

Ford County ROSC Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 28th 2023 at 8:30a (Zoom/Virtual)

Attendance:

Kari Knapp (Chestnut Health Systems)
Frankie Ward (Ford County ROSC)
John Schneider (Livingston County ROSC/Gibson City Celebrate Recovery)
Jimmy Buonavolanta (Chestnut)
Tia Schum (Piatt County ROSC)
Carrie McKenzie (Gateway)
Leeann Courson (Region 3 TA Mentor)
Diamond Moss (Birth to Five)
Kami Garrison (Chestnut – Region 3 TA – Statewide ROSC)
David King (Carle)
Abby Behrens (Brightpoint – Butterfly Project)
Jennifer Anderson (Ford County Probation)
Dan S. (PLE)
Odette Watson – (East Central Community Action Agency)

Agenda:

- Introductions and Opening Remarks
- Review November Deliverables
 - Communication Outreach
 - Asset Mapping
 - Gap Analysis & more
 - New Workgroup (Stigma Reduction)
- Latest News from ROSC
- Housekeeping & Next Steps

YouTube Recording: If you were unable to attend today's meeting, or just want to relive the experience, please [check out our recorded version](#) on the [Ford County YouTube channel](#).

Introductions & Agency Updates:

- Today's meeting was recorded and started with introductions and agency updates were also moved to the front end. Not every attendee had an update but those who did are captured below:
- Kari announced that **CCE (Center for Community Engagement)** is launching its Faith in Recovery initiative this month so look for information about upcoming events and activities in this realm.
- Livingston County is currently involved in **Toy Drive** with Salvation Army (Partnership), and re-organizing the planning sub-committee going into the new year.

- Carrie announced that **Gateway** (Carrie and Sandra serve Piatt and Ford Counties) will be opening up a facility in Bloomington with services starting on Jan 1 2024.
- Dave King (**with Carle Hospital**) announced they (Vermillion County) are utilizing grant dollars and putting together 100 'Overdose Awareness' kits (resource bags); there are two kits—1 for people currently using substances and another for first responders. The goal is to have natural conversation about Harm Reduction with the people most affected. Also, we are close to hiring a Substance Use Navigator for Hoopston, IL. We are focusing more on people with lived experience (as we all are) and there is word of a ROSC coming to Champaign County, per David King.
- Dave also shared an anecdote about recent event to give out Narcan boxes to local recoverees. The event itself (as planned) yielded one attendee, but the team adapted and decided to go set up their table/booth at a local cannabis dispensary, which was welcoming. As a result, they were able to hand out 75 additional kits!
- **Brightpoint:** Abby shared there is an opening for a Therapist (Masters degree, licensed or unlicensed) who is passionate about working with families and children. Covers all 5 counties (Liv, Ford, McLean, Woodford, and ___). Counseling and Case Management for children and families exposed to domestic violence.
- **Community Action - Light-Heat Program:** Starts December 1st and taking all applications. It doesn't matter if elderly, disabled, or what the situation. Priority groups will be served first per IL mandate. Participants just need to be income-eligible and can set up any kind of payment plan. Odell also talked about family kits they're handing out (laundry pods, TP, diapers if needed, wipes, body wash, and basic household items and toiletries – we use products we would want to use ourselves). The challenge is that people are refusing the bags out of pride (or other reasons). Odell asked for help reaching out to explain these are for "rainy days" and unexpected expenses that come up. They are not handouts for the sake of making us feel like we did something good. These kits have over \$80 of *real* value that can help people who are struggling financially.
 - Brightpoint Newsletter can be shared to help get word out and make sure families are capitalizing on these services.


