

Westside ROSC Council

Lead Agency: Chicago Recovering Communities Coalition

Friday, September 22, 2023

10am – 3pm

Zoom Meeting Information

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/695761637?pwd=eVVOUzJlN3VUcXl6WFJzSnVNOVJXdz09>

Meeting ID: 695 761 637 | Password: 038839

Meeting Minutes

Welcome Extended by; Venessa Moreno: Expressed appreciation for members present, and continued support, and to those who were attending ROSC meetings for the first time. Also mentioned that from now on ROSC will be offering CEU's.

Participant Introductions: Serenity House/DuPage ROSC, Serenity House Counseling Services, CRCC, Faith Way Men's Independent Living Facility, C.L.I.C.K. Services NFP, Ashunti Residential Management Systems, Cook County Health, Westcare Illinois, The Perfectly Flawd Foundation, UIC/COIP, Individual, World Vision, Triumph Seminars, NFP, Social Worker, FOI Men's Fre-Entry, Brighter Behavior Choices.

Our council is made up of members including Hospitals, Treatment Centers, Mental Health Facilities, First Responders, Recovery Programs, Schools, Local Government, Employment Agencies, and importantly persons with lived experience.

Goals and Objectives by; Venessa Moreno: Westside ROSC Councils overall goal is to advocate and assist with guiding and monitoring the development of an integrated system of recovery by creating a shared vision to improve availability of services by building a sustainable ROSC Council. Our objectives 1. To create communities of recovery that encourage and integrate resources for the recovering individual, families, and friends. 2. Develop supportive recovery communities that foster growth, respect and understanding of those who have identified problems in the areas of substance use and mental health. 3. Implement effective communication that will allow for inclusion of PLE's (persons with lived experience) voices to be heard.

Open Discussion: Westside ROSC Council Community Assessment

Speaker: Venessa Moreno, Recovery Coordinator: ROSC Council Community Assessment – Member Focus Group Discussion

FY 24 Strategic Deliverables are being submitted for the Council. As part of the deliverables is the Community Needs Assessment and this document helps the council to look at the gaps and do a SWOT analysis in the community to be able to identify support needed in recovery, mental health, substance use. The challenges that an individual who may need resources is facing today on the Westside of Chicago. We do a survey to capture the needs of the community. This meeting will focus on that assessment, and we will have an open member discussion about the barriers and gaps that are faced in the community as stakeholders. We will also discuss strengths and opportunities to support the work we do such as with further collaboration and open communication.

The Categories Discussed from the Assessment: Services Available, Recovery Education in the Community, Intervention, Services for adolescents, long-term care, insurance, and additional services such as mental health cooccurring, prevention and education for emerging issues, and faith-based supports.



Westside ROSC Council

Supporting a Diverse Chicago West Side Community

Discussion Highlight Talking Points:

John: There needs to be more housing available. As we know, Ms. Rickman Recovery Café is the only café in Illinois for recovery. It needs to be more cafés in existence so recoveree will have somewhere to go. The ROSC was put together to bring organizations together so that we may have continuous care. Each agency needs together with a linkage agreement and share to be able to communicate how we're helping the individuals.

Perrise: I also agree with limited services and questions about the resources on how to help those to get the help they need as far as treatment centers or overall appointments. The other reason most or some can't read, trying to stay focused on task, they may need the extra help to stay motivated.

Perrise: There are community-based services that need to be supported such as transportation and housing solutions to support long term recovery and reduce resuming. There needs to be better stakeholder unity to better perform warm hand-offs and not lose participants in the continuum of care.

Sharon: The division that agencies have between one another is sad. You must have the compassion to be able to work in the field to help another. I was a part of what's going on, it took those to care about me until I was able to understand recovery.

La Shaun: There are enough services, not enough education about services for those in need. We need more safe places for folks to gather and be surrounded by recovery.

Regina: Between the agencies we need to serve the same expertise to get into the solution to attack the issues. The different communities need to support the coalitions and what we're doing on the North, West, South, East all matter and are all connected to have an impact.

Ronald: It's a part of unity, like a puzzle. If it's apart it doesn't work! If we get together, we'll be more effective with linkages and committees.

Richard: The funds allocated for supporting prevention efforts need to stay with prevention efforts and not be moved to address other issues in the community that have nothing to do with these efforts.

Closing Remarks

Venessa and John: Thanked the membership for sharing openly and respectfully so there could be a group effort to address some of these issues facing the West Side Community. This discussion today is going to be shared with the State to support the needs for the support we are providing in this community. Thank you everyone for your contributions and following this session will be outcomes from our discussion and proposed recommendations to the council for the FY24 efforts.

Next Westside ROSC Council meeting will be hosted via Zoom December 22, 2023

Please Join Us in Building a Sustainable Westside ROSC Council

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