



# HEARTLIFE MINISTRIES

## Meeting Notes: **HLM ROSC Meeting Notes**

Date: September 26, 2023

Time: 1:30 pm

Location: Zoom

Minutes Dictate By: Jada Anthony

Attendance: 26

Gary (Speaker)

Ginni Demko

Kent Adams

Nadge Hampton

Renita Brown

Robert Urich

In-person Attendees:

Wesley Stringfellow

Geoffrey Leak

Dr. Alice Crawford

Cynthia Tyler

Dr. Kathleen Burke

Danny Sourbis

Benjamin Rudolph

Kristen Dean

Jada Anthony

Dr. Ruby Powell

Angela Smith (Speaker)

Allie (Speaker)

Neesha Stringfellow

Tarcia Leak

John Modd

Abby Catalano

Robert E.F. Dutton

Daneen Taylor

Alexandria Velazquez

### **Agenda:**

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Upcoming Events in the Community
4. Speakers
5. Gary Stringfellow
6. Angela Smith

7. Allie
8. Q&A with Allison
9. Close

## **Meeting Minutes**

The event took place in person at the Will County Department of Health during National Recovery and Suicide Prevention Month, which aims to raise awareness about mental health and provide support to individuals recovering from addiction and those dealing with suicidal thoughts. A moment of silence was observed to honor those affected by suicide and to highlight the significance of addressing mental health issues. Kristen Dean read a short poem wrote by our own Jada Anthony, who lost her brother to suicide two years ago that details the battle with suicide and grief and to tell those its okay to struggle but to stay for tomorrow for there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Angela Smith, representing the Will County Department of Health, spoke about her personal recovery journey, emphasizing the importance of seeking help and support during difficult times.

Allie, who hails from Trinity Living Room, also shared her story, shedding light on the challenges she faced during her recovery process. Her narrative was a testament to the strength and resilience required to overcome such obstacles during this crucial month dedicated to recovery and suicide prevention.

The main speaker, Gary, took the stage to share his own struggles with addiction and homelessness. He discussed his experiences on the streets and how he managed to recover from a difficult lifestyle. His testimony likely included insights on the importance of support and resources for those in need, aligning with the goals of National Recovery and Suicide Prevention Month. He was entertaining but straightforward about his struggles with addiction and suicide and hopes to continue to be a beacon of hope to those still struggling. To round out the event our founder of Heartlife Dr. Alice Crawford gave a word of advice stating “we can't save everyone but we can do our best to help those around us and in our community” and a prayer to end us.

**Welcome & Prayer:** Kristen Dean

**Introduction:** Neesha Stringfellow

**Closing Prayer:** Alice Crawford