

Membership Protocol

Lead Agency: Transforming Educating & Empowering Children and Humanity (TEECH Foundation)

ROSC Council: Far Southside ROSC Initiative (FSSRI)

Who is TEECH Foundation: Transforming, Educating and Empowering Children and Humanity (TEECH) Foundation is a holistic 501c3 not-for-profit organization. TEECH has been a part of the Far Southside community for over 19 years and has provided recovery support services using the ROSC methodology.

TEECH is a substance use prevention and recovery (SUPR) provider, Far Southside Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC), and Recovery Community Organization (RCO). We provide peer-driven and peer-led recovery support services (RSS) to individuals who are seeking assistance with substance use, mental health, and lifestyle change. TEECH aims to make a difference in people's lives by increasing public awareness of substance use and mental health services. We are committed to assisting individuals to walk through many pathways by using their voices to address stigmas attached to addiction and mental health. TEECH believes long-term recovery from substance use disorders is dependent upon the delivery of services that are not only responsive to individuals' use of alcohol and other substances but also co-occurring trauma effects, mental health issues, physical health problems, and ongoing recovery-related concerns. TEECH offers evidence-based holistic services that strive to assist individuals in maintaining their recovery and mental stability. We provide empathy to build unity with the individuals that we serve.

According to the Chicago Department of Public Health, drug-related deaths are having a significant impact on the residents of the far south side neighborhoods. The aging rate of individuals who die due to dependent and nondependent use of drugs & alcohol or accidental poisoning caused by the use of legal or illegal drugs or from poisoning due to medically prescribed and other drugs (drug-induced deaths) per 100,000 population is increasing. This prompted TEECH to develop the Far Southside ROSC Initiative (FSSRI) in 2019 to broaden our scope of resources for those in active addiction, recovery, family, friends, and the community.

A strong mantra within the recovery community is "recovery happens within the community." Therefore, we need to review services, support, and other resources within the community, allowing community leaders to address gaps. The criminal justice and the SUD service systems are interconnected.). Data shows that arrests related to substance use are not confined to urban areas as most people might think. Nationally, the percentage of drug-related arrests in urban areas (40.8%) is now equivalent to the percentage in suburban areas (40.6%) (Robertson, 2016). Further, due to limited funding for comprehensive care, nonprofits are often faced with limited budgets, reducing the ability to provide quality care that reflects the reality of addiction and mental health, the impact it has on family and loved ones, and the impact that it has on the community.

Those impacted by SUD/Mental Health and their loved ones need to know that residential treatment is simply the beginning of a lifelong track through challenging terrain. Long-term recovery from substance use disorders is dependent upon the delivery of services that are not only responsive to individuals' use of alcohol and other drugs but also their co-occurring trauma effects, mental health, physical health, and ongoing recovery-related concerns.

What is Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC)

A Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) is a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to experience recovery and improved health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of substance use and/or co-occurring conditions. The central focus of a ROSC is to create an infrastructure, or “systems of care”, with the resources to effectively address the full range of substance use and/or co-occurring disorders within communities.

Who is involved in ROSC

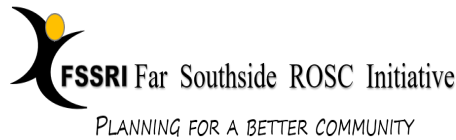
ROSC programs have grown tremendously, and we are now providing resources and community collaborations in 61 counties throughout Illinois. A guiding principle of ROSC is to engage all community members and use peers and providers to provide information and education. The Illinois Department of Human Services/ Division of Substance Use and Recovery has identified ROSC members as stakeholders who live in the community as well as representatives from local hospitals, primary care, mental health, law enforcement, local business owners, local government representatives, and policymakers, persons with lived experience and SUD intervention, and treatment and recovery support service providers. FSSRI will recruit individuals from the community above groups by providing a recruitment campaign utilizing social media (i.e., E-mails, Facebook, Linked-In, Twitter, etc.), focus groups, newsletters, and word of mouth. Recovery-oriented systems of care will be nested in the community to enhance the availability of support capacities of families, social networks, community-based institutions, and other people in recovery. Research shows that social and community resources promote better recovery outcomes.

