

## Effingham County ROSC Council Meeting Minutes 11.20.2023

---

Date: Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Time: 1:00-2:00pm

Location: 104 Blohm Ave, Effingham IL & Zoom

Attendees:

**Zoom:** Kevin McNally (SUD Counselor HHS,) Maria & Kelly Buscher (Effingham County Case Management team,) Kristin Davis (FGC- Prevention Integration Coordinator,) Sarah Zerrusen (HR Stevens Industries,) Christine Pierce (Carle Outreach,) Karen Cook (Hour House ROSC Supervisor)

**In person:** Wallace Flaming (PLE,) Beth Wise (0-3 Home Visiting Program,) Cody Bushue (PLE,) Sam Weidner (Special Events Director Effingham & Clay County Health Department,) Deysi Gonzalez (Effingham Co Health Department Lingual Resource Specialist,) Natalie Hall (Family Advocacy Resource Center- Effingham,) Jacob (Family Advocacy Resource Center- Effingham,) Katy Houser (PLE,) Tonya Siner (Vice President, Premier Broadcasting,) Chris Winters (Effingham Probation/Problem Solving Court,) Samantha Hicks (Effingham County ROSC Coordinator) Felicia Depoister (Effingham County ROSC Navigator)

Secretary: Samantha Hicks

### Minutes

---

Council meeting attendees introduced themselves and agencies they represent or reason for being present.

**Guest Speaker:**

Chris Winters and Tonya Siner were present to speak on behalf of the STAR board committee. STAR stands for Strategic Training and Restoration and is a non-profit providing financial support for Problem Solving Court participants. STAR was created in 2006 and covered Clay, Jasper, Effingham, and Fayette counties. Since the creation of drug courts in these other counties, STAR is only providing support for Effingham County currently. Chris spoke about Effingham County having a Veteran's Court, Mental Health Court, and Drug Court in earlier years, but it has been reduced to only Mental Health Court and Drug Court as there were not enough referrals for the Veterans Court. STAR provides financial assistance to Drug court participants for obstacles that may make one's recovery more challenging. This includes rent, dental and medical bills, GED classes, medication, scholarships, etc. There is an application process in which the participant has to have researched other helping organizations for assistance or has exhausted all other resources in the area. The participant must comply with the Drug court program. The committee votes on whether or not the participants are allocated funds. Chris stressed the fact that Drug court is designed and proven to reduce recidivism to *criminality*, not keeping a participant clean and sober (although that is also a significant goal

of the program.) STAR holds various fundraisers throughout the year, such as gun raffles, cake walks, and possibly GLOW bingo in the future. STAR also receives funds from United Way and other private donors.

### **ROSC Coordinator/Recovery Navigator update**

Felicia D. provided an update on her peer-to-peer support. Felicia stated she is constantly on the go, meeting people where they're at in their recovery and providing local resources when she identifies a peer's need for them. Felicia stated she mostly encounters crisis individuals who need support by talking and listening. Felicia also updated the Council of the 2nd and 3rd Laundry Day stats from October & November: \$465 dispensed in quarters in October and \$365 dispensed in quarters in November. Felicia also gave the stats for dispensing dental and hygiene kits, Narcan show, and distributed resources. November's Laundry Day was held in Altamont, IL. Felicia stated she encountered a few individuals who were active in their use and were given Narcan and resources to them and their families who were with them. Everyone discussed planning the next Laundry Days for January and modifying the flyer to make the changed locations more noticeable. Samantha provided an update on the meeting with New Hope Church. New Hope will donate \$250 to continue the Laundry day in February/March.

Samantha H. updated presentations given in Brownstown, Vandalia, and Tri-Star schools. Felicia and Samantha have been sharing their personal stories about addiction and recovery with adolescents 6-12 grade at various schools who have reached out. ROSC is scheduled to go to Altamont High School in January.

Samantha introduced Kristin Davis to the Family Guidance Center as the Prevention Integration Coordinator for this region. ROSC and Kristin are partnering to provide Tri Star Academy and Aspire High School with a couple-hour presentation in January for the staff on signs and symptoms of SUD/use, Hidden in Plain Sight, and an outside resource for evidence-based practices on eating disorders (per Tri Star request,) and how to approach family members in active use. Kristin's position targets youth-serving organizations.

Samantha provided an update about the Naloxone newsstand. We cannot place it in the Amtrak station, and the other locations discussed a few months ago (the courthouse museum and 2 gas stations needed to be more responsive or declined at this time.) Samantha explained why Becker's laundry mat (where the Laundry days are held) does not want it as his location either. Samantha stated that the community needs more education on what Naloxone is, who it's for, and what it does. Samantha suggested holding community-wide Narcan trainings in each town to educate the communities in Effingham County. The Council agreed. Samantha asked the Council to brainstorm some suggested contacts/locations to hold these events in the future and email/text her with any ideas. Wallace F. suggested placing the box as Kirby's IGA. Deysi mentioned the need for Narcan training at Irwin's (a local factory that employs a couple hundred workers in Altamont, IL.) Samantha will email Deysi about Irwin's contact information. Samantha will continue the search for placement of the Narcan newsstand.

