
Attendees: Amber Clark, Angie Hunt, Bryant Lache, Carrie McKenzie, Christina Isley, Christine Pierce, Dana Tell, Fineez Muhammed, Jason Pantier, Jeff McFadden, Julie Pohlman, Kaycie Sanders, Kristin Davis, Leanna Morgan, Linda Scribner, Lisa Edwards, Matthew Hales, Michelle Hibbard, Tess Miller, Tia Schum, Tiffany Murdock, Tisha Gatson

Guest Speaker(s): Linda Scribner

Note Taker: Matthew Hales

Minutes

Introductions

- Amber Clark, Community Engagement and Partnership Coordinator, Suicide Prevention, Iliana VA Health Care System
- Angie Hunt, Douglas County Health Department, Healthcare Navigator
- Bryant Laiche - Prevention First Youth Prevention Resource Center
- Carrie McKenzie, Gateway Foundation
- Christina Isley, SLU Department of Family and Community Medicine Research Assistant
- Christine Pierce, Carle Addiction Recovery Center
- Dana Tell, Coles County ROSC Coordinator, Hour House
- Fineez Muhammed, Executive Director, Bella's Home Health
- Jason Pantier, Douglas County Probation and Court Services
- Jeff McFadden, West Central IL ROSC
- Julie Pohlman, Statewide ROSC Region 4 TA
- Kaycie Sanders, Dial-A-Ride Public Transportation
- Kristin Davis, Family Guidance Center, Region 4 Substance Use Prevention Integration Coordinator
- Leanna Morgan, Douglas County ROSC Coordinator
- Linda Scribner, Founder of Be Brave
- Lisa Edwards, Douglas County Coroner
- Matthew Hales, Librarian, Newman Regional Library District
- Michelle Hibbard, Community Relations Coordinator, Rosecrance
- Tess Miller - Shelby Moultrie County ROSC Coordinator, Hour House
- Tia Schum - Piatt County ROSC Coordinator
- Tiffany Murdock, Hour House Prevention
- Tisha Gatson, Brightpoint Healthy Families Program

Organization Spotlight/ Guest(s)

Linda Scribner, Founder of Be BRAVE (PJ's Place) via Zoom

- Be BRAVE stands for Brilliant Respectful and Vastly Educated. Be BRAVE is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization in Tuscola.
- Linda shared her personal story of losing 2 sons, Jordan (known as Petey) and Jacob, both lost to opioid overdose. Both sons had been saved by Narcan, more than once. Both lived in transitional housing after jail. They carried full time jobs and had families while in recovery. She saw the impact that transitional housing had on her own sons.
- Linda works as staff nurse at a hospital and teaches students in clinical rotation. She sees how substance use disorder affects health overall and has witnessed the attitudes some healthcare professionals portray. She has also witnessed how if we can support and guide it can lead to better outcomes. She has also seen when recovery navigators come to hospital and see patients meeting them where they are.

Linda saw the need for housing after reviewing the Douglas County ROSC needs assessment. Linda shared her plans for transitional housing, which is not currently available in Douglas County. She envisions naming it PJ's Place.

- Housing for up to 10 men
- Support while recovering from substance use disorder.
- This will not be a treatment facility.
- Planning to host supportive meetings (SMART recovery).
- Participants can come by self-referrals, after completing treatment program or released from hospital
- There will be an intake process and guidelines to follow.
- Expected length of stay will be 3 to 12 months.
- Plan to partner with local businesses to help provide employment
- Participants will pay rent.

One barrier Linda has have found is that most grants are for established facilities, once established finding grants may be easier. The goal is for the door open by February of 2026. The most current scheduled fundraiser is an annual run, A Pace for Petey and Jakes Jog will be September 28, 2024.

Information will be added into ROSC newsletter and is available on the Be Brave website:

www.bebraveforpetey.org. Donations are tax deductible. There is also a Venmo option on the website.

What help is needed?

- Locating grants and other funding opportunities.
- Be Brave has a board, but would like to have persons with lived experience that would be focused.
- Reaching out to current transitional housing facilities and recovery homes to ask for their procedures. Dana Tell mentioned that Coles County has several recovery homes. Dana will send information to Leanna to share with Linda.
- Kaycie Sanders would like Linda to let her know when up and running to see how Dial-A-Ride can assist with transportation.

