



# Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition (RCADC) Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2025

**Members/Guests Present: Ashley Freeberg (prevention coordinator), Ben Briley (volunteer coordinator), Kristy Bentley, McKayla Gallaher, Laura Buckingham, Jeff Shaw, Grady Massey, Dann Buongiorno, Brad Goss, Denver Johnson, Olivia Allen, Darian Green, Bethany Redwine, Jessica Woodell, LaDonna Booker, Angie Pfeifle, Ron Gregory, Jill Murphy**

Our monthly coalition meeting was held in-person at the RCADC office at 151 E Race St, Kingston, Tennessee.

Ben Briley opened the meeting with a welcome and introduced our speakers. He noted that March 8 is Tennessee's Day of Hope, which coincides with today's presenters' stories of hope through recovery. The purpose of this meeting was to present personal stories through the lens of both recovery and treatment.

Ben introduced the first speaker: Grady Massey, CPRS with Metro Drug Coalition and volunteer with RCADC. Grady shared his story of recovery with attendees. He ended his story with a poem he wrote.

Ben followed with introducing the next speaker: Jeff Shaw, Executive Director of Hope of East Tennessee. Jeff also shared his story of recovery with attendees. Additionally, he provided further insight into the treatment side of recovery.

Ashley spoke on Prevention Alliance of Tennessee's Day on the Hill. RCADC took four middle school students to the Tennessee State Capitol on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Joined by several prevention coalitions throughout the state, the purpose of PAT Day on the Hill is to give an opportunity for students to learn about legislative efforts and advocate for prevention measures to their respective legislators.

Ben announced the upcoming National DEA Prescription Drug Take Back Day to be held again at Kroger in Harriman on April 26 from 10:00am-2:00pm.

Ben also announced Roane County's Hazardous Waste Day to be held on March 15. RCADC, in partnership with the Roane County Sheriff's Office, will host a site for the community to properly dispose of expired or unneeded medications.

Ashley also mentioned an upcoming event in partnership with Oliver Springs Police Department to host a Take Down Tobacco Free Movie Night on March 29 at Arrowhead Park in Oliver Springs. Confirmed community partners include the Roane County Health Department and Ridgeview Behavioral Health.

Ashley also noted we have confirmed Prom Promise dates with each high school in Roane County. These events will take place throughout the month of April.

Ben then opened the floor for community updates:

-McKayla Gallaher, Harm Reduction Navigator, Roane County Health Department, promoted Mental Health First Aid is available for organizations interested in this training.

-Darian Green, NAMI of East Tennessee, announced a new program called “Sharing Your Story with Law Enforcement”, geared toward mental health conversations.

Ashley requested our presenters and attendees to take a group photo. The meeting was then adjourned.

Our next meeting will be April 2, 2025, at the RCADC Office at 151 East Race St, Kingston, TN, 37763. Our speakers will be the three positions created by the Roane County Opioid Abatement Committee, consisting of Yvette Reeder, Trauma Informed Specialist with Roane County Schools; Caitlin Moore, Recovery Navigator with Roane Medical Center; and Kristy Bentley, Community Navigator with Roane County Health Department.