



**Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition
September 14, 2016**

Members/Guests Present: Kris Brinkmeier, Shelby Brown, Marilyn Calfee, Nancy Chrisman, Janice Church, Cathy Day, Nancy Fowkles, Susan Frame, Nick Gaston, Lori Heidle, Sarah Harrison, Suzan Horsefell, Jill Murphy, Jessica O'Connell, Hasan Sabbagh, Sherry Samples, Beth Sams, Leonora Spangler, Terry Stevens, Robyn Witherspoon, Rune Wright

Leonora called the meeting to order and welcomed members/guests. Introductions were made by participants/members around the table. A special welcome was given to guest speakers, Terry Stevens, RPh, pharmacist at the University of Tennessee's Veterinary Medical Center and four pharmaceutical students: Shelby Brown, Susan Frame, Jessica O'Connell, and Hasan Sabbagh.

Pharmaceuticals for Testing Drug Addiction Disease: Jessica O'Connell began the presentation entitled, "Is There a Solution to the Prescription Opiates Abuse" providing several basic facts. In 17 states, the number one cause of death is prescription drug abuse surpassing motor vehicle accidents. Approximately, 1 in 6 Americans have admitted to abusing prescription drugs. The facts are astonishing and can be found in the attached PowerPoint presentation.

The students (Shelby Brown, Susan Frame, Jessica O'Connell, and Hasan Sabbagh) shared responsibility in presenting information from the presentation slides that were distributed as a handout to all parties in attendance. Terry Stevens interjected points and presented concluding information. Coalition members and guests participated with questions and discussed how the group might implement suggested mechanisms that deter opioid abuse. Naloxone and Vivitrol were compared and contrasted with research revealed regarding to their use and effectiveness.

A few primary suggestions were made for the Coalition to address in seeking to positively affect our community and state. It was suggested that the Coalition host a planning meeting with the sheriff, local and state government officials, and other pertinent parties to begin the process to discuss the following suggestions: (1) initiate a bill that would require the state TennCare program to only pay for opioids that include Naloxone or Naltrexone, such as Targiniq; (2) initiate a bill that would require pain clinics to only be able to accept patients who have referrals from a primary care physician, and (3) discuss a potential law suit from the jail or county to hold drug manufacturers responsible for healthcare costs due to addictions, much like the major suit against the tobacco industry.

Before the meeting was dismissed, it was suggested that interested parties read the book, "Incomprehensible Demoralization: An Addict Pharmacist's Journey to Recovery by Jared Combs.

Since the program exceeded the allotted meeting time, no updates were provided or regular business discussed.

Meeting was adjourned.

The next Coalition meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12 at noon at the RCADC office (151 E. Race St, Kingston).