

SI SUPRT Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2023 12:00-1:00 ZOOM Meeting

Introduction and Welcome:

Attendance:

Chris Dennis, EHD
Danielle Camp, EHD
Katie Unthank, EHD
Amy Oxford, Senator Fowlers Office
Ernie Fowler, EHD
Ana DeUnamuno, RMTD
Dr. Michael Blain, CRHPC
Kat Houghton, EHD
Stacey Miller, EHD
Skylar Turner, TASC
Danielle Bradley, EHD
Megan Ragan, SATTC
Bev Holland, Region 5 TA
Elizabeth Cook, EHD
Kindra York, EHD
Margot Cepeda, VA Hospital
Misty Smith, EHD
Natalie Marvel, EHD
Hailey Parker, EHD
Jordan Pilkington, EHD
Jerri Baxley-Brown, EHD
AnnMarie Murry, SATTC
Brittany Bulfer, EHD
Holly Kotner, EHD

Standing Coalition Business:

- Minutes from the November meeting were approved unanimously with a motion made by Dr. Michael Blain. Amy Oxford seconded the motion.

New and Standing Coalition Reports:

- *Chris Dennis, Danielle Camp, Katie Unthank, and Kat Houghton* (EHD) attended a State Wide ROSC conference in October, held in Springfield. The 2-day conference provided

Illinois ROSC members the opportunity to come together and discuss strengths, weaknesses, challenges and goals. They also had the chance to listen to speakers from surrounding agencies. While the difference between rural communities and urban communities varies widely, it is evident that the compassion and desire to help people in recovery is the ultimate factor. The next State Wide ROSC conference will be held in Spring 2024.

- *Amy Oxford*, with Senator Fowlers office, addressed the council with the difficulties of providing assistance to the homeless population, specifically those with criminal backgrounds. As a council, it is agreed that this remains one of our largest issues in our area and is a constant concern.
- *Dr. Michael Blain*, with Christopher Rural Health, emphasized the importance of MAR, especially suboxone induction in the emergency department, and the need for “activities” for those in recovery, as too much free time, and lack of involvement is detrimental to recovery.
- *Bev Holland*, Statewide ROSC, reiterated the need for recovery housing in our area. She also took the opportunity to say she is proud of all the work being done in our community and praising all those involved.
- *Chris Dennis*, EHD, announced an upcoming laundry event to be held in Carmi. He spoke on the fact that there have been more sponsors coming forward, allowing us to host more of these events within our area. The laundry events have proved to be a very impactful outreach for our community.
- *Katie Unthank*, EHD, spoke on the Naloxone dispensers that will be distributed throughout our service region. This allows us to get Naloxone more readily available to the public. They will be placed in several sheriff departments in our service counties. She also made mention of the packaging change made to the Naloxone kits. This has required us to make some changes in the quantity placed in displays. Katie reminded us that Naloxone is made available in every Egyptian Health Department lobby, as well as the Saline Co. Housing Authority as well as Stress and Trauma Treatment Center. She also informed us that the distribution of test strips has greatly increased. Additionally, Naloxone has been given to many hotels to have on hand, and over 20,000 coasters with Naloxone information has been distributed in 30 counties. These coasters have a QR code so that more information can be easily accessed.

Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be in person on Dec. 6th at noon and will be held in the large conference room at Egyptian Health Department