

RCASA Board of Directors#



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May 26, 2016

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

Welcome to our board member: Rev. Pete Jeffrey, Reading Clergy Council, Church of the Good Shepherd. Greg Grass, Drug Free Communities Project Officer released his Site Visit report for our grant. Our coalition was compliant for all administrative and project management requirements!

FOCUS ITEMS

1. **Trends in Substance Use Presentation** by SRO Muolo and Erica McNamara, Director
2. **Director’s Updates**
 - Coolidge Youth in Action Club, 6-12 students have participated on Tuesdays. Donna Palmerino, Coolidge Paraprofessional and Erica McNamara are the adult advisors.
 - Hidden in Plain Sight- Planning with Burbank Y, exhibit to take place Oct 17, 18, and 19
 - Eastern Middlesex DA’s Opioid Task Force report, as of 5-16-16, state police responded to 90 fatal overdose deaths in Middlesex County, 61 attributed to heroin. Trauma response provided for any child (witness OD)
 - Mystic Valley Public Health Coalition: Bathroom poster campaign planned on Overdose Ed. RCASA participated in development of the PSA to Stamp Out Stigma.
 - Staffing: Kelsey McCarthy, Youth Organizer to return for summer (BA in Criminal Justice and accepted to Suffolk Law)
 - MA Opioid Law implementation planning meetings have begun with RMHS.
 - RCASA Website will shift from Edline platform to Rediker (and enhance town page).

Save the date:

- Friends and Family Day is June 11, 2016: RCASA needs volunteers for our booth.
- Next RCASA Board meeting at Reading Police Department is June 30th at 5:30 pm.
- RCASA Annual Meeting, September 29th, 7-9 p.m.

Attachments:

- Drug Free Communities: Site Visit Report
- Mental Health First Aid article
- MA Prevention Alliance Information on Marijuana Issues in Massachusetts(sent via email)