

The Common Thread

A North Quabbin Community Coalition Publication

December 2022 ~ Volume 39, Issue 3



Heather's Highlights

Dear Readers,

Hoping your February was filled with love and community! We know ours was here at NQCC. From the Amazing Loving Your Recovery Event, Valentine Celebration with Youth Action Council to our Full DFC Gathering we were able to both reflect on the past few month's work and plan for our Spring Shenanigans to come!

February's forum featured a presentation by LifePath on their Age Friendly Community Survey results, and how all can provide a safe space for North Quabbin's older residents. Thank you LifePath for all you do and Thank you Carol Foote for a dynamic presentation. If you would like to contact Carol for the whole presentation please email cfoote@lifepathma.org

Spring is coming!
Thank you for all you do,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather".

Heather Bialecki-Canning
Executive Director



Next Coalition Forum:

March 17, 2023

9:00—10:30 am

Presentation by: Literacy Volunteers and The Literacy Project

Virtual

(See back page or visit nqcc.org for Zoom link.)

**December Newsletter
DEADLINE: March 22, 2023**

Email details to
heather@nqcc.org

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251 Exchange Street
Athol, MA 01331
978-249-3703
www.nqcc.org ~ info@nqcc.org

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251 Exchange Street, Athol, MA 01331
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Bear Country 95.3
Billy Goat Boats
Bill & Katrina Burton
Opioid Task Force of Franklin
County and North Quabbin
David Runyan

*Thank
you*





2023 Virtual Winter Series Via Zoom

OVERDOSE PREVENTION & NARCAN TRAININGS

**Tuesday,
January 17
2:00 PM**

**Thursday,
February 23
5:30 PM**

**Friday,
March 24
2:00 PM**

Please join us at an upcoming community overdose prevention training to learn how to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose. Participants will also learn how to administer Narcan, a lifesaving opioid overdose reversal drug.

Participants will learn the answers to these questions:

- What is an opioid overdose?
- How do you recognize and respond to an opioid overdose?
- How do you administer Narcan to reverse an opioid overdose?



Want to join the Zoom training? Register below!

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZwtdeupqj0jGtH0NE2lm4_M-16rvs4UMNnF

Questions? Please email info@opioidtaskforce.org.



Kreative Korner Teen Group

Be the change you wish to see in the world...



Tuesdays'

3-4PM

Teens must be signed up by their parent or guardian.

To sign up or for more information please call Charlene 978-249-8467 or [online registration](#)



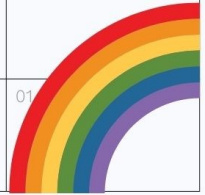
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/74a4127faff4189aea395490a1a0244>



Greening the Lord Pond Plaza

This project aims to reimagine a six-acre site situated in downtown Athol, Massachusetts. Known as Lord Pond Plaza, this is an important initiative to build a more climate and socially resilient community in response to the effects of climate change.

storymaps.arcgis.com





A New Day. A New Way To Work.

The **ARISE Initiative** is seeking individuals in recovery or with a history of incarceration as well as employers in Franklin County and the North Quabbin region to aid them in pursuing their training and employment needs.

WHO WE ARE

The **ARISE Initiative** is a federally-funded grant project in collaboration with the Opioid Task Force of Franklin County and the North Quabbin Region, Greenfield Community College (GCC), the Gardner Athol Area Mental Health Association (GAAMHA), and the MassHire Franklin Hampshire Workforce Board. We are looking to help individuals in recovery or with a history of incarceration access training pathways and aid them in attaining meaningful employment. **ARISE** is also seeking compassionate employers who believe in second chances and who are in need of reliable employees. With a vast system of support in place, it is our hope to empower individuals in recovery or with a history of incarceration to *attain and sustain* meaningful employment opportunities and to encourage and promote a recovery-friendly atmosphere in the workplace.

GOALS

- Provide skill-building workshops in life skills, workforce readiness, conflict resolution, and maintaining recovery in workplace settings for individuals in recovery and/or with a history of incarceration.
- Offer support for employers to address the unique needs of individuals in recovery and/or those with a history of incarceration.
- Hold career fairs for individuals in recovery and/or those with a history of incarceration.
- Offer individualized employment and training assessments.
- Tailored employment and training opportunities created for individuals in recovery and/or those with a history of incarceration.
- Place individuals in jobs within the local community of Franklin County and the North Quabbin Region of Western Massachusetts.
- Provide follow-up visits once individuals are placed in a job.
- Develop peer mentoring networks and supports to maximize job success.

