



Health Topics

April 2018 Edition

National Public Health Week



Every year during the first full week in April, the [American Public Health Association \(APHA\)](#) brings communities across the country together to observe [National Public Health Week \(NPHW\)](#). NPHW serves as a time to acknowledge the contributions of the public health workforce and also to highlight important issues that need to be addressed in the health of our nation. This year, APHA will be hosting NPHW April 2nd – 8th. Each day, APHA has chosen a theme to focus on an important public health issue:

April 2nd
[Behavioral Health](#)

April 3rd
[Communicable Disease](#)

April 4th
[Environmental Health](#)

April 5th
[Injury and Violence Prevention](#)

April 6th
[Ensuring the Right to Health](#)

Teenage Brain Under Construction



Members of the West Boylston Community Health Coalition (WBCHC) organized an event recently with Dr. Ruth Potee as a primary speaker. In addition to practicing full- scope family medicine, she is currently the Medical Director for the Franklin County House of Corrections, the Franklin Recovery and Treatment Center and the Pioneer Valley Regional School District as well as the Chair of the Healthcare Solutions of the Opioid Taskforce of Franklin County. A renowned expert in the field of addiction medicine, Dr. Ruth Potee discussed the teenage brain development and drug, alcohol, and other substance use. The WBCHC includes partners from West Boylston such as the Wachusett Country Club, Police Department, and Board of Health, as well as others from the Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance.

