

EDGAR COUNTY ROSC MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2024

5:15 PM

Paris Hospital Conference Room A and Zoom

Attendees: Lisa Foster, Nicki Hanks, Ambrosia Branson, Judy Benton, Norm Wilson, Doug Cochran, Cindy Spencer, Scott Foster, Dr. Marilyn Frey, Nate Alexander, Michelle Creech, Lisa Ellis, Bethany Waggoner, Janice Watson, Cory Hanks, Phillip Dobelstein, Kristina Drum, Leanna Morgan, Julie Pohlman, Marissa Rollins, Carrie McKenzie, Karen Cook, Jonathan Burns, Rick Cook, and Bo Scott

Spotlight Agency/Program: Horizon Health Behavioral Health/Social Services:

Marissa Rollins with Horizon Health Social Services came to speak about the different services that HH Behavioral Health provides. She explained that Social Services provides a variety of different services including Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) curriculum, navigating insurance and Medicaid applications, assisting with access to medical equipment, transportation assistance, utilities assistance, food assistance, medication assistance, disability assistance, resources for seniors, nursing home referrals, transitioning to assisted living, connecting with behavioral health services, care referrals, support groups, and connecting with general community resources and services. She also stated that on January 1st a non-emergent transport team started to assist patients with medical appointments, the only stipulations is that the doctor has to be in Edgar County. They work closely with ERBA for utilities assistance and have several resource lists with housing and food assistance. They also have housing applications on hand.

She also mentioned that they have 3 support groups (cancer, caregiver, and grief). The grief support group is a closed group and they do have speakers that come to the caregiver group. Marissa also let the council know that they do not charge for social services. Anyone is eligible for assistance, even if they do not have a primary care provider. The best way to reach social services is to reach out to the numbers on April and Marissa's business cards which are 217-466-4862 or 217-466-4598.

Newsletter Update:

Ambrosia started to read over the newsletter for the month of January. She stated that they had 26 boxes of Narcan taken through the ROSC DOPP sites. There were also additional boxes of Narcan given to the following places, Horizon Health ER (10), Horizon Health Behavioral Health (10), Probation (5), and a PLE (5). Nicki gave her recovery navigator update. She stated

that her recovery educational groups will be going to Zoom only in February until the spring due to transportation issues for recoverees. She was also able to give out 30 hygiene bags in January, 10 to HRC, 10 to Horizon Health ER, 5 to Probation, and 5 to a PLE. Ambrosia then went into detail regarding the upcoming events. She stated that her and Nicki are working on getting the first podcast episode recorded and it will be an intro to what ROSC is and the purpose of the podcast. She also stated that the next Free Laundry Day coming up is January 25th at 2:00 PM at J's Laundry. Transportation is available by Lake Ridge Christian Church and Dr. Marilyn Frey sponsored funds for the event. There is also a virtual Narcan training on January 31st at 12:00 PM via Zoom. Individuals can scan the QR code on the flyer to register or email Ambrosia or Nicki with their name and email and they can manually register them. The last upcoming event is the Addiction Awareness Panel: How Substance Use Disorder Affects Families. It will be on February 22nd, 2024 from 5-7 PM at Ernie Eveland Gym.

Subcommittee Meetings Update:

Ambrosia stated that neither subcommittees met in the month of January due to holidays and lack of attendance. She asked the council how they felt about doing just one subcommittee meeting a month? She asked this because there has not been steady attendance. 2 council members suggested to combine the two meetings. Ambrosia stated that she will send an email to the council asking what day/time to move the meeting to.

Strategic Plan:

Ambrosia stated that per our grant, we needed to go over our strategic plan and the updates we had made for FY 24. She stated that she wanted to update the council on what goals they have accomplished and what goals are still needing work:

Goal C: Develop additional support systems for persons in recovery and their families.

Objective 5: The ROSC Council will assist in the exploration of CARE Coalition becoming an RCO.

Ambrosia mentioned that ROSC has been assisting CARE in exploring getting their 501c3 and has connected them with Faces and Voices of Recovery.

Objective 6: The ROSC Council will assist in the exploration of Sage and Prim becoming an RCO.

