One does not need superpowers to truly be a Superhero. The North Quabbin Community Coalition has often worked behind the scenes in the shadows to deliver the justice and advocacy this region needs. Our superpowers (much like those of The Dark Knight) include resourcefulness, community collaboration, direct communication, sharp intellect, and reliance on the region’s genuine spirit of comradery.
Rural Health Hero Award

Paula Pralinsky

2019 Bridgebuilder Awards

Children’s Advocacy Center
Irene Woods, Stacy Langknecht, Samantha Staelens
Orange Police Department
Chief James Sullivan, Brenda Anderson
Carol Root

2018/2019 Spotlight Awards

Annie Diemand-Bucci
Mitchell R. Grosky
Kelsey Cass
St. Vincent DePaul

Dr. Rebecca J. Bialecki
Youth Leadership Award

Camden Mosher
Elise Taylor

Board of Directors

Sandi Walters, President - Clinical and Support Options
Sharon Tracy, Vice-President - Quabbin Mediation
Steve Raymond, Treasurer - Community Representative
Rebecca Bialecki, Community Representative
John Bruinsma, Community Representative
Lt. Melissa Lowell, Salvation Army Corp of Athol
Chief Craig Lundgren, Athol Police Department
Lynne Feldman, LifePath
Pat Moore, Community Representative
Jeanette Robichaud, Athol Area YMCA/Community Rep.
Charlie Winters, Community Representative

Funding and Support

The North Quabbin Community Coalition is an affiliate of Heywood Healthcare and is brought to you by the following Funders and YOUR support. Please become a member/donor today!

- Department of Children and Families Community Connections
- MA Department of Public Health
- Heywood Healthcare/Drug Free Communities
- Town of Athol
- Clinical and Support Options
- Family Nurturing Center of MA
- Franklin County Sheriff’s Office
- Opioid Task Force of Franklin County and North Quabbin
Staff Activities & Memberships

**Heather Bialecki-Canning**  
*Executive Director*

DCF Greenfield Area Office Board President; DTA Greenfield Area Office Advisory Board; Clinical and Support Options Leadership Team; NQ Enough Abuse Campaign Coordinator; NQ Patch Admin Team; Opioid Task Force Executive Council; Opioid Task Force Education and Awareness Working Group Co-Chair; Talking About Touching Training of Trainers; DCF Community Connections Statewide Team; Children’s Advocacy Center of Franklin County & North Quabbin Board; Family Nurturing Center of MA Statewide Trainer; Nationally Recognized Trainer Consultant for Nurturing Programs; Quabbin Mediation Board Member; DPH MARCH Group; CTC Coordinating Council; CHIP; YAEC; ARRSD HUB; SBHC

**Amanda Mankowsky**  
*Youth & Families Engagement Coordinator*  
*DFC Program Director*

Communities That Care Parent Ed Workshop; Nurturing Facilitator; My Life, My Choice Facilitator; YAEC; PAC; NQRC; Opioid Task Force Education & Prevention; ARRSD SBHC HUB; ARRSD SEL; Change Agent Fellow; Task Force Facilitator; School/Community Partnership Coordinator; Mediator

**Sarah Collins**  
*Drug Free Communities Coordinator*

Regional School Health Task Force; CTC; ACT; Opioid Task Force Education & Prevention; Youth Action Council; YAEC; NQRC Liaison

**Katrina Burton**  
*Project Assistant*

Web Developer, Graphic Designer, Database Coordinator, Newsletter Editor/Publisher, Social Media and Community Calendar Coordinator

**NQCC Memberships**

North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce Member, United Arc Business Member, Athol Bird and Nature Club Member, CADCA

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22nd Annual Barbara Corey Award

Each year, the North Quabbin Community Coalition presents the Barbara Corey Award to a North Quabbin resident. The award is named for the original coordinator in honor of her values and dedication to the region. The 2019 Barbara Corey Award recipient is James Meehan.

Salute to Service Award

The North Quabbin Community Coalition proudly presents an annual Salute to Service Award to someone who has shown a track record of going above and beyond in dedicating their time and service to the community. This year’s Salute to Service Award recipient is Chief R. Dana Cooley.
North Quabbin Transition
from Jail to Community Task Force

The mission of this task force is “To build a strong network of support and opportunity for North Quabbin citizens returning to the community post-incarceration, to promote productivity, engagement in society, healthy families and communities.” That mission has been the main focal points as we have adapted the sequential incept mapping of 2016 and the Community Justice Our Way forum into tangible outcomes for North Quabbin. The fruits of our labors began to blossom as the task force partnered with the North Quabbin Recovery Center (NQRC) planning committee to officially open the doors to the Center in April of 2018.