Council agreed that a subcommittee would be a great idea.

- July 18th at 9:00 am would work best for Linda. In Person only would be preferred for the first meeting.
- Lisa Edwards was able to assist in scheduling the Douglas County Annex Building for a meeting location.
- Would welcome anyone with experience in transitional housing, but others are welcome to assist also. There may be additional opportunities for those unable to join in person.
- The subcommittee will be added into the strategic plan but Leanna made note that the schedule will be consistent with Linda's schedule and Linda will be the lead of the meetings.

Leanna will send out Linda's email to the council so that information can be send directly to her.

Recovery Navigator update

Darlene was unable to attend council meeting due to training at Hour House. Report given by Leanna.

- She is now going to jail twice a week for educational groups that are available to the jail population.
- Parkland has a job opening for an adult education instructor for GED classes.
- Education groups once a week either virtually or online.

East Central IL Deflection Initiative (DART)

DART Kickoff at Monticello High School Auditorium (1 Sage Dr. Monticello, IL 61856) on July 31st, 2024 at 1:00 pm- 5:00 pm

- According to Koren VanderWeele, Program Manager with TASC's Center for Health and Justice (per email to leadership team), kickoff should be attended by First responders and Community-based service providers. This includes those who will refer individuals to deflection specialists and the dedicated on-the-ground personnel responsible for accepting deflection participants into various services. It encompasses all individuals actively involved in deflection, including line staff and supervisors across the first responders, treatment, and community sectors. Whether they are working on the streets or part of broader network organizations, this invitation is extended to all those actively involved in the crucial work of deflection.
- Please email Koren at Kvanderweele@tasc.org to RSVP by July 29 to confirm attendance.

Ending FY24 (Ending June 30, 2024)

Highlights of Council Activity, Community Outreach, & Accomplishments were emailed out to council for review of missing items.

- Recovery month and suicide awareness projects need added.
- A timeline of pictures is being put together for a newsletter highlight.

Looking ahead into FY25 (Beginning July 1, 2024)

Council members were asked what they are looking forward to for FY25. Here is what they said;

- Hour House ROSC communication campaign for FY25.
- Very excited about the growth of the Douglas County ROSC and progress that has been made.
- Excited about the planning and future development of PJ's place! Hope we can all come together and help make it happen said by a council member.
- Excited for what ROSC will be doing in Douglas County for the recovery community.

- Looking forward to more coordination!
- Excited about people in recovery who have a role in jail, hospitals, and communities.
- Seeing people in recovery trying to make their way.
- Thankful for ROSC creating safe spaces
- Getting back into the schools and seeing new kids and the familiar kids from last year
- Looking forward to learning more about outreach in communities
- Looking forward to really getting involved
- SMART Recovery!
- Looking forward to opportunities and things that we haven't thought of yet

Other Business and agency updates

Kaycie Sanders, Dial-A Ride

- 1 driving position available in Douglas County. Job posting will be shared in newsletter.

Kristin Davis, Family Guidance Center

- Regional Substance Use Education Center has continued funding for FY25. Continues to build relationships with youth serving organizations. Would like everyone to know that if supporting youth and looking to integrate substance use education let her know.

Christine Pierce, Carle Recovery

- Works under a grant through Carle for outreach that will continue on July 1.

Carrie McKinzie, Gateway

- Open house July 24 at the Gateway Springfield location. Flyer will be emailed out.

Amber Clark, VA Community Engagement

- Virtual SAVE training is tomorrow. Training is a gatekeeper training that teaches recognizing signs that someone may be having suicidal thoughts. It is geared towards veterans but is a good training for anyone. It is free to attend online and will be about an hour. Flyer will be sent out to council.
- September 4th is annual operation obstacle course at Richland College, which is a 2-mile obstacle course race (observers also welcome). You must be over 18 to participate. Flyer will be sent out to council.

Fineez Muhammed, Bella's Home care service

- Home health home nursing that covers Champaign, Vermillion, and Douglas counties. Trying to become Medicare certified.

Angie Hunt, DCHD

- New to Douglas County Health Department. She has been in social services for her whole career. Will be doing festivals, health fairs, getting out into communities

Next meeting: July 24, 2024 at 10:00am at Douglas County Health Dept. and Zoom.