August 2021



Visit our Website

"Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." —Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Read our Annual Report, out now!







19 Elm Street Vernon, CT 06066 A substance use prevention coalition

August 31st is International Overdose Awareness Day

International Overdose Awareness

Day is held across the world on August 31st to raise awareness of overdose, memorialize those we've lost to addiction and reduce the stigma associated with drug misuse. The Vernon ROCKS Coalition aims to reduce the stigma surrounding overdoses and provide education to prevent overdoses from occurring. For more information and to learn about 31 AUGUST

NTERNATIONAL OVERDOS AWARENESS DAY

NO MORE STIGMA. NO MORE SHAME. the different signs of overdose. <u>CLICK</u> <u>HERE</u>

Vernon ROCKS Attends NON!



Vernon ROCKS was ecstatic to be out in the community, partaking in this year's <u>National Night Out</u> (NNO) event on August 3rd in Vernon. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes policecommunity partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. This year's event included free food, games, activities and entertainment. Vernon ROCKS had a table to spread awareness and

> education about youth substance use!! Read more about it HERE

Vernon ROCKS Holds Annual Meeting

Every year the coalition hosts an annual meeting to recognize the people and events that have made the coalition a success throughout the year. This year's annual meeting was especially special because we were able to look back at how adaptable and resilient the coalition is. Pre-COVID, we primarily relied on getting out our resources and information through face-to-face interactions with the community, so when the pandemic came into play we had to pivot and figure out how we can still achieve our mission while doing our part to protect the community. It was not always easy but from the resourcefulness, grit, and dedication of all of our members, we had a lot of successes to celebrate. During the meeting we honored coalition members for their support, reviewed the new annual report, took our coalition survey to get the perspectives from the members on how we can improve. and we ended with some fun coalition trivia and ice



cream! Click <u>HERE</u> to read more about the event and see more pictures!!

We are Recruiting!

The Village VISTA Collaborative is looking for our next AmeriCorps VISTA! If you know someone who has a passion for service, is hardworking, and wants to help reduce youth substance use in the Town of Vernon, share our position with them!

Position Application

Additionally, Real Talk is always looking for new members. If you know an RHS student who wants to be a part of something amazing and help make an impact on the Vernon Community tell them about Real Talk! Email Holly at <u>hhansen@thevillage.org</u> for more information and to sign up.

Find More Information about Real Talk Here

The Vernon ROCKS Coalition | Website

The Village for Families & Children | 19 Elm Street, Vernon, CT 06066

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