



## **Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition (RCADC)**

**July 1, 2020**

**Members/Guests Present: Jeanna Steele-Mack, Nathan Wray, Leonora Spangler, Ashley Freeberg, Sarah Harrison, Laura Conner, Patsy Dockery, LaDonna Booker, Catherine Brunson**

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), our July coalition meeting was held via Zoom. Catherine Brunson, Regional Overdose Prevention Specialist (ROPS), with ASAP of Anderson provided training on NARCAN (naloxone) nasal spray which can be used to help reverse an overdose. Catherine advised that overdose deaths have been higher during the pandemic and asked if Roane County was seeing similar numbers. Sarah Harrison, Executive Director of RCADC, confirmed that Roane County's overdose numbers have risen since the pandemic. In 2018 there were 25 deaths in Roane County due to opioid overdose and 4 deaths in Roane County were due to heroin overdose. From 2014 to 2018 the number of heroin deaths in Roane County has increased. 14,209 residents in Roane County, or 1 in 4, received opioids for pain in 2018. All participants who attended the training via Zoom are welcome to visit RCADC to pick up their NARCAN. LaDonna Booker with Village Behavioral Health asked if there is an age limit for naloxone to be administered. Catherine stated that there is no age requirement to either administer or receive naloxone. Anyone can receive the training and be able to administer it. The PowerPoint presentation by Catherine Brunson is below these minutes. Catherine requested that everyone who attended today's training complete the evaluation which was emailed prior to the start of the meeting.

Laura Conner, Director of the Roane County Health Department, stated that they are still providing testing free of charge for COVID-19.

Nathan Wray, Prevention Specialist, with RCADC reminded everyone that this weekend, July 3-5, is Operation Dry Water. Operation Dry Water is a national boating under the influence awareness and enforcement campaign that raises awareness about the dangers of boating under the influence as alcohol use is the leading contributing factor in recreational boater deaths. Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and Kingston Police Department will both be participating in Operation Dry Water in our area.

Sarah Harrison advised that RCADC staff continues to work remotely but are in the office as needed. We continue to provide evidence-based programming while maintaining social distance. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 5th at 12:00pm via Zoom. Our speaker will be Dr. Thomas Boduch, Medical Examiner for Roane County, who will present on the number of overdose deaths in Roane County for 2020.