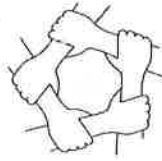


RCASA Board of Directors



**Reading
Coalition
Against
Substance
Abuse**

April 27, 2017

Call the meeting to order

“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.”

CELEBRATE

Kick Butts Day is a national day that raises awareness of the importance of preventing tobacco use among teens. Here in Mass, over 200 youth come to Boston for activities that include:

- A leadership development training on meeting with public officials
- Face-to-face meetings with state representatives and senators
- An event with MA Department of Public Health leaders, public officials & the press

Excerpt from message written by Maureen Buzby, Regional Tobacco Control Coordinator to Jacqueline Callahan, RMHS RCASA Club Advisor about their participation in April 26th Kick Butts Day (KBD) at the Statehouse... “I cannot believe that the youth who attended yesterday's KBD at the State House were only 9th graders. They were prepared, poised, passionate and articulate. They really stole the show at the meeting with Senator Lewis. Certainly one of the best KBD meetings I have ever witnessed. Having you there was a huge bonus. You could speak with authority about high school health curriculum. That was so important...”

Focus Items

- Welcome to new members
- Marijuana zoning (Town Meeting)

Staff Updates:

- Medford federal grant application to pay for 24/7 Recovery Coach through Eliot Mobile Crisis
- Interface processed 29 referrals for Reading from Nov-March
- Boy Scout Troop presentation, April 6

<i>Save the Date</i>	<i>May 13</i>	<i>June 17</i>	<i>September</i>
<i>Event</i>	<i>Police Open House</i>	<i>Friends & Family Day</i>	<i>Fall Street Faire, TBA RCASA Annual Meeting, 28th</i>

SAVE THE DATE

September 28, 2017

RCASA 11th ANNUAL MEETING FEATURING

DR. RUTH POTEE @ RMHS PAC

7-9 pm



Dr. Ruth Potee is board certified in Family Medicine and Addiction Medicine, she is a physician with Valley Medical Group in Greenfield, providing a full scope of family medicine with special interests in women's health, pediatrics, addiction treatment, psychiatric illness, and pain management. Dr. Potee is nationally

recognized for her public speaking style that skillfully blends scientific research with an understanding of the challenges of raising healthy teens. She is an extremely dynamic and sought after speaker who, in response to the ongoing opioid epidemic, has made it her mission to educate the public about the nature of addiction and why it is the only brain disease that is 100% preventable... "It's chemistry, not character".