



MERC Meeting Agenda

9:00 a.m. via Zoom

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

July 18th, 2024

Welcome and Introductions

- 7/18/24 meeting attendees
 - Dan Hutchison- Chestnut/ROSC
 - Angella Holloway- Chestnut/ROSC
 - Beverly Holland- Chestnut/Statewide ROSC
 - Alicia Moesner- Chestnut/RCORP
 - Armondo Miranda- OMNI
 - Elbert Jennings- IL State Police
 - Greg Norkus- St. Clair County Probation
 - Cora Hughes- MERC Executive Board
 - Michelle Brooks- Madison County 708 MH Board
 - Jen Nagel-Fischer- Porchlight Collective
 - Jen Schulz- Centerstone
 - Kathy Kehrer- Chestnut/CCE
 - Kelly Jefferson- NAMI
 - Megan Tyler- Sacred Spaces of Care
 - Patrick Small- HSHS
 - Paul Fischer- Porchlight Collective
 - Sheena Langhauser- Memorial Hospital BV
 - Stephanie Everhart- Chestnut/Vocational
 - Tawana Howard- St. Clair County Health Department
 - Tracy Dones- Chestnut/CCE
 - Violette Book- Chestnut/OEND
 - Danielle Voelkel- Chestnut/RCORP

Old Business

Mark Knott (maknott@chestnut.org) sent a survey on 7/2 to gather input from the council regarding opinions and availability for in person council meetings. As of this week we have received 14 responses. Mark will leave the survey open through Monday, 7/22, at which time he will share the results with the council and a decision about future meetings can be made. If you have taken the survey, thank you. If you have not and would like to please use this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HZ3Q3RH>

New Business

Due to unforeseen circumstances our guest speaker, Tracy Hancock (Community Outreach Specialist with Chestnut's Prevention team), was unable to attend today's meeting. Tracy has asked to share at next month's meeting.

Dan Hutchison (Associate Director of Community Health- Chestnut) presented and discussed the IL ROSC FY25 Deliverables checklist that was provided by SUPR, sharing upcoming work that will be completed regarding deliverables and areas the council can contribute or provide support to the work. This document will be shared with the council for reference.

Dan Hutchison shared the FY24 MERC Membership Protocols for the purpose of starting the review and resubmission process. Updating and submitting this document is a ROSC deliverable with a due date of 8/30/24. This will be updated by the MERC Coordinator, however input from the council regarding changes is being sought for consideration. The FY24 Membership Protocols will also be shared for reference. Suggestions are welcome and are asked to be sent to MERC@chestnut.org

Membership recruitment was discussed and council members were encouraged to invite individuals from their organization, individuals they collaborate with, as well as individuals they are serving who can contribute to the work of the council. Our goal is to have representation in FY25 from all sectors as defined by the ROSC grant:

1. Persons with Lived Experience
2. Recovery Supports
3. Faith-based Groups
4. Family/Parents
5. Service Providers
6. State/Local Government
7. Substance Use Treatment Organizations
8. Healthcare
9. Law Enforcement
10. Judicial
11. Volunteer/Civic Organizations
12. Education/Schools
13. Youth Serving Organizations
14. Media
15. Business

Reminder that MERC has funds to provide stipends (gift cards) to individuals with lived experience who participate in a variety of areas. Reach out to MERC@chestnut.org to learn more.

Announcements and upcoming events

- At the Edwardsville Library there are monthly Stigma conversations along with Narcan demonstrations which will continue to be held on the 3rd or 4th wed of each month check the library Facebook page schedule.
- Weekly Early recovery meeting Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at 144 E Ferguson in Wood River (Amare). Open to the public.
- Madison County Fair in Highland Il starting July 24th till July 28th. MERC will be collaborating with other groups to share resources and information located at the First Aid Tent. If you'd like to attend please reach out to MERC@chestnut.org
- City of East St. Louis' National Night Out 2024. This is a family event that will include free food, music, fun events, school supplies and other free resources. For more information you can reach out to Elbert Jennings at elbert.jennings@illinois.gov
- 2nd Annual Comprehensive Behavioral Health Center Recovery Conference will be hale September 27th at the Jackie Joyner-Kersey Center from 9 am-1:30 pm, located at 101 JJK Circle, E St Louis

Wellness Moment

- Mark Knott – Chestnut Health Systems Community Health Specialist III
 - Mark was not able to attend today's meeting

MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting

August 15th,2024 at 9am

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.