For More Info

Contact: Kristen Pease
Project Manager, ARISE Initiative



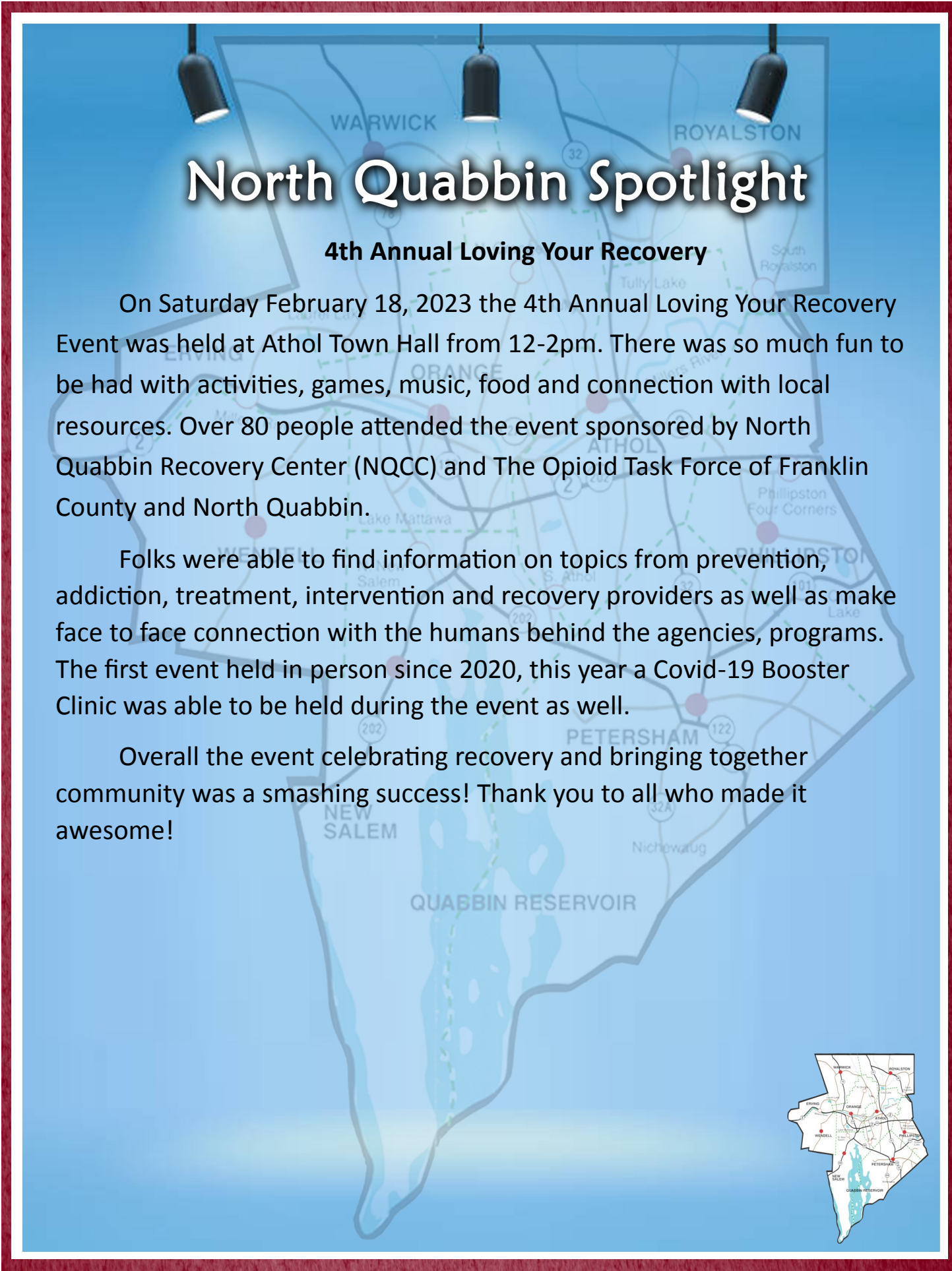
(413) 834-2664



kristen@opioidtaskforce.org



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North Quabbin Spotlight

4th Annual Loving Your Recovery

On Saturday February 18, 2023 the 4th Annual Loving Your Recovery Event was held at Athol Town Hall from 12-2pm. There was so much fun to be had with activities, games, music, food and connection with local resources. Over 80 people attended the event sponsored by North Quabbin Recovery Center (NQCC) and The Opioid Task Force of Franklin County and North Quabbin.

Folks were able to find information on topics from prevention, addiction, treatment, intervention and recovery providers as well as make face to face connection with the humans behind the agencies, programs. The first event held in person since 2020, this year a Covid-19 Booster Clinic was able to be held during the event as well.

Overall the event celebrating recovery and bringing together community was a smashing success! Thank you to all who made it awesome!



Soup & Song

To benefit

North Quabbin Citizen Advocacy



\$10
per person

FRIDAY, MARCH 24
5:30-8 PM

BOILER BAR & GRILLE BANQUET HALL

245 Tully Rd., Orange (Reminder: Pinedale Rd. Bridge is Closed)

Please park in lower parking lot if possible

Entertainment by:

John DeWitt & The Tectonics • Richard Chase
Jack Arnot and More!



North Quabbin Community Coalition
251 Exchange Street, Athol MA 01331
www.nqcc.org

Mission Statement: The North Quabbin Community Coalition is a community-wide alliance committed to improving the quality of life for all those living and working in the North Quabbin since 1984.

NQCC March Forum:

Presentation by Literacy Volunteers and
The Literacy Project

March 17, 2023 from 9:00 to 10:30 am.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87476827668>

Covid-19 Corner

Check out this link for most current guidance,
and don't hesitate to seek free test kits from
the Athol Board of Health.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-isolation-and-quarantine-guidance-for-the-general-public>

Stay Tuned for Local COVID-19 Vaccine Mobile
Clinics popping up soon!



North Quabbin
Recovery Center

Recover and Discover

416 Main Street, Athol, MA 01331 ~ A Project of the North Quabbin Community Coalition

Weekly Happenings

Mondays

7:00 pm ~ Al-Anon

Tuesdays

10:00 am - 12:00 pm ~ Franklin Cty.
Sheriff's Office Drop-In Hours

11:00 am ~ All Recovery Meeting

7:50 pm ~ AA

Thursdays

11:00 am ~ All Recovery Meeting

Fridays

7:00 pm ~ All Recovery Meeting



The North Quabbin Recovery Center provides a compassionate, safe space to offer peer support to allow multiple paths of recovery for all. All Welcome! For updated information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/NorthQuabbinRECOVERYcenter>