

March 21, 2024 ROSC Council Minutes:

Meeting was called to order by ROSC Coordinator Tia Schum at 3pm on March 21, 2024 at The Piatt County Mental Health Center.

Attendance was taken: Tia Schum (ROSC Coordinator); Melanie Cox (PLE); Paul Spangler (First Presbyterian Church); Charles LeGrand (Pavilion); Michelle Eliason (Piatt County Mental Health); Dan Koenigs (Piatt County Mental Health); Jordan Ziegenbein (Monticello Christian Church); Tara Beckett (PCMHC); Jaime Porter (PCMHC); Tony Kirkman (PCMHC) and Christine Pierce (Carle Community Outreach). In addition the following participants joined via ZOOM: Julie Pohlman (Region 4 TA), Jenna Hays (Region 4 Mentor), and Dave King (Carle Community Outreach).

Introductions – General Introductions were given.

Communication Plan – Tia discussed the Bement support group. Tia discussed the guest speaker last Wednesday at group and encouraged the council to send anyone her way if they were interested in being a guest speaker. Tia also discussed the need for donations for the Murder Mystery Event coming up.

Tia presented the one liner, “Recovery Doesn’t Happen in the Dark” to the council again to ensure council still agreed with using it. All members in attendance were in favor to still continue to use it.

At the end of the meeting, Tia discussed the National Marijuana Institute Informational Webinar being held April 24th. Tia explained that the link and invitation will be sent out as soon as she gets the flyer done.

Naloxone trainings:

Tony will host a Naloxone training at Calvary Baptist Church, March 30th at 9 AM.

Tony and Tia will host a Naloxone training at Bement Library June 5th at 5 pm

This Month’s Activities – Tia discussed upcoming events in the next couple of months. Murder Mystery, Prevention thru Art, Speaker Panel, as well as Kirby Medical Center reaching out for volunteers for the Derby!

Guest Speaker – Melanie Cox. Melanie is the owner of Canvas and Corks in Monticello, IL and identifies as a person in long time recovery. Melanie recalls having a good upbringing with one older sister. Due to the age gap between the two, Melanie was more like an only child growing up. Melanie recalls not having a lot of supervision growing up and once she turned 18, she wanted to “try all the things” which included alcohol and eventually cocaine and marijuana. Melanie became pregnant at 19 and attributed this to being a big motivator to get sober as well as “cleaning up her act”. She married at a young age and her and her then spouse tried to make it work for the right reasons but ultimately they separated and then divorced. Melanie began to use alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine to cope with her depression. She stated that she used secretly. Once her secret was discovered though, she felt shame and was worried about losing her two babies. She reached out twice to get assistance in her recovery journey and thanks a counselor in Urbana, IL as well as Dan Koenigs, BA CADC, for helping her get her life back so she could live. Melanie states that having to “learn the hard way” is what helped her as well as her sister dragging her back to church. She has now been 15 years sober and loves just living a “normal” life because, to her, that is the real success. Melanie stated that she loves the tangible things she can see in her community and county, especially what ROSC is doing. She loves that her children have an opportunity to have someone talk to them about the things she didn’t get growing up in a rural community.

Sector Speakers – No sector speakers this month.

Future engagement opportunities –

4/12 – Murder Mystery @ 7 pm

End of April – voting on Prevention thru art winner

5/4 – Kirby Derby Volunteers

5/9 – Expert Panel – 6:30 pm

ROSC Deliverables – The ROSC deliverables are constantly looked at to ensure the Piatt County ROSC Committee is staying the course.

Who's Missing? – Tia continued to remind group that IDHS has an expectation that 50% of the total council should be composed of PLEs.

Planning for future engagement opportunities:

Future Meetings – It was agreed that future ROSC Meetings will be held 3rd Thursday of the month @ 3pm with the next Piatt County ROSC meeting being held here at The Center on Thursday April 18 @ 3pm. It was also discussed that it would be helpful to maintain a zoom option for guests.

Satisfaction Survey – A brief verbal satisfaction survey was conducted. Participants felt encouraged by number of those in attendance and the progress made at meeting. It was agreed that more PLEs would help move discussion along and the important thing is to have meetings that move forward the deliverables of the grant.

Meeting was adjourned at 4 pm

Recorded by ROSC Coordinator, Tia Schum