How do you become part of the ROSC Council

- Contact a Member of TEECH Far Southside ROSC Initiative
 1. De’Shara Shells - desharashells@teechfoundation.net – Program Director
 2. Frederick Buford - frederickbuford@teechfoundation.net – ROSC Coordinator
 3. Dr. K. White - drkwhite@teechfoundation.net- CEO
- Visit our website - www.teechfoundation1.net
- Attend an informational meeting to get educated about the Criteria of The ROSC Council
- Commit to becoming a part of the ROSC council, and sign an MOU

Far Southside ROSC Initiative Service Areas

The FSSRI currently serves, but is not limited to, West Englewood, Auburn Gresham, Beverly, Washington Heights, Mount Greenwood, Morgan Park, Roseland (North-East), Calumet Heights, Pullman, South Deering, Hedgewitch, Oak Lawn, Evergreen, Robins Illinois (Southwest), and Hammond Indiana.



It is the duty of every ROSC Council member to adhere to the Mission, Vision, and Goals

Mission Statement

To dispel fear and enhance the love of self and others through education for the recovering person and community, embracing the philosophy, "Don't look back; you are not going that way." FSSRI believes recovery comprises countless pathways that contribute to a healthy quality of life for those seeking long-term recovery.

Vision

To continue fighting the fight against addiction by building a platform of unity and resources through advocacy and education to sustain long-term recovery. FSSRI strives to build communities that no longer fear or stigmatize the recovering or mentally challenged person but treat them with dignity and respect.

Goals of the FSSRI ROSC Initiative

The Far South Side ROSC Initiative continues to combine strengths from the Southwest Side of Chicago and surrounding Suburban Communities. The Far Southside ROSC has developed a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strength and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to achieve long-term recovery, improved health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of alcohol, substance misuse, and mental health issues. The FSSRI has created an accurate strategic plan for the providers, policymakers, recovery community, and the public to discuss systemic changes that represent the assimilation of substance use and mental health services within the general health care system. We have integrated leverage through a wide spectrum of support with all partners. The FSSRI has concentrated on the primary needs of the individuals and families, empowering them to engage peers, recovery coaches, and certified recovery peer specialists to provide interpersonal skills by working with individuals who are in active addiction engaged in or envisioning recovery and mental health stability.

- Create communities that encourages and cultivates unity for the recovering individual, families and friends.
- Develop supportive communities that foster growth, respect and understanding of those who have issues in the areas of substance use and mental health.
- Implement effective communication that will allow for voices to be heard.

How do FSSRI accomplish their goals

1. Identify available resources and services for those residing on the Far Southside of Chicago.
2. Use a holistic approach, emphasizing the importance of a continuum of care that requires the assistance of the entire community.
3. Identify gaps in resources or the absence of resources needed to enhance the lives of those in active addiction and recovery, their families, friends, and the overall community.
4. Promote ROSC and the community's issue at every opportunity possible.
5. Conduct regular monthly meetings to ensure that every voice is heard, and strategies are formulated. This will foster a sense of inclusivity and shared responsibility in addressing the need for collaboration.

6. Empower the community by providing comprehensive education in areas such as addiction, mental health, cultural diversity, and health. This will equip us all with the necessary knowledge to address these issues effectively.
7. Develop surveys to show the validity of concerns and share them with those who can assist with making some changes.

Expectations of ROSC Council Members

- Community improvement and collaboration, multiple pathways to recovery, peer supported recovery, and focus on values, person-centered services, individual choice and health and wellness.
- Your active involvement in the community, providing resources for all individuals and families, is crucial and greatly appreciated.
- Participate in at least seven (7) ROSC council meetings per year or send a representative (in person or via Zoom).
- Participate in ROSC activities, such as newsletters, sharing new ideas, data, best practices, and other important and relevant news related to the ROSC.
- Actively initiate and participate in collaborative activities to achieve health for all.
- Promote the work of the Far Southside ROSC council.
- Keeping your profile contact information up to date is essential for us to stay connected and informed. Please communicate any changes to the Far Southside ROSC Council.
- Endorse the values and general principles of the Far Southside ROSC Council, as reflected in its strategic plan.