Main Discussion – Deliverables:

- **Gap Analysis:** Frankie was walked the council through the Gap Analysis, which is a new state deliverable required from the ROSC. These gaps stem from the original Community Needs Assessment done back in 2019 and accounts for updates and changes to strategies and objectives along the way. The following screenshot outlines the primary gaps that have been identified by surveys, breakout groups, council Slido voting, and more. Transportation, Lack of Treatment facilities locally, Stigma Reduction, and Recovery Housing were the primary gaps identified.
- Frankie shared it is a 'massive goal' to try and expand on our public Transportation services; extend current Harm Reduction services as well (start small in Ford County to build momentum – e.g. test strips and Narcan cabinets in key areas), and Stigma Reduction remains an issue for any ROSC coalition, including Ford County.
- Please scan the QR code below (on any of the screen shots) to view a full-scale image of the Gap Analysis, Asset Maps, and other deliverables showcased today. They are all saved under on the Ford County Virtual Resource Platform, under Ford County ROSC near the top.

Gap Analysis

Gap	Details	Target State
Recovery Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local recovery housing opportunities are non-existent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of one recovery home in Ford County.
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an extreme lack of public transportation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of transportation services.
Access to Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal recovery supports or groups. No inpatient recovery treatment. Limited outpatient recovery services. Lack of harm reduction services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase meeting offerings; more diverse meeting dates/times. Expansion of transportation; Increased availability/offerings of outpatient services. Expansion of current harm reduction resources.
Stigma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stigma/lack of understanding surrounding Substance Use Disorder/Mental Health. Stigma/lack of understanding surrounding multiple paths to recovery, including MAR, Harm Reduction, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supportive/collaborative community with an understanding of SUD/MH/and recovery. An understanding/acceptance of multiple paths to recovery.

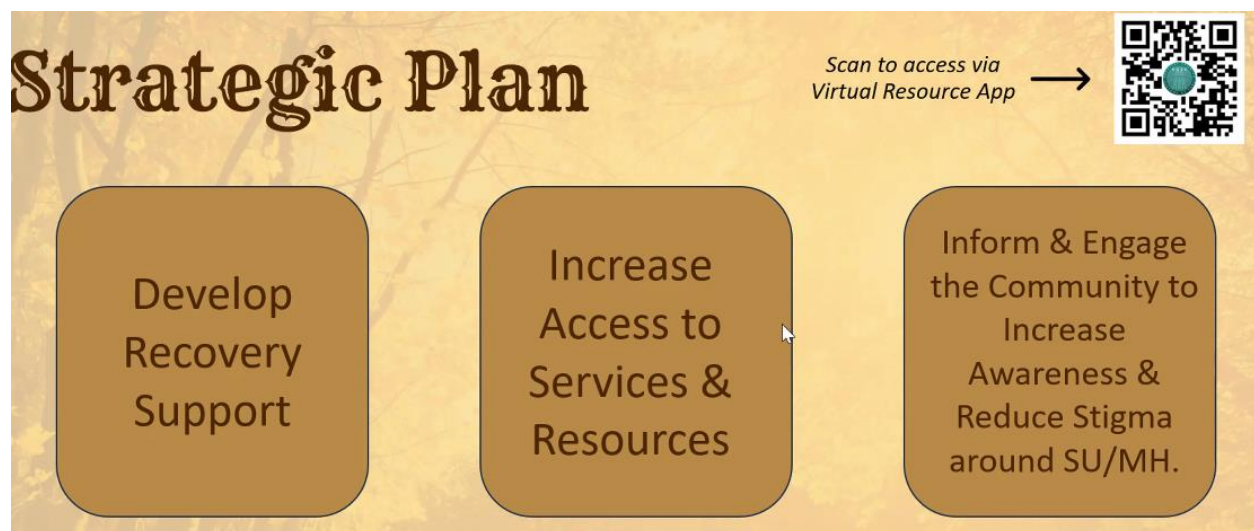
Scan to access via Virtual Resource App



- Asset Mapping:** Frankie also talked about the Asset Map (below), which is a large flowchart-type diagram (a little too unwieldy to share via Zoom or read well, but we tried). The QR code below will take you to the fully-viewable document, which is published out on the Ford County Virtual Resource Page (Jotform)...along with all the other deliverables reviewed last month and today with the council. The Asset Map basically illustrates what services or recovery capital we currently have in place across key stakeholder areas (MAR Providers, MH Providers, Law Enforcement, Support Groups, etc.).