Monthly Forums

Every month, the NQCC hosts a forum, open to all, which focuses on topics of local interest or highlights a particular program servicing the region. This year’s forums included:

September .. LaunchSpace
October .. Valuing Our Children, North Quabbin Patch and Family Resource Center, and NQCC DFC Project
November .. Legislative Roundtable
December .. Quabbin Retreat, Transitions Discussion with Heywood Healthcare
January ….. Center for Community Resilience after Trauma (CCRT)
February … Why ‘Trash’ your Meetings and Events? Recycling and Composting is Easier (and More Fun!)
March …….. Heywood Healthcare CHNA
April …….. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, CAC, CSEC Training
May …….. Summer Options for Youth and DCF Commissioner Visit

Social Media and Outreach

The NQCC’s web-based Resource Directory on our website (nqcc.org) continues to provide a comprehensive listing of resources in the North Quabbin, and is set up in a user friendly fashion by alphabetical listing and category.

The NQCC’s all-inclusive North Quabbin Area Calendar of Events at www.nqcc.org/events.html is updated daily on our website, and is highlighted every Thursday on Facebook with our “Weekend Happenings,” shared to thousands throughout the area and beyond. The calendar encompasses all events in the nine-town region of the North Quabbin.

The North Quabbin Woods website (northquabbinwoods.org) continues to provide visitors information on places to hike, get on the water, cross-country ski, etc. or on local artisans, farms and produce, etc. Visitors can quickly access specific towns, recreational places and activities. The NQCC office is contacted frequently by people from around the country seeking additional information after visiting the site.

The NQCC continues to produce its informative newsletter, “The Common Thread,” and distributes it to a mailing list of over 1,000 each month. It is also available for download online. The publication features our affiliates’ announcements and events and everyone is encouraged to contribute.
Our FY20 Donors

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Athol Daily News
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Susan C. Bredesen
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The Literacy Project
Seeds of Solidarity

Individual
Karl Bittenbender
Deborah Vondal

Other Support
Billy Goat Boats
Boiler Bar and Grill
Bill Burton
Sally Ann Collette
Fisher Hill School
Lisa Kuenzel
Joyce L’Heureux
Opioid Task Force
Pioneer Junior Women’s Club
David Runyan
Brent Walker

Thank you

North Quabbin Recovery Center

The North Quabbin Recovery Center has officially been open for over one year. The North Quabbin Recovery Center believes that values are the compass that guides us all. Values are a foundation upon which each member builds an enriched and balanced life. That life includes an open-mindedness toward all individuals in their path to recovery; a willingness to support change through service; empowerment of others; as well as engagement in fun! The mission of the center is to provide a compassionate safe space to offer peer support to allow multiple paths of recovery for all.

Parent Advisory Council

The NQCC Parent Advisory Council is comprised of 18 parents from across the North Quabbin. This group meets monthly, and provides insight into the changing needs of families in our region. All members of this group have participated in activities for the NQCC this year including, but not limited to National Night Out, Munch N Move, Family Fun Day, monthly NQCC forums, and our Annual Luncheon Celebration. They also sponsored a Marijuana and the Adolescent Brain presentation in partnership with the Athol Royalston School District.

Thanksgiving Day Meals Delivery

The NQCC was very grateful for a diverse and determined team of folks who helped prepare and deliver over 260 meals to the elderly and homebound in our region this past year. Thank you to the Pioneer Jr. Women’s Club, Athol Credit Union, Boiler Bar & Grill, Athol Orange Rotary Club, NQCC Board of Directors, Orange Elementary Schools, the many volunteers, and especially Steve Raymond, John Bruinsma, Jerry Whaland, and Bill Burton!
Children’s Health and Wellness System of Care

The North Quabbin Community Coalition partners with Clinical and Support Options to support collaborations for strong children’s behavioral health access across county lines. System of Care meets in Hampshire County, Franklin County, and North Quabbin. This year, the NQCC decided to combine our SOC with our CHWTF to strengthen our overlapping efforts to enhance and celebrate the lives of families and children in our region. This task force took on the coordination of several events including our 4th Annual Munch N’ Move which was held at Mahar during April vacation, it featured a DJ and music, games, family fun, and a free healthy family meal. This group focuses on overall wellness, behavioral health, food access, nutrition, movement, dental health and most of all FUN!

North Quabbin Loan Fund

Invest North Quabbin, or INQ, has gone through many changes and growth cycles since its inception three years ago and is now simply referred to as the North Quabbin Loan Fund (NQLF). The NQLF works hand in hand with the Town of Athol and provides gap financing for businesses across the North Quabbin region in Athol, Erving, New Salem, Orange, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Warwick, and Wendell.

P.A.R.T. Task Force

The Prevention, Addiction, Treatment, and Recovery Task force has been renamed after many years of being known as the Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force. We felt it was time to update our name to reflect the times and all that we cover in our vast efforts! It is the largest of the task forces, has strengthened partnerships across county lines, and has been noticed both state wide and nationally for its efforts. Our slogan “Proud to be me, no additives needed” has really caught on in the community! Our shirts were recognized as we once again took part in the River Rat festivities, marching and spreading messages of delay of first use, recovery is possible, and we are a community that cares!

Scholarship Fund

The passing of our beloved board member, Shirley Hebert, in 2012 led to the creation of The Shirley Hebert Strength through Adversity Scholarship Fund. The fund rewards high school seniors in the North Quabbin region who have experienced academic success, personal growth and completed community service in the face of adversity.