Recruitment

The recruitment will be the responsibility of the FSSRI ROSC coordinators through outreach and education to the communities that the FSSRI has targeted. The ROSC Coordinators will recruit individuals by providing a recruitment campaign utilizing the ROSC website, email blasts, distribution of brochures, press releases, social media, radio interviews, presentations, health fairs, trainings, focus groups, newsletters, and word of mouth. Recovery-oriented systems of care will be nested in the community to enhance the availability of support capacities of families, social networks, community-based institutions, people in active addiction or recovery, or those who have mental health issues. Research shows that social and community resources promote better recovery outcomes.

The FSSRI engages council members and provides support and feedback regularly, providing opportunities for training, involving volunteers in team meetings and in all matters that affect them, rewarding and recognizing them appropriately, and connecting and maintaining open communication with other ROSC Council members. Persons with lived experience are actively recruited and encouraged to participate in the ROSC Council to ensure input from a broad spectrum of the community.

Orientation

- ROSC History, Purpose and Structure
- FSSRI Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives
- Introduction of FSSRI current members
- Introduction to a new role
- Accessibility to documents

Regular Meetings

- The number of ROSC council members will be determined as the council grows. At present, the number of ROSC council members is open-ended until further notice.
- Regular meetings shall be held monthly at a time and place agreed upon by the ROSC

Council members.

- The number of ROSC Council members may be fixed or changed occasionally by the Council members without further amendment of the written protocol.

Special Meetings

- Special meetings may be called at the request of two-thirds of the Council members at a place and time determined by the membership.
- FSSRI will give notice of any special meetings at least two (2) days before the meeting date.

Compensation

- The ROSC council members shall not receive any stated salary or compensation for their membership. However, stipends will be provided for PLE's who are on the council to offset certain expenses if needed.

Indemnification

- The Council shall have the power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative because he or she is or was a Council member.

Amendments

- The membership protocol may occasionally be altered, amended, or repealed by the Council members.
- Council members may participate in and act at any meeting using a conference telephone, video conferencing, or other communications equipment.

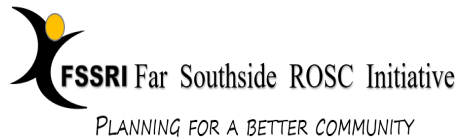
Confidentiality

- Confidentiality is a must within the council. The goal is to create transparency and trust with the members.

Trainings

The ROSC Coordinators are CCAR Certified Recovery Specialists, Certified Peer Recovery Specialists, National Certified Recovery Specialists, and the ROSC Director is a CCAR Certified Recovery Professional, Certified QPR Instructor, and Leadership Professional. They are entrusted with the crucial responsibility of raising awareness and educating our communities about substance use and mental health. They do this through comprehensive trainings, both within TEECH Foundation and externally in our communities.

While the training sessions are not mandatory, we strongly encourage members to attend. These sessions



offer a unique opportunity to expand their knowledge of the stigmas surrounding substance use disorders and mental health in our communities. Moreover, they can acquire valuable resources and establish collaborations with other attendees, thereby enhancing their ability to serve the communities effectively.

Adherence to the Strategic Plan

The FSSRI created a strategic plan for the providers, policymakers, recovery community, and the public to discuss systemic changes that represent the assimilation of substance use services within the general health care system. We integrated leverage through a broad spectrum of support with all partners. FSSRI concentrates on the primary needs of the individuals and families, engaging peer and recovery coaches who provide interpersonal skills by working with individuals involved in or envisioning recovery and/or mental health assistance. The FSSRI Council goal for strategic plan to be a key decision-making body, set to reflect our long-term vision of the council and the communities we serve and the need to meet all required deliverables according to the funder. The commission has the right to adjust the strategy and tactics to meet the communities' needs better.

Inclusion and Role of Nonparticipants

The FSSRI Council has opted to include all who choose to be a part of the council, and we are open to having all community members join the FSSRI Council. The Far Southside Initiative ROSC Council does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex (including beliefs practices, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental health, and current or past substance use).

Community Needs Assessment

The FSSRI community needs assessment will be updated annually and available to all ROSC Council members and the community on the Governor's State ROSC Website. The ROSC director will be responsible for keeping the needs assessment up to date, and it is the council's responsibility to communicate organizational updates that need to be added or removed from it.

Funded in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery.

