, documenting a reach of 2,000 or more people against an original target of 80 to 90. The report featured six curriculum modules, youth self-awareness reflections from four Youth Ambassadors, integration of ACEs content, and an original theme song performed by a youth Creative Lead. A companion Facebook video strategy was developed to extend the campaign's reach, alongside a dedicated feature on a Youth Ambassador's original poster series, poem, and peer outreach to 50 college students.

TRY's ACEs-focused program and an opioid-awareness program, each with monthly activities for Youth Health Ambassadors, Youth Creatives, and adult team members. Family-facing programming under this initiative includes Coping Together sessions delivered in English and Spanish by a confirmed facilitator team, alongside a production lead for a recurring family showcase and a volunteer-led youth mental health component.

Program reach across LIFT and related family programming was tracked monthly. April recorded 8 community events reaching 246 attendees, alongside 2 LIFT sessions and 1 school assembly. May recorded 4 community events reaching 110 attendees, and a marked increase in LIFT

Leaders and Family engagement. June recorded the strongest community event turnout of the quarter, with 7 events reaching 321 attendees. Family strengthening and youth leadership outcomes, measured through pre- and post-program surveys, showed consistently high results across all three months.

Naloxone Distribution & Harm Reduction TRY continued expanding its naloxone distribution and harm reduction footprint. A restructured community distribution program organized monthly kit distribution across a team of six community distributors, each assigned a defined coverage area, with one distributor also supervising outreach into public housing and completing monthly reporting for the effort. Print materials supporting naloxone outreach and education were also finalized during this period.

This expansion builds on TRY's existing track record. In the period leading into this report, TRY documented 449 individual naloxone kits distributed through a combination of institutional partnerships, including a barbershop placement strategy informed by prior overdose locations, and direct community outreach events. A separate accounting of harm reduction activity during this same window documented 229 or more kits distributed through 15 or more community workshops, reaching 335 or more community members including youth, parents and caregivers, mental health professionals, recovery communities, and faith-based organizations, alongside training on Trauma-Informed Care, opioid and overdose prevention, and faith-based approaches to harm reduction.

Community & Systems Partnerships

TRY advanced a **community** peer-led overdose prevention and reentry support model for justice-involved adults, developing a full implementation protocol covering pre-release peer connection, an EMS referral pathway, a hospital discharge protocol, clinical integration with a regional behavioral health provider, and a release-day communication protocol with the county Sheriff's Office. This work was formalized through individual MODEL PLANNING documents and proposed protocol letters sent to seven community and systems partners: the Durham County Sheriff's Office, a regional recovery and clinical services provider, a university medical center emergency department, a state senator's office, a university-based research collaborative EMS program, and the NC Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health. A supporting partner roster demonstrated coalition-wide support, and a master compilation of the full partnership package was produced.

Metrics Summary

Metric	Count	Notes
Community events (LIFT / BRAVE programs)	19 events / 610 attendees	See monthly grids
School assembly sessions (Apr-Jun)	3	105 attendees
LIFT Community/ DJJ/DSS / Family sessions	6	139 attendees
TRY media, Statewide, National Conferences	7	3,068 attendees
Youth reached, ACES LIFT reporting period	2,000+	vs. 80-90 target
Naloxone kits distributed	449	Institutional and direct community outreach
Naloxone community workshops	15+	335+ community members reached