

Union County ROSC Meeting

02/22/2024

Attendance:

Christina A, State of Illinois

Trina Martian, Arrowleaf

Emily Middleton, Arrowleaf

Katie Unthank, Region 5 Mentor

Samantha Carver, Arrowleaf

Kelly Johnson, Arrowleaf

Serena Smith, URC

Cammy Duggins, Arrowleaf

Julia Thrower, Dongola High School

Ashely Smith, The Old Depot

Diana Shields, Centerstone Fellowship House

Kent Young, Union County Church Alliance

I. Updates

- a. We have 190 children's coats at Arrowleaf!
 - i. We will be getting shoes sometime in April!
- b. We are doing a marketing survey!
 - i. We are asking how we should get information out to the community.
 - ii. It is online, but we have paper copies.

II. Stigma Discussion

- a. Where are we seeing stigma in Union County?
 - i. On the survey, someone responded that they were worried about seeking treatment because they did not want their family to know about their addiction.
 - ii. We could include the family in the treatment by providing education about substance use.
 - iii. People may be worried about getting treatment because the treatment provider may leave on message on their phone and a family member may hear it or see them in the waiting room. Is there a way to provide more privacy?
 1. When people call Arrowleaf, we ask how they want to be contacted, whether we can leave messages or not.
 2. We could add different color alerts to call more attention to it. And we could ask people more frequently about how they want to be contacted.
 - iv. We may understand what is stigmatizing as different.
 1. Language people in recovery use may be different than the language that people not in recovery use.
 - a. It's important that we ask people where they are in the recovery process and how they identify.

- i. Words like “addict” could be helpful to the person but could be harmful. We have to be careful with our words.
 - b. Where is there stigma in the community?
 - i. In the language we use.
 - ii. People talk about people in active substance use, but not too them, and that creates a lot of stigma.
 - 1. Some people only try to offer help once, but refuse to offer assistance again.
 - 2. Kindness is an important part of reducing stigma.
 - iii. A big part of breaking stigma is getting everyone together, different people from different parts of the community.
 - 1. The Old Depot had a place like this before they had to sell their building.
 - c. Announcements
 - i. March 2 6PM at Casper Church there is Gospel Music and testimony.
 - ii. Black Balloon Day March 6, 2024
 - 1. Community Narcan Table in Vienna
 - 2. Virtual Narcan Training
 - 3. Black Balloons outside of our offices
 - a. We are offering balloons to other organizations!
 - iii. DEC Event March 7 at Kiki’s Coffeehouse!
- III. Next Meeting: March 28, 2024 at 11:30AM.