- Please scan the Virtual Resource App above to view a full size (or download) Asset Map for Ford County on your phone or devices.
- We want to be more inclusive and include mental health diagnoses and co-occurring disorders. There are many people seeking recovery with undiagnosed mental health illnesses, which can be a huge impediment, especially when recoveree is unaware of the condition.
- **Communication & Outreach Plan:** Please feel free to check out these documents through the QR codes (also a little too large to review 'live' with a large group). Please provide feedback to the team or ask questions. The Communication **Plan** outlines how ROSC will communicate its values, missions, and other related activities. The **Outreach Plan** is an overview of how ROSC is working towards engaging the Ford County community to address strategic plan goals and priorities.
- **Strategic Plan:** Frankie did not walk the group through the full document due to its length (see QR code below if curious/interested), but she did spotlight some of the key updates and findings from recent meetings and brainstorming sessions. The majority of discussion centered around the third item below (Inform and Engage the Community to Increase Awareness & Reduce Stigma around SUD/COD/MH – substance use, co-occurring, and mental health disorders).



Other ROSC Updates:

- We used to have an Outreach Sub-committee in the earlier days of the Ford ROSC. It seemed to lose some momentum over time though and was eventually disbanded. Frankie is starting a new sub-committee (Workgroup) for the third goal above (Stigma Reduction): "Inform and Engage the Community to Increase Awareness and Reduce Stigma around SU/MH". Please contact Frankie or Kari if you have any questions or would like to be a part of this workgroup. You can also sign up via the QR code above. *We cannot do the things we hope to do without volunteers from our ROSC council.*
- **"December to Remember" - Ford ROSC Service Offering - Free Professional Family Photos** being offered by the Ford ROSC (up to 20 families can sign up). Natalie Barnett (local photographer) donated her time to take professional shots and Frankie is coordinating details.


There will be other light refreshments and activities (plus information), as well as crafts to keep kids busy while waiting. Celebrate Recovery will also be present to help with childcare and fellowship. **Thursday December 14th from 5:30-7pm at Methodist Church!**

- *We also want to make sure families in need of this type of service are the ones utilizing it. Please refer family names to Frankie or Kari if you have someone(s) in mind!*



- **“ROSC 101” Intro/Orientation Binders:** Kari discussed plans and work already underway to create “ROSC 101” Orientation/Intro Binders for new council members or prospective volunteers interested in joining. It will utilize feedback from last month’s meeting and will include a “Finding Your Strengths” worksheet to help the council identify the various strengths and areas for development among the ROSC Council. This will enable us to hopefully match talents with future initiatives. We hope to have these wrapped up by next week.

Coming Soon... ROSC 101 Binders



- One-pager, brochure, virtual resource guide information.
- Strategic plan, outreach plan, asset map, and more.
- Talking points – “how to talk about ROSC”.
- Talent assessment.
- Ways to get involved with ROSC.
- Stigma and words matter documents.

- The binders are a good way (and emerging best practice) to ensure our message is being carried to potential newcomers or volunteer ‘prospects’ in a consistent, repeatable fashion.

- **Upcoming ROSC Council Topics:** Butterfly Project; December 11th at Noon; Possibly Chamber of Commerce in January.



- Please reach out to Frankie if there are any subsequent announcements, flyers, or other information you would like help sharing. We can post to our social media and other outlets. Below is a larger image of the ‘business cards’ we are handing out with regularity:



NEXT FORD CTY ROSC COUNCIL MEETING:

December 19th, 2023 (Note New Date for December '23 ONLY (due to holidays, Dec. Council Meeting will be on the 3rd Tues of month)

<https://zoom.us/j/98701015645>

Meeting ID: 987 0101 5645