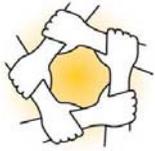


RCASA Board of Directors Meeting-May 31, 2018



**Reading
Coalition
Against
Substance
Abuse**

RCASA's mission is to strategically address our substance abuse problem that youth in Reading, Massachusetts abuse alcohol, prescription drugs, tobacco, and other illegal drugs at unacceptably high rates that emerge early in adolescence, happen frequently, and indicate heavy use. To realize our mission, we will promote a healthy community environment using the strategic prevention framework to ensure everyone who lives, works, or goes to school in Reading can enjoy an optimum quality of life."

SPOTLIGHT

Special thanks to Brian Snell and the Rotary Club of Reading, Rotary 7930 and Lahey Health for supporting a new RCASA project. Rotary will provide \$500 to RCASA to cover the cost of printing materials for the new OPERATION OPIOID PREVENTION workshops for RMHS freshmen. The materials were provided by DEA and the Discovery Channel. The materials are a supplement to existing health education programming. This material will replace our previous program called Choose 2 Refuse.

Congratulations to Reading Police for their work on 2 drug cases this past month. Their hard work and diligence along with their law enforcement partners in addressing stopping the abuse and exploitation of individuals in recovery is to be commended.

FOCUS

1. Nicotine and Vaping

- Since our last meeting, SRO Lewis filed a complaint with the MA AGO regarding JUUL's mail delivery service (delivering packages without verifying minimum age of purchase).
- RCASA's Student-Led Outreach Team presented to all of the students at Parker Middle School on May 2 on vaping prevention. Their game show was informative and well received by students and faculty.



Figure 1: RCASA SADD Student Outreach Team, May 4, 2018 (L-R: Matt Segalla, Sarah Murphy, Molly Hamlin, Katie Kneeland, Autumn Hendrickson, Mason Haynes, Brian Lewis (School Resource Officer))

Our next RCASA Board Meeting is June 28, 2018 from 5:30-6:30 pm

- Maureen Buzby, Regional Tobacco Control Coordinator, participated in a meeting organized by Maynard High and JUUL to discuss vaping issues. 30 people from around the region attended including a dozen School Resource Officers. The JUUL staff made offers of funds and materials to prevent use of their products by teens.
- A local parent may be organizing a meeting this summer to bring JUUL to Reading to discuss issues impacting teens. RCASA may not sponsor or host this event due to our federal funding restrictions. Members of RCASA are welcome to attend. RCASA may not accept any offers of funding or materials provided by companies that make or market nicotine, alcohol, marijuana, or pharmaceuticals.
- A chart is attached covering what is currently regulated on nicotine and tobacco (attachments of full policies are attached)
- Welcome to our Special Guests: Dan Dewar (QuikStop) and Dennis Lane (Retailer Assoc.) Please see attached for material provided by Dan Dewar on other approaches in Massachusetts (Seekonk, Lynn and Hopkinton).

2. RCASA: What's in a name?

- As part of our sustainability plan, an area of consideration is our coalition name. We will review what has changed since the coalition was founded in 2006, and if a name change should be considered for further discussion.

3. What's next?

- Stoneham will host their 2nd info fair featuring substance use disorder treatment providers on June 5 from 6-8 pm at their Town Hall. Providers will include Gosnold, Adcare, and others.
- Friends and Family Day is scheduled for Sat. June 16th. If you would like to volunteer at the RCASA table, any time is appreciated from 10:00-3:00pm, email jdeangelis@ci.reading.ma.us
- Our June board meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2018. We have invited THE BEAT HEART FOUNDATION, formerly Jams for Jake, to share more on their progress. The 2nd Annual Jams Jake on Sat. August 4, 2018 at Symonds Field Learn more at <http://jamsforjake.com/>
- No July board meeting. August meeting, scheduled for 8/30/18, 5:30-6:30 pm RCASA and the Burbank YMCA with support from the Mission of Deeds will host the next HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT exhibit in September, more details to follow. September meeting is the Coalition's Annual Meeting, scheduled for 9/27/18, 7 to 9 pm

Attachments:

1. Operation Opioid Prevention Project supported by Rotary
2. Reading Police Arrest Two in Cocaine Sale Investigation
3. Reading Lawyer Charged With Trading Drugs For Sex At Sober Home
4. Town of Reading: Section 16 Tobacco/Nicotine Regulations
5. Mass Interscholastic Athletic Association Chemical Health Policy (MIAA)
6. Reading Memorial High School Handbook and Nicotine Related Policies
7. Hopkinton Policy Changes provided by Dan Dewar
8. Lynn Policy provided by Dan Dewar
9. Town of Seekonk Board of Health policy provided by Dan Dewar