

Community Resource Assessment FY24

Recovery Oriented System of Care Community Resource Assessment Sangamon County ROSC Council (PIRSC)

Region: ROSC Region 4

Lead Agency: Family Guidance Centers

County: Sangamon

Background: This is a resource assessment that summarizes results obtained about substance use and/or mental health disorders within Sangamon County. Approximately 25 individuals of the community provided feedback, including persons with lived experience, community members and key stakeholders. Our survey and interviews included sectors representing Substance Use Disorder Treatment Centers, Prevention, Individuals with Lived Experience, Behavioral Health providers, Recovery Homes and our 2022 data surveys.

Executive Summary/Key Findings:

- The Community in general is still unaware of ROSC sober recreation initiatives despite the ROSC coordinating, marketing, and executing a multitude of sober recreation activities and events, including but not limited to sober picnics, art and craft events, game nights, etc.
- The need for access to treatment, including but not limited to a medical detox, transportation to services, waitlists/staff shortages. Insufficient substance abuse and mental health services for youth (21 under).
- Additional efforts, adjustments, and resilience required in order to continue increasing education and awareness about Sangamon County ROSC. Potentially includes partnerships to help educate within prevention, faith communities, community members, etc.
- The need for collaboration for addressing substance use and mental health disorders in Sangamon County including but not limited to agencies and coalitions, recovery communities, recovering people and their families.
- Although Sangamon County has increased sober living residents in the past year, we still find insufficient sober living capacity, lack of adolescent services, poor access to co-occurring/mental health counseling, and a need to increase overall education and awareness about addiction as a disease and local recovery services available in our community.

Gaps/Concerns:

- Insufficient substance abuse, mental health treatment and recovery supports are offered to youth (ages 21 and under).
- Insufficient access to treatment. Lack of medical detox unit, transportation barriers, lack of mental health and medication management.
- Lack of sober congregation areas (lack of dedicated centers/sober congregation areas for people in recovery to socialize, play games, watch television, etc.)
- Lack of family support groups for families members including education on SUD awareness for family members. This includes but is not limited to lack of affordable child care options.
- Large amount of stigma continues regarding SUD, mental health and recovery efforts especially in medical components.
- Insufficient transportation in rural areas within Sangamon County.
- Lack of second chance employment opportunities as well as vocational education.

Observations:

- Limited resources for rural areas within Sangamon County.
- Supports anti-stigma work and champagnes.
- Sangamon County lacks the support of NAMI and mental health services.
- Increase awareness of the disease of addiction to education systems.
- Key informants and survey responses indicated the lack of support for youth and adolescent populations, not only for treatment/prevention services but also for support of children whom family members are effected by substance use and/or mental health disorders.

Recommendations:

- Support development of a Recovery Community Organization.
- Support funding opportunities and organizations for increase adolescents and youth services.
- Support funding opportunities of gaps/concerns to agencies in the county.
- Encourage the development of educational materials for substance use and mental health disorders for community members, agencies and families.
- Advocate and collaborate with hospital systems for medical detox units.
- Continue to seek different ways to enhance the Council for increased support and input.