

Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition (RCADC) October 2, 2019

Members/Guests Present: Ashley Freeberg, Sarah Harrison, Nathan Wray, Shawna Adkins, Vince Brown, Lori Gruginski, Chris Mulhall, Fred Marshall, Donna Forstrom, Laura Booth, Laura Conner, Marilyn Calfee, Barbara Pope, Mike Dishman, Terry Stevens, Tim Bell, Ashlyn Daugherty, Katie Linley, Randy Ellis, Melanie Daugherty, Demerius Bunch, Susan Seratt, Jason Goodman, Ashley Weaver, Leonora Spangler, Beth Sams, Jessica Harvey and James Artman.

Detective John Mayes gave a presentation on stimulants. Detective Mayes is certified as a DRE (Drug Recognition Expert). He has specialized training to identify individuals under the influence of drugs. He is also one of the most recognized meth experts in East Tennessee.

The full presentation can be found underneath these meeting minutes on our website.

Dr. Boduch, the Roane County Medical Examiner, joined Detective Mayes toward the end of the presentation. Dr. Boduch often accompanies him to present opioid and overdose data. Dr. Boduch reported that we have averaged 30-35 overdoses per year for the past five years in Roane County. However, to date there have only been 8 this year. Dr. Boduch attributes the decrease to several things- the work the coalition is doing with prevention and education; the distribution of Narcan; and the prosecution of dealers. He further reports that there seems to be a downward trend in overdose deaths due to prescription drugs. Most of the overdoses so far this year have been a result of illicit drugs. Dr. Boduch reports that the passage of state laws has helped reduce the availability of prescription drugs. In July of 2018 laws were passed to restrict the number of pills that can be prescribed, and this has helped tremendously. He also reports that electronic prescriptions are also helping in Tennessee because it has helped to eliminate fraudulent prescriptions.

Detective Mayes is willing to present this information to any group who may be interested. He can be reached by calling the Roane County Sheriff's Office at 865-376-5582.

The next coalition meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. at the RCADC office.