

Lake County ROSC Council Monthly Meeting

Jan 25, 2024

The Lake County ROSC Council discussed their mission to empower the next generation through mentorship and purpose provision. Dr. Mary Roberson and Laura Fry emphasized the importance of creating a safe space for young minds to thrive, while Speaker 6 highlighted the council's focus on violence prevention and mental health. Brooklyn Madison and Melana Burdine discussed their mentorship program, 'Planning for Purpose,' which aims to guide young people through life's challenges by helping them discover their values and purpose. Speakers emphasized the importance of integrity and providing a supportive environment for personal growth and overcoming challenges.

Agenda:

Welcome- Dr. Mary Roberson

Welcome- New ROSC Coordinator, Barbara Young

Council Introductions

DHC/SUPR Updates: New Staff

-Statewide collaborative

-NOFO requirements FY25

January Presenters- Melana Burdine and Brooklyn Mattison

Youth Program- Planning For Purpose Mentorship

Council Announcements

Next Meeting- February 22, 2024

Dr. Mary Roberson greets the group and thanks supporters, mentioning board members and community partners. She introduces a link for attendance tracking as tracking is important.

Dr. Mary welcomes the Lake County ROSC Council and introduces the agenda for the meeting, including updates from SUPR, new staff and upcoming funding opportunities.

Barbara Young, the new LC ROSC coordinator, introduces herself and expresses her gratitude for the opportunity to work with Dr. Mary and the team.

Role of the ROSC Council

Dr. Mary highlights the Illinois Department of Human Services' efforts to develop a recovery-oriented system of care, with a focus on accessibility and coordination across different agencies.

The council aims to provide continuous support and services to individuals and families throughout their recovery journey, because everyone is recovering from something.

Dr. Mary Roberson emphasizes the importance of integrity and personal responsibility in the state's vision for recovery, highlighting the value of including peers, family members, and the community in planning and decision-making.

She encourages others to introduce themselves and share their organization's role in the youth mentorship program, emphasizing the diverse pathways to recovery.

Brooklyn Madison and Jennifer Stevens share their personal stories of recovery and resilience.

Dr. Mary introduces Brooklyn Madison and Melana Burdine as cohosts for the presentation.

Planning For Purpose Mentorship Program

They shared how having a mentor impacts the lives of young people:

92% are likely to volunteer in their communities.

75% are more likely to have held a leadership position in a club or sports team.

22% are more likely to have experienced a strong sense of belonging while growing up.

Planning for Purpose helps youth discover their identity and purpose through mentorship and self-discovery.

- Empowering youth through mentorship and safe space for youth to be themselves without masks or expectations from others.
- Emphasizes the importance of empowering the next generation through purpose provision, guidance, and skill development.

The following was also discussed:

The mentorship program targets ages 10-18, focusing on providing resources and connections for young people.

The organization's core values include integrity, credibility, empowerment, inclusivity, and making sure everyone feels seen and heard.

Integrity and reliability are core values in the mentorship program, demonstrated by consistent attendance and commitment to the program's goals.

Passion for service and healing the youth is a driving force for the program's mentors, who prioritize demonstrating resilience and overcoming personal challenges for the benefit of their mentees.

The importance of confidentiality and support for youth, highlighting the program's focus on helping them grow and find their purpose.

The program's focus is on recovery and renewal of mindset and beliefs, including topics such as bullying, racial stigma, and mental health.

Planning For Purpose also advocates for starting drug prevention programs in junior high schools to reach more receptive students.

Melana Burdine, a 40-year-old single mother of three shares her experience as a mentor and providing a safe haven for at-risk youth in Waukegan, IL.

It should be noted that with only three short weeks of beginning the Mentorship program,

Brooklyn Mattison and Melana Burdine ended their presentation with a 'thank you' to Dr. Mary Roberson and NIRCO for the opportunity to serve the youth in the community.

The floor was open for questions.

Debra Jordan offered information on providing Aviation information. (Air traffic controllers and Aviation Maintenance Techs.)

Latrena from SUPR shared her appreciation for the PFP Mentorship program.

Dr. Modena Stinnette expressed her willingness to support PFP as well as congratulating them.

There is no cost to join PFP. Parents are encouraged to stay behind to experience first-hand the commitment and dedication of the program.

