



**SI SUPRT Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2023, 12:00-1:00 ZOOM Meeting**

Introductions and Welcome:

Attendance:

Chris Dennis, EHD
Katie Unthank, EHD
Tricia Harrison, EHD
Angela M, Williamson Co. Health Department
Bradley Bullock, TASC
Ernie Fowler, EHD
Katina Miller, Arrowleaf
Kat Houghton, EHD
Kindra York, EHD
Holly Kotner, EHD
Misty Smith, EHD
Jamie Byrd, EHD
Kelsey Schmidt, SSM Health
Jesse Nelson, PLE
Madison Odum, TAT
Kaya Wade-Newell IDHS
Dr. Michael Blain, HMC
Margot Cepeda, VA
Cindy Johnson, SIH
Danielle Camp, EHD
Megan Ragan, SATTC
Skylar Turner, TASC
John Cantrell, Arrowleaf
Liz McQuaid, Chestnut
Jodi Stafford, EHD
Angie Hampton, EHD
Danielle Bradley, EHD
Debbie Sullivan, SUPR Group 1
Adrienne Baker, TAS
Samantha Alonis, IDHS
Sharon Cabrera, Kane Co. Health Department
Brittany Bulfer, EHD

Molly Wilson, States Attorney
Stacey Miller, EHD
Elizabeth Cook, EHD
Jessie B, Never Use Alone Education Director
Tor Neal, Arrowleaf
Lauren Bozarth, Quincy Pharmacy

Standing Coalition Business:

- Minutes from the September meeting were approved unanimously with a motion made by Kindra York. Kat Houghton seconded the motion.

New and Standing Coalition Reports:

- *Chris Dennis* presented a slideshow recapping local events held for Recovery Month. Agencies hosted recovery walks, picnics, and various events to show their support to those in recovery.
- Guest speaker, *Jessie Blanchard* (Jessie B) from *Never Use Alone*, joined via zoom to share information about the services she provides as the Educational Director of *Never Use Alone*, an Overdose Detection and Response Program. *Never Use Alone* is a toll-free, 24 hour harm reduction hotline where peer specialists stay on the phone while participants use drugs. The caller lets the peer specialist know where they are calling from, what they are using, and how they are using. They will then stay on the line until the specialist is assured the caller is no longer at risk of overdose. To date, *Never Use Alone* has fielded approximately 30,000 calls and has been responsible for over 100 overdose reversals since their inception in 2019. They are presently available to callers in both the US and Canada. Specialist Jessie B spoke on what drives her to do this line of work, which she describes as a labor of love. She was recently featured on the podcast, “This American Life” where she is spotlighted receiving a call and walking the caller safely through their drug use. While on the meeting, she answered many attendees' questions and touched many with her compassionate, genuine approach to harm reduction. Her contact information was also shared and she encouraged all to reach out at any time at jessieb@229saferlivingaccess.org

Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is over Zoom on November 1, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.