



Southland Recovery Coalition ROSC Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: 11/20/2024 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM

LOCATION: Zoom

PRESENTER(S): Yvonne M. Orr, Facilitator

TOPIC: Youth At Risk: An Honest Discussion about Fentanyl

ATTENDEES	AFFILIATION	ATTENDEES	AFFILIATION		
1	Yvonne M. Orr	ICSC, Partner Agency	13	Denise Jones	Tender Touch, Executive Dir
2	Kathryn Straniero	Together We Cope, Partner Agency	14	Capucine Walls	Cornerstone CDC, Workforce Coor
3	Kamil Walton	Cornerstone CDC, Deputy Director	15	Myron Graham, CEO	So Suburban Council on Alcoholism
4	April Haymond	Higher Hts Initiative, Network Coord	16	Jasmine Atkins	ICSC, Community Navigator - CCDC
5	Leonard Noble	Cornerstone CDC, Workforce Dev Dir	17	Kami Garrison	TA – Region 3, SUPR
6	Kami Garrison	Statewide ROSC TA – Region 3	18	Raqwar Dixon	PLE
7	Bridgett Carter	Carter & Carter, Engagement Consult	19	Angelo Chalmers	PLE
8	Lamont Wallace	ICSC, Community Navigator - CCDC	20	Cory Parker	PLE
9	May Salman	Together We Cope	21	Enycee McGregor	PLE
10	Maya Hardy	United Way of Metro Chicago	22	Sharon Wright	PLE
11	Souheir Rahman	Together We Cope	23	Gennesha Robinson	PLE
12	Neesha Stringfellow	HLM Recovery Will Grundy ROSC	24	Issac Logan	PLE

MEETING SUMMARY: Southland Recovery Coalition ROSC Council Meeting

The Southland Recovery Coalition ROSC Council Meeting focused on addressing the fentanyl crisis in Illinois, particularly in the Southland area. Key points included the distribution of a community survey to gauge local opinions on recovery and harm reduction measures, with a goal to submit the data by February. The council discussed the high overdose rates, noting a 5.1% increase in overdose deaths in 2022 and a 12.1% rise in synthetic opioid deaths. They emphasized the need for increased awareness and outreach, including pop-up events, partnerships with local businesses, and leveraging social media. The meeting also highlighted the importance of the Illinois Helpline and the need for more cards.

SOUTHLAND RECOVERY COALITION
 943 EAST LINCOLN HWY • FORD HEIGHTS, IL 60411
 708.758.2565 | WWW.SOUTHLANDRECOVERY.ORG

Changing Communities...Restoring Lives!
SRC ROSC COUNCIL PARTNER AGENCIES
 Cornerstone Community Development Corporation, NFP (Lead Fiscal Agent)
 Indigenous Community Service Center • Together We Cope (Partner Agencies)

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



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Fentanyl Crisis in Illinois

- Yvonne introduced the topic of fentanyl and its impact on Illinois, particularly in the Southland area.
- She highlighted the story of a teenager who died from a fentanyl overdose, emphasizing the need for awareness and education. (<https://bit.ly/sonlost-fentanyl>)
- Yvonne reviewed high overdose rates in IL and the importance of community outreach and education.
- Facts and statistics about fentanyl use and overdoses in Cook County are presented, including the presence of other drugs like xylazine and heroin, particularly the highest incidents of near-death experiences between the ages of 16-24 and 65+ from medications not taken properly.

General Announcements

- Kami Garrison introduces herself and explains the community needs survey, which aims to gather community opinions and drive a community needs assessment.
- The survey includes 10 state-provided questions and additional questions drafted by each ROSC group, with a goal to distribute it in December.
- Yvonne discussed the logistics of distributing the survey electronically.

Brainstorming Community Outreach Strategies

- Various members shared ideas on how to increase community outreach and awareness about fentanyl.
- May Salman expressed concern about the high fentanyl usage in Orland Park and suggests labeling events as "Scary Statistics about Fentanyl."
- Others suggested partnering with local businesses like Walgreens or CVS for pop-up events and distributing information at community events.
- Jasmine like the idea of a "Karaoke Corner" event to attract people and distribute information about the Southland Recovery Coalition.

Holiday Events and Pop-Up Ideas

- Yvonne M. Orr discusses the possibility of organizing a community pop-up event before the end of the year, possibly at a gas station or other high-traffic location.
- May Salman mentions a Thanksgiving ham and turkey giveaway event in Harvey where the coalition could set up a table.
- The December 18 in-person meeting is considered for a pop-up event, with potential locations including local high schools and community centers.
- The importance of distributing Illinois Helpline cards and other resources is emphasized, with a call for volunteers to help with outreach efforts.

Action Items Post-Discussion

- Reach out to Walgreens, CVS, or other local businesses to set up a pop-up event to distribute info and resources before the end of the year. Recruit volunteers to help plan and staff the pop-up events.
- Obtain more Illinois Helpline cards to distribute at events and through community partners.

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- Promote the nomination and voting for the "Beyond the Door" play in the five award categories.
- Coordinate with Lamont to schedule a virtual event/livestream to reach the community before the end of the year.

Member Announcements

- Denise J. discusses the success of the play "Beyond the Door" and its nomination for five awards, asking for help in voting for the play.
- The play is based on Denise's life story and aims to raise awareness about addiction and recovery.
- Yvonne M. Orr highlights the significance of the play and its impact on the community, encouraging members to vote for the awards.
- The play's profits support Denise's nonprofit programs that empower women and girls in recovery.

Partney Agency Announcements

- April Haymond mentions that Cornerstone is not doing the usual "Uniting for the Holidays" event this year but is focusing on a Christmas event for families.
- Kathy from Together shares that their food pantry has reopened after several issues, and they are excited to serve the community again.
- Kathy also mentions upcoming domestic violence awareness talks at the Bremen Township building and offers to share the flyers with the group.
- Yvonne M. Orr suggests including information about these events in the next newsletter and encourages members to participate in community events.

Upcoming Trainings and Final Announcements

- Kami Garrison announces upcoming statewide ROSC trainings, including "Leading with Purpose" on November 26 and "Leadership Essentials" on December 11.
- Yvonne M. Orr emphasizes the importance of attending these free trainings and encourages members to share information about them with their networks.
- The meeting concludes with a call for volunteers to help with community outreach and pop-up events, and a reminder to stay engaged and informed about upcoming activities.

UPCOMING ROSC COUNCIL MEETINGS:

SRC ROSC Council Meeting Schedule

July 31, 2024	October 30, 2024	January 29, 2025	April 30, 2025
August 28, 2024	November 20, 2024	February 26, 2025	May 28, 2025 (Recovery Conference)*
September 25, 2024*	December 18, 2024*	March 26, 2025*	June 25, 2025

INDICATES: **upcoming meeting** in-person meeting

To be added to the SRC ROSC Council as a member, please email afsmith@cornerstone-cdc.org or yorr@cornerstone-cdc.org

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