



## MERC Meeting Agenda

9:00 a.m. via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/97144229718>

April 18, 2024

### Welcome and Introductions

- Welcome and please introduce yourself, your organization, and the role you play at your agency and new information concerning your agency.
  
- Participants :
- Armando M-Omni youth services
- Angella H-ROSC
- Alida B- Amare nfp
- Cora H – Community member
- Cortillian – 101 Ways nfp
- Dan H – ROSC
- Danielle V – Chestnut Health systems
- Deb H – Madison cnty 708 board
- Dusty H – Chestnut Health Systems OEND
- Elizabeth Mc- Chestnut Health Systems OEND
- Emily W – Madison Health Dept
- Jami L – ROSC
- Jen N/F – Porchlight Collaborative
- Johanna G – IDHS SUPR
- Julie P – Region 4 TA ROSC
- Kathy K- CHS-Health Specialist
- Katie U – ROSC mentor
- Mark K – MERC ROSC
- Monique B – Bond County Recovery Council
- Naomi F – RCORP
- Robyn R – TASC/Choices Deflection
- Tisha L – DCFS
- Ty H – AMARE
- Violette B - OEND

### **Old Business**

- The subcommittee is still focusing on gaining access to individuals by connecting H&I and by connecting individuals through pre-trial meetings. We will also be working to collaborate with HMA's Jail MAR programs. We are looking at how we can start accessing the county jails and look at what reentry programs are available for individuals and meeting their needs.
- Mark Knott and Tyron Hill are hosting weekly support meetings at Amare's Wood River location each Tuesday at 6:00 pm. They have also expanded into St Clair County with a 1-hour group at the IRC.
- Jakob Miller from the IRC- Illinois Recovery Center in Swansea gave relevant information on the services they can provide at this time. Residential (28 days), medical detox up to 2.7 & Alumni support of 6 meetings/activities a week.

### **New Business**

This month Alida Barela – AMARE nfp – updating the group on what AMARE's expanded services since first starting, what AMARE does in the community and how they can help your team in their mission.

Alida shared some of her personal story of recovery and how she has transitioned into being a Recovery Specialist with AMARE. She shared how she and her coworkers take a client centered approach at meeting the individual looking for help is at, what help looks like for that individual and what Recovery looks like for said individual. This approach has led to several positive outcomes for individual's with SUD (substance use disorder). Alida shared that AMARE has now grown to 12 paid employees who are in the communities making a difference. If you or someone you know could use their help just reach out:

Alidas number is 618-331-6409 , AMARE office 618-331-5905 or amarenfp.org

### **Announcements and upcoming events**

- At the Edwardsville Library there are monthly Stigma conversations along with Narcan demonstrations which will continue to be held the 3rd Wed of each month.

- Weekly Early recovery meeting Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at 144 E Ferguson in Wood River (Amare).
- April Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> is National Drug Take back day-check with your local police agencies for specific times.

### **Wellness Moment**

- Mark Knott – Chestnut Health Systems Community Health Specialist III

### **MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting**

**May 16th,2024 at 9am**

**Next subcommittee meeting is May 14th,2024 @ 2pm**

### **Metro East Recovery Council (MERC) Vision:**

A community system that nurtures and supports individuals and families seeking or maintaining recovery for themselves or a loved one.

### **Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) Mission:**

Collaborating to build and empower communities of recovery.