Ambrosia mentioned that ROSC has connected Sage and Prim with the Statewide ROSC team and IDHS/SUPR to explore funding opportunities.

Objective 7: ROSC Council will provide advocacy to explore establishment of a local Drug Court in Edgar County.

Ambrosia mentioned that Nicki and herself did sit in on the planning meetings for the current Recovery Court and have assisted where needed.

Objective 8: ROSC Council will aid in the establishment of a Safe Passage Initiative in Edgar County.

Ambrosia mentioned that ROSC did have a meeting about a year ago with the Edgar County Sheriff's Department and Paris Police Department to explore if interest in Safe Passage. They are currently discussing starting it in Paris. Ambrosia has also reached out to Doug to get a meeting set up to see if Kansas is interested.

Objective 9: Explore Recovery Housing options for Edgar County

Ambrosia discussed that the ROSC council has had a separate subcommittee where they work on landlord lists, bringing awareness to the homeless problem in the community, building relationships and learning about other safe, sober living facilities near us.

Goal D: The ROSC Council will assist key stakeholders with substance use disorder education and resources for the participants they serve.

Objective 10: Provide community wide education series to reduce stigma and myth regraded to substance use disorder.

Ambrosia mentioned that the ROSC council is achieving this objective by Nicki doing her groups in the community, hosting panels to reduce stigma and provide awareness on topics surround substance use, and just any other events that are related to reducing stigma in the community.

Objective 11: Provide community wide education specific to families, parents, and children regarding substance use disorder.

Ambrosia stated that this is an objective we really need to focus on for the rest of the fiscal year. We have already completed some of this by participating in Red Ribbon Week and Nicki doing her educational group topics surround families, but we need to think about other ways to provide education!

Objective 12: Provide Naloxone training and distribution within the community.

Ambrosia mentioned that the ROSC is doing a lot of Narcan distribution in the community already. Between DOPP display sites, trainings in the community (virtual and in person), and giving Narcan out in resource bags.

Billboard Revisions:

Ambrosia told the council that we are not renewing the billboard for the rest of fiscal year 24. She stated that many individuals have discussed other ways in which we can put the money towards promoting the ROSC. Based on the needs in the community and different ways to promote ROSC, here are the ideas Ambrosia and Nicki came up with. Ambrosia also stated that she wanted it to be very clear that these are just ideas that still have to be submitted for review from leadership at the Hour House.

Subscription with Prairie Press, Facebook boosts, CEU's for trainings, Quarters for Laundry Days, gift cards for panel participants, reusable water bottles, xylazine test strips, visa gas gift cards, ponchos, phone cards, and hot hand warmers

Ambrosia asked the council members for feedback on the items brainstormed. Those that responded said the suggestions sounded great for them.

New ROSC FB Page:

Ambrosia stated that there was not much time left of the meeting, but to check out the new ROSC council FB page! Edgar County ROSC!

Agency Update:

ECPHD: N/A

Neighborhood Watch: Scott stated that their Facebook page is growing. The cameras that are put up in the county are being used. The Prairie Press also published a wonderful article about Neighborhood Watch!

Recovery Court: Norm stated that they have one active person right now that has just phased up. Phillip mentioned that they are not looking at becoming a certified program right now as they are

still trying to work logistics out and explore funding opportunities to become sustainable in the future.

HRC: Jonathan mentioned that he was approached about a facility in Paris that would make a great sober living facility. He expressed interest in HRC pursuing the opportunity in the future, the biggest barrier being funding.

CARE Coalition: Lisa stated CARE is still working on getting their 501c3 status and still looking for funding opportunities.

Human Trafficking Training: Doug gave a recap on the Human Trafficking Training. He stated that there was over 200 people in attendance for the first session and 40 people for the second session. He shared that at the training an individual came up to him and stated that she was being trafficked and her buyer was in the audience. He mentioned that this situation just goes to show that trafficking is right here in our county and neighboring counties. Doug also brought up that he has been trained on being a trainer for human trafficking trainings. If anyone is interested in a training for their organization, they can reach out to Doug. Ambrosia also mentioned she will send an email to the council and let them know.

Next Meeting: February 27th 2024, 5:15 PM at Paris Hospital Conference Room A and Zoom