

Attendees: Kristina Drum, Kyle Houser, Jill Duden, Sara Ruholl, Norm Wilson, Cindy Hanley, Carrie Mckinzie, Allyssa Houser, Jenna Hays, Liesl Wingert, Adam Lovell

Minutes

Agenda Item: Introductions of attendees/What are you grateful for? Kristina Drum, Clark/Cumberland County ROSC Coordinator, led the introductions and gratitude session. Council members expressed gratitude for their families, recovery communities, and the support they receive in their communities.

Spotlight speaker – Jill Duden, a Prevention Specialist from Prevent Child Abuse Illinois, shared about the organization's work in public awareness and education, primarily focusing on the central region of Illinois. She mentioned the organization's statewide presence, with 9 employees across the state, and their collaboration with other agencies. Jill also highlighted the organization's annual conference, held in October, and their efforts to raise awareness during Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. She further discussed the organization's training programs, which cover various topics such as infant care and safety, childhood trauma, substance use, and the effects of domestic violence on children. Jill also mentioned the organization's podcast, "The Power to Prevent," and their literature distribution program. Lastly, she offered to answer any questions about the organization and its services. Jill shared the Prevent Child Abuse Illinois website and encouraged participants to reach out with any questions or training needs.

Recovery Navigator Update: Kyle discussed the recent changes in his role as a recovery navigator, noting that his position is now partially funded through the Cumberland County Opioid Funds. This allows him to offer services in Cumberland County on a part-time basis.

Invite a Pastor to December's Council Meeting: Next month Patrick Miller with the Faith & Recovery Collaborative Center for Community Engagement will be our spotlight speaker. All Pastors that might have interest in becoming a Recovery Certified Church are especially encouraged to attend.

Improving Meeting Attendance and Engagement: Kristina also reviewed feedback from a recent survey on improving meeting attendance and engagement. Several strategies were discussed to enhance participation, including more paper advertising, as well as promoting the

meetings through Facebook, radio, and community events like the picnic. Additionally, it was suggested to focus more on action-oriented agenda items and reduce routine reporting. The group agreed that Tuesday remains the best day for meetings, though there are conflicts with the second Tuesday of each month. As a result, starting in December, ROSC meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:00 PM.

Communication Campaign: This month, the campaign centered on the issue of homelessness. We began by sharing a press release that included key statistics from FY23 regarding the number of unhoused individuals in Clark and Cumberland Counties, as well as exploring the connection between substance use and homelessness. The release aimed to raise awareness about the complex challenges faced by these populations. In addition, we shared a series of infographics that highlighted important statistics, the broader impacts of homelessness, and the critical need for compassionate support systems within our communities. These visuals also outlined several actionable steps that individuals can take to make a positive impact, such as carrying non-perishable food items to help those in need, familiarizing oneself with local resources available for unhoused individuals, and using person-first language when discussing homelessness to promote dignity and respect. Overall, there was an emphasis on both the urgency of addressing homelessness and the practical ways everyone can contribute to a more supportive and empathetic community.

November is Homelessness Awareness Month: We will be collecting hot hands, new gloves, hats, socks and underwear of all sizes until December 10th. In Cumberland County we plan to distribute backpacks containing hygiene items, blankets, socks, and bookmarks with recovery meeting information.

Opioid Relief Funds: We were granted the Cumberland County Opioid Relief Funds, some of which will be used to purchase cell phones with phone cards and gas cards to help address communication and transportation barriers. We will need assistance with distributing these items within the community. Additionally, Kristina and Kyle will be attending the Clark County Board Meeting on Friday to seek approval for our harm reduction proposal, which includes the installation of a Narcan vending machine at the Forsythe Center in Marshall.

Community Survey Distribution and Promotion Strategies: The purpose of the Community Survey is to ensure that individuals and families impacted by substance use have access to the support they need and will play a role in our upcoming needs assessments. The survey was approved today and Kristina plans to create a QR code so the survey can be shared electronically. Sara shared her successful experience with a previous survey, which involved leaving it open for four weeks, creating a QR code, and distributing it through various channels including schools, newspapers, and community groups. She suggested similar strategies for the current survey. Cindy suggested including banks and newsletters as distribution points. Kristina discussed the survey for Clark and Cumberland counties, emphasizing the need for a higher response rate from Clark County due to its larger population. She outlined the survey's content, which includes questions about awareness of substance use and mental health, knowledge of

recovery resources, and specific challenges faced by the community. She encouraged the team to share the survey widely and suggested the use of a QR code for easier access. Cindy agreed to share the survey on the Health Department's Facebook page.

Next Steps:

- Kristina will create a QR code and link for the Community Survey
- All council members to share and distribute the Community Survey widely to reach 5 % of the population in both counties.
- Kristina and Kyle to finalize purchase orders for homeless survival backpacks and distribute them in Cumberland County.
- Kristina to send out a new calendar invite with Zoom link for future meetings at 5 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.
- All council members to invite potential new members from various stakeholder sectors to join future ROSC meetings.

Reminders/Tasks:

- Please Sign the MOUs and return them to Kristina Drum.
- Kristina will schedule additional opportunities to educate the community on the ROSC Concept.
- Who do we need at the ROSC Council meetings, and how do we get them here?
- We are planning events for the next Fiscal Year, such as the panel events. Council members are encouraged to participate in the planning to ensure their success.

Next Meeting: December 17th, 2024 5:00 p.m. ZOOM ONLY

New Facebook Page: Please go like and follow The Clark/Cumberland County ROSC [Clark/Cumberland County ROSC Facebook Page](#)