



ENERGIZING ENTREPRENEURIAL COMMUNITIES

A Pathway to Prosperity



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Tess Myers of Boone County is a ball of energy for greater good

By Dan Taylor



Tess Myers (center, left) has been working with residents and supporters in Boone County on projects like arts-centered healing and recovery. Pictured here at the Madison Main Street Small Business Street Fair.

Tess Myers sees creating community and individual empowerment to help address West Virginia's challenges as the path forward.

She decided she had enough of seeing the opioid epidemic ravage her community and needed to get active. If you ever meet Tess, you'll find she is a ball of energy. And out of this ball of energy, Boone County's Generations Saved was created.

Generations Saved is only a little over one year old, but has grown a great deal.

Community-driven efforts like this to help fight the opioid epidemic are inspiring to see. Tess's work is just one example of the new narrative happening in West Virginia – one that is aware of the challenges, yet rooted in solutions coming out of West Virginian communities.

The organization has two main goals: lower the birth rate of babies born with NAS (neonatal abstinence syndrome) and promote the healing effects of the arts as they relate to recovery.

Generations Saved creates and promotes arts-related projects as part of the healing process for recovery and for community outreach. They put on music festivals, art galleries, and more, having worked with Day of Hope, Presteria, and others.

Music Through The Madness, of which they have done two so far, is their music festival project. They are currently planning a third for early September in the Madison area. Other future plans include fundraisers, art shows, a summer tubing event, and more.

The group also works as a primary prevention project to slow down the rate of babies birthed with NAS. The program relies on LARC (Long-Acting Reversible Contraception), which is given voluntarily and is reversible once recovery is complete.

