



MERC Meeting Summary

9:00 a.m. via Zoom/In Person

At 12 N 64th St. Belleville

Attendees

Alicia Moesner-Recovery Support-Chestnut Health Systems
Angella Holloway-Recovery Support- Chestnut Health Systems
Ashley Ramos- Recovery Support- First time visitor Gateway Foundation
Beverly Holland-Recovery Support/Region 5 TA- Chestnut Health Systems
Brittney Card- Recovery Support- Macoupin County Health Dept
Carson Conn- Recovery Support RCO- Amare nfp- Guest Speaker
Dan Hutchison- recovery Supports other- Chestnut Health Systems
Debbie Humphrey- Government- Madison County 708 board
Dusty Hanner- Harm Reduction- Chestnut Health Systems
Greg Norkus- Judicial Probation- St. Clair County Probation
Jason Farley- Recovery Support- First meeting visitor Amare nfp
Jenn Nagel Fischer- Service Provider /Harm reduction- Porchlight Collective
Johanna Gonzales- Visitor- SUPR
Julie Pohlman- Recovery Support/Region 4 Mentor- Chestnut Health Systems
Kelly Jefferson- Service Provider other- NAMI
Kristen Anderson- Recovery Supports Other- Chestnut Health Systems
Mark Knott – Recovery Support- Chestnut Health Systems
Michelle Brooks- Gov- Madison County 708 Board
Monique Brunious- Recovery Support other- Chestnut Health Systems
Naomi Fulton- Recovery Supports other- Hoyleton
Patrick Smalls- Health Care Hospital- HSHS Highland/Greenville
Robyn Robinson- Service Provider/Harm Reduction- CBMH
Skylar Wickiser- first time visitor- Chestnut Health Systems
Stephanie Everhart- Service Provider/Employment Programs- Chestnut Vocational
Toni Randal- Recovery Support- Chestnut Health Systems
Tracey Dones- Faith Based Other- Chestnut Health Systems
Tyrone Hill- Recovery Support RCO- Amare Recovery Specialist
Violette Book- Service Provider/Harm Reduction- Chestnut Health Systems

New Business

Carson Conn the new Executive Director of Amare shared. Amare is a NFP working in Madison and St. Clair Counties providing recovery support, transportation, community outreach, Family connections (support group, grief group), early recovery support groups, employment coaching and a support group in Madison County jail once a week . Amare is here for those struggling with Recovery or new to recovery offering recovery coaching services , possible transportation to treatment if necessary (intake needed for services) they are able to do assessments over the phone or in person if you or someone you know needs help here is Amare's contact information 618-331-5905 or gethelp@amarenfp.org

ROSC deliverables update about a community survey that is being formed. This survey is intended to provide data about community members' level of knowledge about local recovery and treatment supports and how to access them. The goal is to capture info from the community, hoping that others outside of clients of our agencies service. This will help us develop our strategic plan, outreach plan, etc. We are looking to gain information regarding input from community members outside of these that our various agencies and programs already provide services to the survey is due 11/30 and we will use some time during the November meeting to review the final version of the survey so if people have ideas, they will need to send them to MERC@chestnut.org by 11/19/24. There's a copy of the survey we reviewed during the meeting. Please feel free to add to the list of questions for our Madison and St. Clair County.

Discussed the Choices Deflection program with TASC, people in the meeting attendance stated there has been some but not a lot of outreaches with the deflection engagement specialists. We are looking at inviting someone from Choices to come and speak on "are local recovery supports connecting with them?".

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.
- Debbie Humphries shared about the Partnership for Drug Free Communities Meet and Greet happening in December. See attached flyer
- Ashley Ramos shared on Gateway/Hoyleton's Drug Take Back Event with the O'Fallon PD
- Patrick Small shared about the HSHS' Community Health Fair happening in Highland. For more information contact Patrick Smalls at patrick.small@hshs.org
- Michelle Dettwiler shared on Macoupin/Montgomery County ROSC's upcoming meeting with a Local Police Chief guest speaking about

changes to ordinances being enforced in their counties that impact the unhoused. See attached flyer

- Tyrone Hill from Amare shared on Amare's Pumpkin Painting event at Riverbend Family Services. Saturday at Riverbend Ministries. See attached flyer

MERC Upcoming Zoom only meeting

Nov 15th 2024 at 9 am

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.