

Westside ROSC Council

Lead Agency: Chicago Recovering Communities Coalition

Friday, August 23, 2024

10am – 12pm

[Zoom Meeting Information](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/695761637?pwd=eVVOUzJlN3VUcXl6WFJzSnVNOVJXdz09>

Meeting ID: 695 761 637 | Password: 038839

Meeting Minutes

Welcome Extended by; Venessa Moreno: Expressed appreciation for members present, and continued support, and to those who were attending ROSC meetings for the first time. Also mentioned that from now on ROSC will be offering CEU's.

Participant Introductions: Nita Lawson, ECHO Development Center; Charlotte Estell, Kalimba Foundation; SAMANTHA ADAMAITIS, INDIVIDUAL; Marcelo de Jesus Velazquez, Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation; Vincenzo Fiasche, kalimba foundation; Geri Cooper, SALVATION Army; John J. Reed, WestCare Foundation; Michael A Murray, Multitude of Zion; Bernadette White CADC/CODP I P.M, Healthcare Alternative Systems; Patty Zuniga, SGA Youth & Family Services; Stacy Zawacki, The Perfectly Flawed Foundation; Cristina Banda, Illinois Family Resource Center; George Ebert, Kalimba Foundation NFP; Kami Garrison, Statewide ROSC Region 3 TA; Toniesha Roberts, Trilogy; Angelique Valerio, Perfectly Flawed

Our council is made up of members including Hospitals, Treatment Centers, Mental Health Facilities, First Responders, Recovery Programs, Schools, Local Government, Employment Agencies, and importantly persons with lived experience.

Goals and Objectives by; Venessa Moreno: Westside ROSC Councils overall goal is to advocate and assist with guiding and monitoring the development of an integrated system of recovery by creating a shared vision to improve availability of services by building a sustainable ROSC Council. Our objectives 1. To create communities of recovery that encourage and integrate resources for the recovering individual, families, and friends. 2. Develop supportive recovery communities that foster growth, respect and understanding of those who have identified problems in the areas of substance use and mental health. 3. Implement effective communication that will allow for inclusion of PLE's (persons with lived experience) voices to be heard.

ROSC Council Speaker: The importance Overdose Awareness Day and Recovery Month and why the council should be out and supporting events in the community; Presenter: Westside ROSC Council Team

Council Updates by John Wright: Reminder that if we do not have an MOU with your organization the council would like to make sure to have an MOU with every organization at this meeting. There was a Region 5 Meeting (MN, MI, IN, IL, OH) in Cleveland, Ohio. The goal is to share ideas and information that could be used in any of these states to have a larger impact in recovery in our region. Great two-day training. The work that is happening in Region 5 here in Illinois at the US level we are getting recognized because of the work that happening here and they are looking at how they can do more ROSCs across the US. Creating a better ROSC creates better connections to services and better services that individuals in our communities receive.

Topic Discussion:

September is Recovery Month. Raising awareness about overdoses and addiction. Celebrating Recovery with fun, community and action as the lead combination to make a difference. This is all about promoting treatment and recovery from substances where we aim to educate the public, celebrate those in recovery and encourage community involvement for a brighter future.



Westside ROSC Council

Supporting a Diverse Chicago West Side Community

August 31st is Overdose Awareness Day and leads into September National Recovery Month. This day is to remember those we've lost and to support those still battling addiction. It's a day of awareness, reduce stigma and promote prevention strategies in our community.

Community Action Initiatives are where the community works together to promote action. There are various types of events from outreach to workshops to fundraisers. Together we create a supportive environment fostering healing and growth.

Highlight sharing success stories. Hearing those that overcame a challenge can inspire others to seek help. We must create a platform for journeys to be celebrated together.

Getting involved is a great way to be part of the change. Spread the word or volunteer any time you have can help build a stronger, healthier community.

For Recovery Month there are resources available for your organization to promote Recovery the entire month. Go to websites like: <https://www.overdoseday.com/> and <https://www.samhsa.gov/recovery-month> and download the toolkit to get images and text that you can use for your organization to celebrate with your participants.

Celebrating Together: Recovery is a journey best traveled together. We must continue to support each other, raise awareness, and celebrate the strength of our community. Together, we make a difference.

Discussion Highlight Talking Points:

Everyone: Various Events and personal stories being shared by council members were discussed as a council.

Venessa: The Westside ROSC Council will be with the West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force for their event on August 30th. The National Recovery Rally is in Chicago on September 21, 2024, at UIC Credit Union 1 Arena. The Rally promotes Recovery for the entire nation to reduce stigma and show that recovery is possible. You can attend, be a volunteer, donate or be a vendor.

Closing Remarks

For those that are new to the council we have the needs assessment to fill out and this is vital to the work we do with this council. <https://forms.gle/rmYtSN2zCZBSsr29>

Thanked the membership for sharing openly and respectfully and we will see everyone next month. Next Westside ROSC Council meeting will be hosted via Zoom September 27, 2024

Please Join Us in Building a Sustainable Westside ROSC Council

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