### **Advisory subcommittee update**

Cody B. stated the PLE Advisory Committee meeting will be held right after this Council meeting and will discuss possible future events the committee would like to create and head up for the recovery community and their families.

### **ROSC Related Events**

- ❖ Samantha H. stated the next Free Laundry day would be Wednesday, December 13th, 2023, from 9 AM-4 PM at Becker's Wash -n- Dry Altamont location. Sam W. suggested we do 2 Laundry Days in January as this will be the last month the Health Dept will be able to provide funds and needs to use some left-over funds. Samantha H. stated she will meet with the Health Dept and PLE volunteers to set dates for January 2024.
- ❖ Samantha H. discussed the "Recovery mural" idea for Spring 2024. Samantha met with a local artist in the area and brainstormed some ideas about what this could look like, where it could be held, and what the art community needs to help make it happen. Samantha H. will contact Brittany S. from Joe Sippers to follow up on the art displayed in Joe Sippers café.
- ❖ Samantha H. stated the clothing drive boxes for Effingham Junior High are out at various locations listed on the flyer on the table. She asked for the flyer to be shared as the pick up of the boxes will be December 18th.
- ❖ Samantha H. reiterated the need for community-wide Narcan training.
- ❖ Samantha asked for any spotlight speaker requests for December's Council meeting. It was suggested to have a PLE share their story. Samantha H. asked if the new Family Advocacy
- ❖ Resource Center (located in the Family Connections building) would like to be a speaker after they're up and running to provide information about their program. Beth W. spoke on their behalf as they had to leave the meeting early. Beth W. stated they will officially run in January 2024, maybe in March/April, once settled.

**Strategic Plan FY24 goal:** The Council likes the direction the ROSC Council is going in, which is youth/family support-oriented.

Next ROSC Meeting Date: **Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 1 pm**

Location: **104 Blohm Ave in Effingham & Zoom**

Contacts:

Effingham County ROSC Coordinator; 217-663-0823

*Samantha Hicks* -[samanthah@hourhouserecovery.org](mailto:samanthah@hourhouserecovery.org)

Effingham County ROSC Navigator; 217-690-3773

*Felicia Depoister* – [feliciad@hourhouserecovery.org](mailto:feliciad@hourhouserecovery.org)

## Effingham County ROSC PLE Advisory Committee 11.20.23

Date: Monday, November 20th, 2023

Time: 2:00pm

Location: 104 Blohm Ave, Effingham, IL

Attendees:

**In person:** Cody Bushue (PLE,) Katy Houser (PLE,) Toby Depoister (PLE,) Samantha Hicks (Effingham County ROSC Coordinator) Felicia Depoister (Effingham County ROSC Navigator,) Wallace Flaming (PLE)

Secretary: Samantha Hicks

### Minutes

---

Samantha H. asked attendees what this group would like to do next- i.e., focus on a strategic plan goal, events, volunteer work, etc. The group decided they'd like to get a large event in the works for adolescents and their families.

Topics were discussed, and landed on an event to be called "Recovery Madness." Cody and Toby said they'd like to put together a 3-3 basketball tournament for youth (and adults if they desire) to participate in to show other outlets to engage in while in recovery. Felicia suggested the old Schoolhouse in Edgewood as she and Toby have a personal relationship with the man who allows events to happen in the building— he works for C.E.F.S., and his name is Greg. Samantha agreed and suggested setting up a Hidden in Plain Sight for the parents to partake in while the tournament is going on. ROSC would provide ROSC resources as well. Toby mentioned possibly having Lickin' My Chicken Pullin' My Pork cater the event, as he also has a personal relationship with the owner. Toby also suggested pulling in over vendors or helping youth-oriented organizations. Katy H. said she could provide whatever was needed for this event. Samantha asked when they'd like the event to take place. Where the group decided in March (to coincide with March Madness) on March 30th (but after the meeting, we figured out that it was Easter weekend.) Samantha will suggest Saturday, March 16th, as the event date at the next meeting and see what the committee thinks.

The tasks for members of the group are as follows:

Toby- secure location, look into food donation options

Felicia- prizes for 3 on 3 tourney & activities to keep children busy if not participating

Katy- childcare (if needed,) other tasks as assigned

Cody- 3 on 3 stuff—i.e. Refs, how to construct the tourney, figure out how to get people signed up, teams, games rules, etc.

Samantha- HIPS room, contact youth-oriented organizations, recruit volunteers

Next PLE Advisory Committee Meeting Date: **Monday, December 18, 2023 @ 2 pm**

Location: **104 Blohm Ave, Effingham, IL**