

Effingham County ROSC Council Meeting Minutes 12.18.2023

Date: Monday, December 18th, 2023

Time: 1:00-2:00pm

Location: 104 Blohm Ave, Effingham IL & Zoom

Attendees:

Zoom: Kevin McNally (SUD Counselor HHS,) Kristin Davis (FGC- Prevention Integration Coordinator,) Sam Weidner (Special Events Director Effingham & Clay County Health Department,) Kenneth Sterner (State Police, Drug force Analyst,) Jenna Hays (Region 4 ROSC Mentor,) Skylar Kamerer-Miller (Shelby Co Recovery Navigator,) Ashely Schaufler (PLE/Drug court participant,) Lisel Wingert (SIU Rural Health Program Coordinator,) Katy H.'s family member (PLE)

In person: Wallace Flaming (PLE,) Deysi Gonzalez (Effingham Co Health Department Lingual Resource Specialist,) Katy Houser (PLE,) Kat O'Brien (Gateway Foundation Warm Hand Off Program,) Julie Pohlman (Region 4 ROSC TA,) Oliva Jenkins (Hour House Prevention staff,) Becky Reedy (PLE support for Katy H.,) Stacy Schuette (PLE/Drug court graduate,) 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:

Katy H. shared her experience with alcohol and drugs during her addiction starting at 8 years old. She spoke about her family life and the normalization of alcohol and drugs in her life growing up. She spoke about the hopelessness her addiction led her to and that she couldn't stop, even when becoming a mother. She shared the various pathway to recovery she has embarked upon including A.A., N.A., and Celebrate Recovery. Katy H. has over 2 years clean and is a participant of Problem-Solving court of Effingham. She will be graduating January 2024.

ROSC Events in January 2024 update

- **Free Laundry Days: Jan 17th in Effingham, Jan 31st in Altamont**

Samantha provided the stats of the most recent Laundry Day in Altamont:

Families helped: 20, Wash loads: 58, Dry loads: 50, Quarters dispensed: \$255.75. Wallace F. asked if there are any ways to improve the laundry day events moving forward. The topic of transportation to and from the laundry mat was brought up. Sam W. has experience working

with CIPT and knew the requirements to ride the buses, schedule pick up and drop off times, the costs, etc and shared with the group. Other members of the Council expressed frustration with CIPT via inconsistent pick up times and what dispatcher someone will get that will allow an individual to bring items onto the buses. Felicia stated she still has bus passes she can distribute to persons who need a ride which has been provided by ECHD. Julie P. mentioned that other counties have partnered with local churches for laundry day where the church has provided transportation. Samantha H. stated New Hope church has given ROSC \$250 for February 2024. Olivia J. stated that New Hope does not have any vans or buses for transportation. Felicia and Katy H. stated the Journey church has vans that the pastor (Steve Linton) is willing to let people use. Katy H. will talk to Steve about the barriers of transportation and see if the Journey church would also like to partner with laundry days in the future. Wallace F. stated he'd be willing to drive the buses for laundry day if so. Samantha H. stated the 2 major goals of ROSC currently are to create partnership with the faith-based community and education via the schools.

▪ **Jan 5th: Edgewood Community Narcan training @ Full Gospel Church during CR**

Felicia stated her and her husband, Toby, have been distributing flyer for this training and had some inquires from the Fire Department to attend as well. This community wide training will be held at Edgewood Full Gospel Church during CR service at 6:30pm while a meal at 6:00pm before the training. Narcan resources will be distributed at the event. Samantha H. stated the goal is to host a community Narcan training in each smaller town surrounding Effingham as ROSC has identified via local business owners that people may lack knowledge of what Narcan is, what it does, and who it's for specifically (stigma reduction efforts.)

Kat O asked if we had found a place to put the Narcan newsstand box yet. Samantha stated we have not and discussed some of the barriers of this process—not temp controlled, local business owners hesitant, hours of access. Katy H. suggested putting it in the mall which Steve Linton manages. Katy H. stated she'd speak with him about this as well. Katy H. also suggested the Silver Dollar Bowling alley. She has personal connections there as well (Sherry Pagel.) Samantha H. stated she had a meeting with Chestnut Health Systems and someone has mentioned Moto Mart gas stations getting Narcan in their stores possibly. Samantha H. will approach the local Moto Mart on 3rd street across from Quik Trip.

▪ **Jan 8th: Sharing personal stories at Altamont High School along with Junior High**

Samantha H. mentioned herself and Felicia have been invited to Altamont High School to share their stories of addiction and recovery to the students of the high school and junior high.

Samantha H. stated she will be picking up the donation boxes from EJHS from the clothing drive today and posting the winner and stats on Facebook when the items are counted.

▪ **Jan 12th: Presentation to Tri Star Academy and Aspire High School staff**

Samantha H. explained the presentation to be given to the staff of Tri Star Academy in partnership with Kristin Davis from the Family Guidance Center. Kristin stated she will be covering signs & symptoms of alcohol/drug misuse and overdose. She is also in charge of finding a clinician for eating disorders to present as it was a request from the school and appears to be a topic of discussion which is lacking in resources with students. Samantha H. stated ROSC will be providing a Hidden in Plain Sight set up for the staff to tour and information about how to approach family members in addiction, resources for the individual effected and resources for the family to help the individual and themselves.

Julie P. asked where the closest DHS office is located in reference to a warming center. Katy H. stated Charleston, IL as the one in Effingham closed.

Olivia J. discussed what her position entails at Hour House via Prevention and the schools she covers in Effingham County. Olivia stated EJHS is the most receptive to their services they provide while the others in Effingham and surrounding have not responded to them or their schedules don't allow the time needed for Prevention services required by the grant.

PLE Committee update

Samantha H. stated the PLE committee will be meeting right after this meeting to discuss further the March event for people who want to help or attend.

Next ROSC Council meeting: **Monday, January 15th, 2024 @ 1:00pm**

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

Next PLE Committee meeting: **Monday, January 22nd, 2024 @ 1:00pm**

Location: **TDB-** will post in Facebook group and email Council when updated

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