

- ◆ Savannah Welch, ROSC Coordinator, provided thanks to ROSC Consortium attendees through the provision of Holiday Gifts
- ◆ The ROSC Presentation opened through introduction of Consortium members through the shared logo board created in November featuring current Consortium Member Organizations
  - ◆ Members were encouraged to send in agency logos if they wish to be included in the board which will be featured in ROSC Meetings and materials
- ◆ Present attendees were encouraged to sign in, and online members were asked to leave their names and organizations within the chat
- ◆ November's minutes were approved
- ◆ Michelle Dettwiler of RecoverCorps spoke on the Macoupin and Montgomery County Resource Hub developed through the Slack App
  - ◆ Michelle is working to expand participation across multiple counties to encapsulate maximum resources for individuals and organizations
  - ◆ Michelle offered all attendees the opportunity to join the Slack App, online and via smartphone app, as well as stated that she could utilize the roster to send invitations via email
  - ◆ Michelle continued to explain the layout of the Resource Hub
    - What are “Channels” and where are they located
    - How can I find and change notification settings
    - Please find and agree to the group guidelines
- ◆ Stephanie Nevilles, TASC Deflection Supervisor, and her team: Stephanie Williams and Robyn Robinson, were introduced
- ◆ Stephanie began by providing a brief background on deflection within Illinois
  - ◆ Currently, deflection exists across 6 sites: the first of which was Chicago with a focus on Naloxone distribution
  - ◆ Stephanie explained that once an individual in need of deflection services is identified, a deflection team is called out for brief interview and assessment to determine resource needs, treatment needs, mental health service needs, and wraparound service needs
  - ◆ She further described a brief history of her team's work with the Harvey Police Department in offering deflection to Sex Workers and individuals using Opioids, and how that expanded throughout Schiller Park, Justice Police Department, and Dixmoor Police Department
    - Police are identifying and delegating what their specific needs are in their service area
    - Some provided services are substance use treatment, mental health treatment, housing services, and other social services
    - Individuals who agree to service are assessed and begin working with deflection specialists to pursue proper treatment. Individuals who are not in agreement with service receive engagement from the deflection team at minimum 1x per week to check in and gauge needs for food and other necessities until they become ready for treatment

- ◆ Deflection not only works with SUD, but works with victims of human trafficking in reaching out to family and other supports, attaining residential treatment if necessary and desired, as well as obtaining food and other resources
- ◆ The TASC Team discussed an additional deflection initiative born out of East St. Louis, which focuses on victims of violent crime and offer support through healing from trauma while simultaneously meeting physical needs such as emergency placement and food needs
  - Referral occurs through officer identification of an appropriate deflection target
  - From July of 2022- present, between 200-300 referrals have been made
  - Specialists are deployed once the referral is received to relentlessly engage the individual in need
- ◆ Not only TASC as an organization, but other community partners work to be a pillar of support for victims of violent crime through the identification and filling of gaps
- ◆ Focus shifted to deflection in Southern IL, which is defined as Mt. Vernon down to the Kentucky border, in which TASC works with individuals experiencing substance use, individuals with mental health diagnoses, and individuals who have been victim of human trafficking
  - Stephanie identified that most referrals come from law enforcement who reaches out to deflection through the referral system
- ◆ Stephanie discussed Choices implementation in Springfield IL through CEAD which focuses on substance use in the population of individuals experiencing homelessness. This initiative received 20 referrals on the 1st day
- ◆ Robyn Robinson spoke on the newest edition to Choices: Choices North and South, which has been active for approximately 1 month during which 6 referrals have been made
  - Robyn is working to travel throughout the 5 new counties included in order to build rapport with Police Departments and introduce the Choices Initiative as TASC is currently partnered with ISP but hoping to strengthen relationships on a micro level
  - For Choices South, 2 Mental Health Referrals and 4 Substance Use Referrals have come in: 2 of which are currently in recovery
- ◆ Choices was initiated by Illinois State Police in collaboration with DHS in order to offer a third option for individuals other than “arresting” or “ignoring”- enter the concept of deflection
  - In a nutshell, deflection is collaborative intervention which connects public safety and public health to create community-based pathways to recovery support prior to entry into the judicial system
- ◆ Choices is looking to hire individuals from the 5 counties serviced within Choices North and South to join the Deflection Team as TASC is looking for individuals in the community who understand the community, barriers, and resources

- ◆ Choices also hopes to utilize ISP and other collaborating officers while traveling to local departments in order to better connect with officers as rapport may be stronger between members of the police force than police and social services
  - This idea was brought on by Lt. Elbert Jennings of ISP who believes that Choices saves the Police work rather than creating more which may be a misconception
- ◆ Referrals are easy to make as they can be made via email or phone hotline
- ◆ Choices Deflection is adamant that they are not here to replace existing services; only to collaborate and aid existing providers however possible
  - Currently holds a strong partnership with Amare
- ◆ An example was provided from the Springfield initiative as it took each and every community organization willing to collaborate to fully meet the needs of the service area
- ◆ The second speaker, Ron Howard of Montgomery County Health Department was introduced following a Q&A with TASC
  - Ron's presentation was deflection focused within the context of the crisis care continuum through the lens of public health
- ◆ Ron introduced the 3 pillars of crisis care and the SAMSHA Guidelines which crisis providers operate under
  - SAMSHA offers a "best practice toolkit" as well as defines guidelines for an ideal system of care
  - A SAMSHA Manual exists (link available in the ppt.)
- ◆ The 3 Pillars of Care are defined as follows: Someone available to call (988), Someone to talk to/connect with (mobile crisis response), and somewhere to go (drop off centers)
  - Ron explains that 988 is the revamped suicide hotline
    - When you call in IL, you are connected to PATH located in Bloomington, IL
    - PATH takes approximately 10,000 calls per month
    - If necessary, the county police and crisis response are dispatched to the callers location
- ◆ Ron links crisis response to deflection as he explains that crisis response should be based on the decision of the individual in crisis to the greatest extent, as long as they have the capacity to do so safely, in order to reduce coercion and restriction
- ◆ Ron continues to share that we, as a team, need to continue to work in collaboration as entities as well as with the individual to meet the preferences and needs of the person in treatment within reason
- ◆ Ron goes on to discuss the CESSA Law which is set to take effect July 1st, 2024
  - The CESSA Law will prohibit mobile crisis response from petitioning for involuntary hospitalization of an individual in crisis; instead, another agency or family member must complete the process if a hospitalization is necessary
  - Any involvement from MCRT is deemed illegal and will result in penalty

- Crisis response may still do witness statements and meet reporting requirements (mandated reporting, etc.)
- ◆ Ron states that most individuals within law enforcement are familiar with the limitations of CESSA, as it was initially introduced in August of 2022
  - Police cannot be the first on scene at a crisis, but may be required to respond if a situation becomes volatile and violent
- ◆ Ron states that our communities do have certain limitations related to the third pillar of crisis response as we do not have the capacity for a drop off center currently, and our nearest center has approximately a 3 week wait
- ◆ Ron describes that we have something relative to a drop off center, Hope Home in Macoupin County which will open to the public as temporary shelter come February of 2024, and Haven Home of Hope in Montgomery County which can house a limited number of individuals; however, each facility has limited capacity and some restrictions including history of violent crime such as battery and sex offenses, as well as county requirements
- ◆ Following Ron's presentation and Q&A, Consortium Members were given the opportunity to announce upcoming events or important updates
- ◆ Kevin Schott reports that the next Community Wellness Meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the Hillsboro Library
  - It will be held the second Wednesday monthly