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Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition (RCADC)

March 2026 Meeting Minutes

Members/Guest Present: Sarah Harrison (executive director), Ashley Freeberg (prevention coordinator), Hailey Eason (Drug Endangered Children Coordinator), Dann Buongiorno, Sandy Levell, Barbara Phillips, Demerius Bunch, Heather McLaughlin, Mary Lowe, Leonora Spangler, Maretta McNichol, Chief David Laxton, Twila Rule, Jonathan Whaley, Patti Johnson, Cindy Shelton, Beth Sams and Kristy Beeler.

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

The meeting was called to order by Sarah Harrison. Sarah welcomed attendees and had them each do introductions. Sarah began the meeting by giving the history of the coalition.

Sarah gave a presentation with an overview of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) to explain how the coalition works and why we do what we do. The presentation slides are attached, but some bullet points include:

- Local Problems Require Local Solutions. There isn't a cookie cutter method for what works in prevention. It has to be targeted at the individual community. What works here may not work in Knox County, what works in Scott County may not work here. It really has to be targeted toward the individual community.
- The steps involved in the SPF include assessment, capacity, planning, implementation and evaluation.
- Cultural competence and sustainability are in the center of the framework because we always want to make sure that our interventions are inclusive and are representative of everyone in our community. We also want interventions to be sustainable so they have a lasting impact on the community.
- Implementation plans are based on 7 key strategies for community change:
 - Providing information
 - Building skills
 - Providing support
 - Reducing barriers/increasing access
 - Changing consequences
 - Changing the physical design
 - Policy change

- The combination of these 7 strategies leads to environmental change, which is essentially changing the way the community as a whole views substance misuse, which is the ultimate goal of coalitions- to create environmental change.

Sarah highlighted the reduction we have seen in youth substance use in Roane County as measured by bi-annual student surveys.

The group participated in a community mapping activity to help identify gaps in services as well as areas that are strong in substance misuse efforts. Participants were split into four groups and each group developed a map. The four maps will be combined into one map that will be added to the meeting minutes once it is completed.

Our next meeting will be held April 1, 2026, at the RCADC office at 151 E. Race St. Kingston, TN



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ROANE COUNTY ANTI-DRUG COALITION

Sarah Harrison, *Executive Director*

Danielle Pritchett, *Volunteer Program Coordinator*

Ashley Freeberg, *Prevention Coordinator*

Hailey Eason, *DEC Coordinator*

151 E. Race Street
Kingston, TN 37763

Local Problems Require Local Solutions



Strategic Prevention Framework



1 Provide information

2 Build skills

3 Provide social support

**INDIVIDUALLY
FOCUSED**

4 Reduce Barriers

5 Change consequences

6 Alter environment's
physical design

7 Change policies and rules

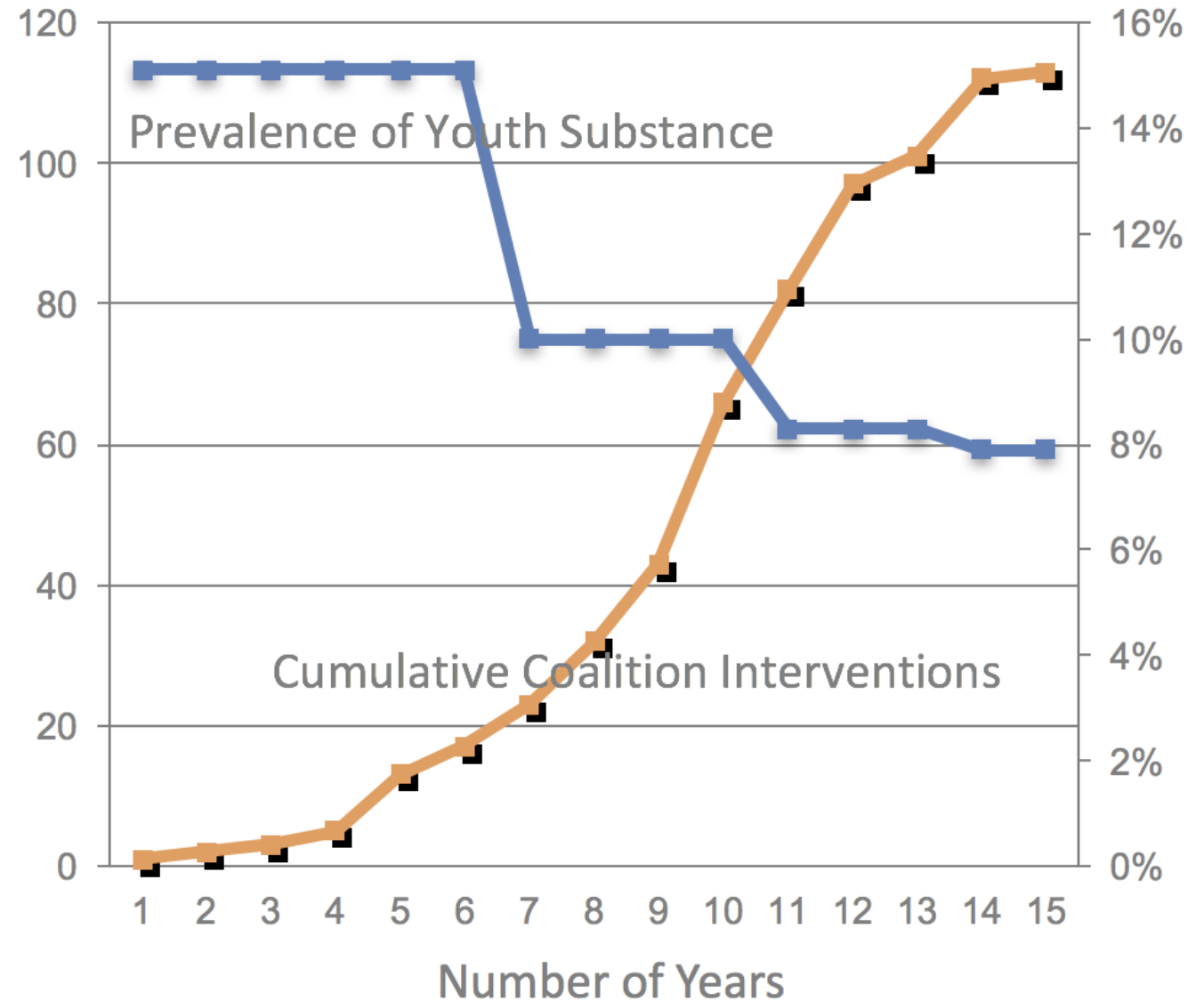
**ENVIRONMENTALLY
FOCUSED**

Strategic Prevention Framework



Cumulative Community Change

- This graph illustrates the community impact of coalition efforts. As the years progress, cumulative coalition efforts should increase, while prevalence of youth substance use should decrease.



Roane County Past 30 Day Use Rates (grades 6-12) PRIDE and TN Together Student Surveys

