

Minutes

Attendance and Introductions

**Coles County ROSC Recovery Navigator, Whitley Grayson
Coles County ROSC Recovery Coordinator, Dana Tell
Wingman Ministries, Gary Stephen
SBLHC Healthy Communities- Laura Bollan
Community Member- Blake
Community Member- Brendan
Community Recovery Technical Assistance Specialist Region 4, Julie Pohlman – Zoom
Lake Land College, Tomoko Jo – Zoom
HOPE, Camille Gordon - Zoom
The Haven, Chris Davis – Zoom
Vermillion County ROSC, Wendy – Zoom
Administrative Office of Court Services, Anna Michealchuck- Zoom
SAIL, Brenda Ingle – Zoom
West Central IL ROSC, Jeff McFadden – Zoom
Statewide ROSC, Johanna Gonzalez- Zoom**

Welcome and Introductions:

Dana thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She noted that it is noon and we will try to stay on schedule because the reason we are here is because our council has recognized that transportation is an issue in Coles County and anyone wishing to attend can use the Zipline to get here. We will wrap up the meeting so that anyone riding the Zipline can be downstairs to catch the bus at 1pm and get to their original bus stop before 2pm.

She said let's start with introductions. Everyone introduced themselves then Whitley called on those on the Zoom portion for them to introduce themselves.

Minutes and Agenda Approval:

Dana asked the Council to look at the minutes from July. Whitley put them on the screen for those attending by Zoom. Dana Asked for a motion to approve July's Minutes. Laura motioned and Gary seconded. Dana asked for a motion to approve August's Agenda. Laura motioned and Gary Seconded.

Guest Speaker:

Dana explained to the council that the council had decided that they wanted to hear from a person with lived experience at each meeting. These stories offer hope, remind us why we are here and help us to stay focused on filling in the gaps in our community. Dana then asked Whitley if we have a speaker for this meeting. Whitley then introduced Blake. He gave his recovery story. He was optimistic about the resources in Coles County, namely thanking ROSC, Hour House, and recovery meetings that assisted him in his recovery.

Navigator News:

Jail & Probation Update- Whitley informed the Council that there hasn't been much change since she started offering weekly education groups at the Coles County Jail a few months ago. Attendance has been fluctuating since it depends on if the inmates see the light on the screen that pops up when she is there. She has been seeing the same people each week she has been there. Whitley will continue to help facilitate education groups at the Douglas County Jail as needed. She holds weekly education groups at Probation, LifeLinks, The Haven, and Hope. Additionally, she offers monthly education groups at the Mattoon Library and Charleston Library. The August education groups will focus on "Setting SMART Goals."

Goal Status:

Facebook- Dana shared that the Facebook status is still Excellent, with 161 likes and 312 followers. She encouraged everyone to continue to share with their friends.

What 3 goals for fiscal year- Dana told the council, we need to come up with three goals to focus on this year. Dana read the Goals on the Strategic Plan. Through discussion the council decided that Transportation is still an issue. With food insecurity a growing issue in Coles County, we need to watch this issue and the growing amount of Blessing Boxes to help with that. Most of the council would like to see the Council assist the family members of those in recovery. We will talk more about this in future meetings.

Activity Updates:

Safe Passage – Charleston Police Department is up and running. Mattoon Safe Passage Program is continuing to operate.

Narcans Distribution sites- We have 67 sites in Coles County. We continue to look for more places available to display Narcans, Fentanyl test strips, Xylazine Test Strips, and Deterra Bags. Most of our sites have all of these.

Past Events:

Speak and Eat- This was held on Thursday, July 18th at the Kiwanis Park from 6-8pm. We had about 60 people there. We had plenty of food, and time to talk with others. The food was sponsored by Legacy Roofing.

Butterfly Festival – Dana shared that the Butterfly Festival in Charleston on Saturday was very well attended. She was told 2,500 people attended the event. Dana and Whitley handed out 38 boxes of Narcans and 8 Deterra bags during the event.

Upcoming events:

National Night Out- Dana shared with the Council that First Southern Baptist Church is holding a National Night Out on Tuesday August 6th at 5:30pm. There will be first responders, K9 teams, Helicopter, and service organizations. There will be inflatables and a rock wall. We will have a resource table there.

Candlelight Vigil- In honor of National Overdose Awareness Day (Aug 31st), we will be holding our Candlelight Vigil at Family Worship Center in Charleston on August 29th at 7pm. The Church has been confirmed. Gary will be the MC. We have two confirmed speakers.

Proclamations- Dana told the Council that the Mayors have the proclamations to sign for September, which is Recovery Month. We plan to contact the Mayors in Mattoon, Charleston, Ashmore, Oakland, and new this year Humboldt and Lerna. Dana said she has already contacted the Chair of the County Board to sign a proclamation this year. Our goal is to have them all sign the proclamation.

Hobby Fair- Dana told the Council that we are partnering with EIU and LifeSpan for the Hobby Fair. We have the LifeSpan Center on September 9th from 10-2pm. We have 20 tables to fill with Hobbyist. We have 15 confirmed Hobbyist.

October—Pop-up Narcan Sites—Dana told the Council we are going to try to schedule Pop-up Narcan displays, train people to use Narcan, share what Detera Bags are for, and hopefully have Needle boxes, due to Drug Take Back Day being in October.

November- 100 Homeless Bags- Dana told the Council that due to November being Homeless Awareness Month, we will make another 100 bags for people experiencing homelessness. Dana said these bags will go to places like the homeless shelter, police Departments, Wingman Ministries, Resurrection Point and the Mission House. We will talk more about this in the future.

Winter Clothing Drive—Dana asked Tomoko if she wanted to talk about the clothing drive. Tomoko told the Council that we are collecting coats and will keep them at the ELKS until November when we will have disbursement days after Thanksgiving before the weather gets cold. Tomoko said the ELKS received \$2000 to purchase items for the Clothing drive. Having multiple distribution days will allow people who need a coat to go there and pick out a coat that fits them. This will also allow them to go back multiple times if needed and no one will have to fill out paperwork or prove they are in need.

Community Meetings- Dana mentioned the other community meetings. She encouraged others to attend the Interagency Meeting led by Ky Newsome, and the Citizens Against Child Abuse by Kim White. She asked Laura to speak about the Wellness Collaboration meeting.

Community Events—Dana reminded the Council about the Resource Fair with SAIL in September.

Next Meeting:

Time and Meeting Location: Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 3rd at noon at lifespan center or by Zoom at the same time.

<https://zoom.us/j/96781724024?pwd=b3hFWdV1cExYa0pEa1BqTUx6ejJLUT09>

Meeting ID: 967 8172 4024

Passcode: 611963