

Youth Policy Board

The Youth Policy Board continues to focus on youth issues in the North Quabbin region, and provides a unique forum for youth service professionals to network and expand linkages.

The Youth Policy Board developed a Strategic Plan for Substance Abuse Prevention for youth in the North Quabbin region. The initiative is called Youth CHOICE (Creating Healthy Options in the Community). The group has begun efforts to work from existing data on youth needs to develop a comprehensive plan.



Creating Healthy Options *in the* Community

10 School Street · Athol, Massachusetts 01331
978.249.3703 · www.nqcc.org

Healthy Smiles Family Fun Day

A collaborative event featuring free, fun and educational activities for children, families and adults! The event is held each spring at the Athol Orange Elks and offers dental screenings, literacy activities, program and activity information by many local service providers and businesses.

Visit www.nqcc.org for our full Resource Guide.

Monthly Open Forums

Third Friday of each month
(September – May)
9–11 am

Athol-Orange Elks Lodge
92 New Athol Road/Route 2A
Orange, Massachusetts

Annual Luncheon held in June.

More information at:
www.nqcc.org
info@nqcc.org
978-249-3703



Membership

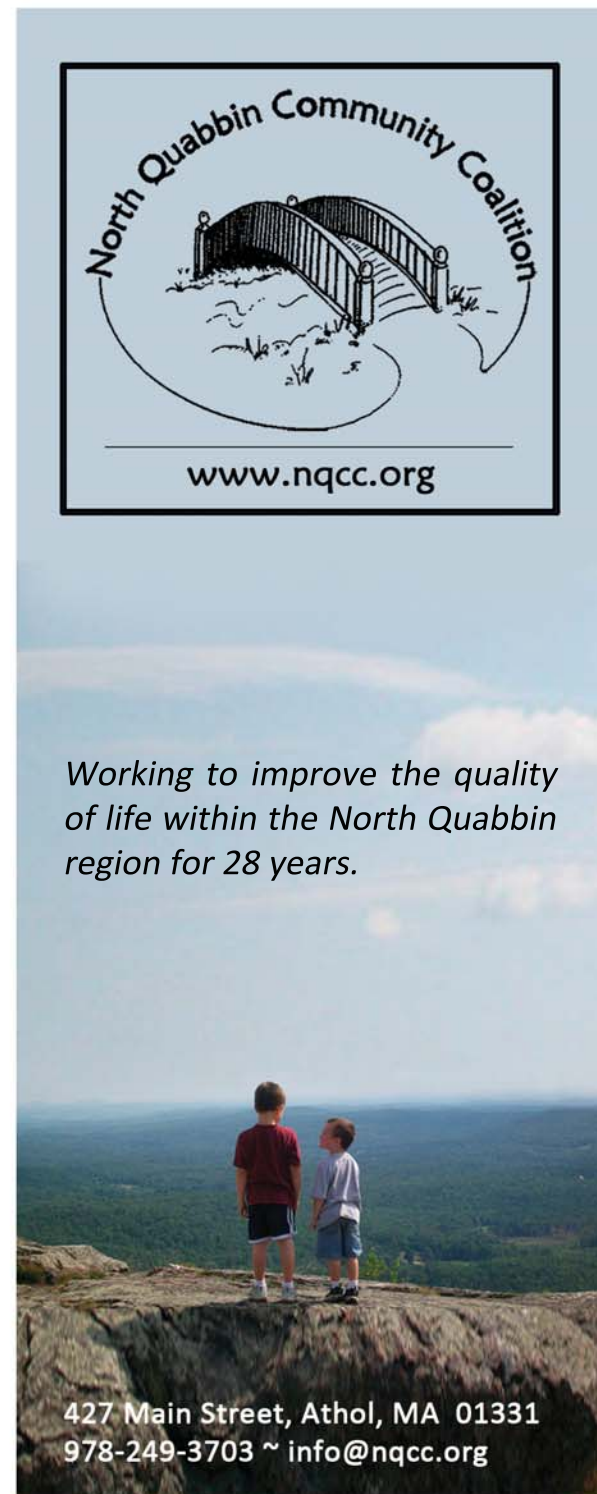
Membership in the Coalition is open to all agencies, religious communities, business and industry, government officials, civic groups and other interested individuals and organizations. The Coalition holds monthly meetings (the third Friday of every month except July & August) on relevant topics, facilitates monthly task forces on critical local issues, publishes a monthly newsletter, provides resource materials, networking services and advocacy efforts on behalf of Coalition issues. The Coalition is an affiliate of Valuing Our Children. The Coalition is funded in part by the generous contributions of members; the Department of Children & Families' Community Connections; the Central Mass. AHEC; the North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce, F/H REB School to Careers Partnership, Town of Athol—North Quabbin Loan Fund; Clinical & Support Options System of Care.