Dr. Mary's aim to fulfill her goal of including the youth in our LC ROSC Council was fueled by the additional statistics below:

- Students who meet regularly with their mentors are **52% less likely** than their peers to skip a day of school and **37% less likely** to skip a class.
- Youth who meet regularly with their mentors are **46% less likely** than their peers to start using illegal drugs and **27% less likely** to start drinking.
- **Seventy-six percent** at-risk young adults who had a mentor aspire to enroll in and graduate from college versus half of at-risk young adults who had no mentor. They are also more likely to be enrolled in college.
- Mentoring reduces "depression symptoms" and increases "social acceptance, academic attitudes and grades."

Statistics courtesy of <https://www.youthmentor.org>

Marc Jones from Waukegan Township also expressed his willingness to assist with the program and his enthusiasm at their early success.

Dr. Mary addressed the question from the chat regarding PFP's access to a licensed clinical psychologist. She stressed that PFP is not a treatment provider but recovery support provider and she herself is overseeing the program and is available to assist with those needs. NIRCO staff is also able to provide additional support.

Ellen requested contact information for the western Grayslake area.

PFP provided their contact information in the chat.

Solicitation for the program is throughout the public-school systems, counselors, etc. They are 'very boots on the ground' approach.

CJ from Eddie Washington Center suggested collaboration with Pastor Daniel of Mosaic Initiative in North Chicago and will provide the information to them.

Tammy Moore, board member will provide information to the Youth Director at First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church of North Chicago.

Dr. Mary reminded us that NIRCO is also available to provide contact information.

Wygenia Brisco, Community Activist asked for contact information.

Dr. Mary ended this session with a reminder that one of our missions is to impact families, individuals and communities.

Announcements:

The importance of keeping accurate attendance was shared. An electronic attendance form is located in the chat line.

Barbara Young introduced the electronic “Small Wins” form. The form will help ROSC to highlight wins that may not be shared during our monthly meetings. This will help to provide SUPR with data needed to ensure funds for the upcoming seasons.

Ben Rudolph expressed his encouragement from PFP’s Mentorship program’s presentation.

Jarrett shared the referral group process and admonished ROSC to continue bettering the community.

Mark your calendar for September 21, 2024, for the **National Recovery Rally!**

In collaboration with CRCC, Faces and Voices of Recovery, SAMHSA, Office of National Drug Control Policy, all our regions in the State of Illinois, SUPR

We understand the city of Chicago will turn the skylight purple!

Be on the lookout for future announcements.

We’re asking for help from ALL our community partners to make the National Recovery Rally a success.

Marie Washington-Hall shared the following NIRCO events:

“Let’s Talk Peer-To-Peer”, virtual meetings, Mondays, 5:00-6:00 pm.

We are looking for individuals that have been impacted by substance use disorder and or mental health to participate in a recovery related survey. This is valuable because it shows our impact. We know that everyone has been impacted. She also shared SAMHSA’s definition of Recovery.

Anger Management, Thursday evenings, 5:00-7:00 pm. (In person)

Celebrate Recovery, 12:00 pm-1:30 pm, Wednesdays, located at Jesus Name Apostolic Church.

Marc Jones announced the application for the HBCU College Tour, March 24- March 31, 2024.

On behalf of the Waukegan Township thanked those that participated in the MLK Breakfast.

He also made mention of the tremendous number of attendees on the ROSC call! (45-47) The ROSC council continues to flourish under Dr. Mary’s leadership.

Shelly (Gateway) introduced her new colleague, Patrick D’Alessandro. (Certified Recovery Support Specialist) He’s available to come out and visit sites.

Dr. Mary offered to provide technical assistance to those in need.

Upcoming Events:

Drop The Mic! February 10, 2024, at 4:00-7:00 pm at 202 S. Genesee, Waukegan, IL 60085. Flyer is in the chat.

Dr. Mary ended the meeting.

Action Items

- Repost attendance sign-in link periodically for new attendees
- Have mentors ready to connect with youth based on their specific needs
- Send out Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to council members for signature
- Keep notice on IDHS website for upcoming Notice of Funding Opportunity in FY25 for new ROSC Councils
- Look into expansion opportunities for NIRCO