



**Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition (RCADC)
August 3, 2022**

Members/Guests Present: Jeanna Steele-Mack, Nathan Wray, Tracy Christian, Makayla Carter, Joey Metcalf, Kent Stephens, Laura Conner, Anne Pirtle, Allen Lutz, Cynthia Hughes, Darian Green, Amy Wood, Elizabeth Collins, Mya Putman, Sandy Leavell, McKayla Gallaher, Jill Murphy, Suzanne Horsfall, Jericka Mann, Destiny ONeal, Jolene Cook, Savannah Lindsey, Chandler Bevins, Leonora Spangler, Mike Barber, David Fugate, Beth Sams, Alex Windings, Dr. Terry Stevens, Tabatha Floyd, Shawn Scalf, John Mayes, LaTausha Gilmore

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), our August coalition meeting was held via Zoom.

Nathan Wray opened the meeting with introductions.

Alex Windings with KM Clark Consulting Group presented on an *Emerging Trend: Delta-8*. Delta-8 is derived from the hemp plant which can be grown legally in most states and is legal in Tennessee. Through synthesis, Delta-8 is extracted from the hemp plant and does contain THC. The 2018 farm bill legalized hemp production. There are two types of Delta-8: sativa where one experiences a head high and promotes energy and alertness and indica where one experiences a body high and promotes relaxation. Delta-8 comes in the form of joints, gummies, hemp flowers, suckers, cough drops, and cartridges for vaping. Delta-8 is easily accessible at vape shops and gas stations and their advertising are focused on youth. To combat Delta-8, Alex encourages coalitions to do a community assessment, to engage key partners, and to connect with other coalitions throughout the state. We need to advocate for clarification of the laws to define and use "cannabis" in the local code rather than referencing "marijuana" as this ensures that psychoactive compounds derived from any part of the plant are regulated. We also need to broaden the definition of "marijuana" to include "delta-8 and any compounds derived from the cannabis plant family." The presentation is included on our website.

The meeting concluded with updates from our community partners and coalition members.

Allen Lutz with the Roane Alliance encouraged everyone to sign up to be tnAchieves mentors. These mentors provide support and encouragement to students as they navigate the college process.

Laura Conner with the Roane County Health Department reminded coalition members that there will be a Community Baby Shower on August 18th at Life Choices Medical Center in Harriman.

Darian Green with Ridgeview Behavioral Health Services advised that they will have their East Tennessee Crisis Intervention Team training for first responders. The training will take place at the Clinton Community Center from November 28th through December 2nd. They have participants from the Roane County Sheriff's Office and the Harriman Police Department signed up for the training.

Anne Pirtle with Ridgeview Behavioral Health Services announced that they have received a grant for a Rural Recovery Project's Mobile Health Unit. The Oak Ridge Fall Classic 5K will take place on September 24th at 8:30am at Melton Lake Park.

Our next coalition meeting will be Wednesday, September 7th at 12:00pm at the Kingston Church of Christ Family Center. Nathan Wray will be our presenter for the September meeting.