Visit www.nqcc.org for our full Resource Guide.



Working to improve the quality of life within the North Quabbin region for 28 years.

427 Main Street, Athol, MA 01331
978-249-3703 ~ info@nqcc.org





North Quabbin Community Coalition



Our Mission...

Founded in 1984, the North Quabbin Community Coalition is a community-wide alliance whose mission is to improve the quality of life for all those living and working in the nine town region. Towns include: Athol, Orange, New Salem, Wendell, Warwick, Phillipston, Erving, Petersham and Royalston.

NQ System of Care

The NQ System of Care (SOC) is an advisory group of the Children's Behavioral Health Initiative. The model is a family-centered approach intended to support the values of a true wraparound philosophy, with family support at the heart of decision making. The Community Service Agency contract is held by Clinical & Support Options, Inc. and the local SOC group is part of a regional network which includes both Franklin and Hampshire counties.

Economic Development Task Force

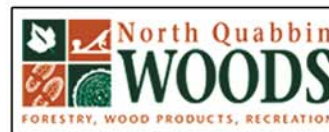
The primary focus of the Task Force is on coordination of regional economic development efforts. The group encourages broad community involvement and is committed to using the local natural resources to develop the future economy of the region. One project is working on the coordination of marketing materials used to recruit new business enterprise to the area. A survey of all existing materials has been completed and the group is exploring options for a web-based link to existing sites where materials can be more readily available to potential business developers.

Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force

Formed in 2011, the Task Force is a community-wide alliance with a diverse membership representing the entire region. The group has been involved in the Drug Take Back events to raise to reduce access to prescription drugs, sponsored the local National Night Out Events in both Athol and Orange and has worked in advocating for tighter controls on over the counter products being marketed to youth. The group is now planning parent education workshops and is working with local schools and law enforcement to build prevention efforts and to promote access to treatment for residents of all ages.

The North Quabbin Woods Project

For over ten years, the North Quabbin Woods project has promoted the cultural and historical assets of this unique region. Efforts include: promotion of local artisans, ecotourism and cultural events; a visitor information center and gift shop and the production of an annual regional tourism guide. Our reach spans nationwide with a comprehensive website (www.northquabbinwoods.org) featuring an online store and tourism resources for the region.



Community Education

The NQCC offers a variety of community education opportunities including support for local non-profit organizations, staff development and management training. Available topics include:

Safety & Prevention:

- 🐼 Enough Abuse Campaign: Overview of prevention strategies
- 🐼 Understanding Offenders and the SORB Requirements
- 🐼 Policy and Environmental Scan: Available to all youth serving organizations
- 🐼 Informed Supervision: Working with children exhibiting sexual behaviors
- 🐼 Parent Workshops: Include hands-on strategies for all age groups
- 🐼 Working with Teens: Preventing sexual abuse of adolescents
- 🐼 Internet Safety: Staying safe on-line
- 🐼 Grandparents as a Prevention Resource
- 🐼 Child Care Provider Training

Management/Organization:

- 🐼 Supervision in the Helping Professions
- 🐼 Maintaining An Effective Non-Profit Organization in Tough Economic Times

Board Governance:

- 🐼 Building A Great Board
- 🐼 Becoming a Great Board Member

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