

December 19, 2024

LC ROSC Monthly Meeting @ 10:30 am, Virtually

Dr. Mary Roberson opened the meeting and explained she would leave to attend the Opioid Settlement Meeting.

*Note- Our regularly scheduled LC ROSC monthly meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month, due to the holiday, our meeting was scheduled for the third Thursday. Due to this schedule change, there was a significant decrease in our attendees because they also attended the Opioid Settlement meeting.

Barbara Young introduced Sargent Mallory Baker, December's presenter.

Sargent Mallory Baker, a veteran police officer with the Waukegan Police Department, with over 27 years of experience is heading the Community Outreach Division putting police officers and social workers together to respond to appropriate 911 calls.

He shared with us the increase in this population of unhoused. Not all the unhoused that's in the local area are actual residents of Lake County.

The division consists of three police officers and three social workers. They partner with community services with the use of their databases. This helps aid in an appropriate connection point.

Their warm handoffs help to build rapport with the increasing unhoused population in Lake County.

With a team of experienced members and two shifts with 24/7-hour service have made over 250 contacts. The program is HIPPA compliant and operates with a code of ethics.

The Community Outreach Division has provided furniture, transportation to physician appointments and delivered food to those in need.

The support from the Chief of Police helped the program with its smooth start.

Sargent Mallory stated that "Rapport building is important, and it works.

Marie Washington-Hall excitedly expressed NIRCO's desire to partner with Sargent Mallory and the Community Outreach Department.

Barbara Young opened the meeting for questions and comments:

Ben Rudolph commented that he couldn't understand why social workers weren't jumping in to help with the team. He expressed that designated police officers are not the enemy and that by working together especially with those with mental health issues, a positive change could be made.

Marie Washington-Hall- Asked what is the CBDG?

The CBDG is the Community Development Block Grant, these dollars are to help homeowners stay in their homes. They help to revitalize neighborhoods, expand affordable housing and economic opportunities, and/or improve community facilities and services, principally to benefit low- and moderate- income residents. The loan is forgiven with the stipulation that the grantee does not sell

the property within a stated period. (If grantee does sell the property, the loan at a pro-rated amount must be paid.) There is an application process/

Marie Washington-Hall then asked about the targeted areas Sargent Mallory mentioned.

The are:

Lewis and Yorkhouse Ave

Grand and Lewis Ave

Grand and Greenbay Rd.

Belvidere and Greenbay Rd.

He noted that panhandling is not illegal in Lake County. Panhandlers can make from \$200.00 to \$350.00 per day. The Community Outreach Department had done an incredible job building trust with is community. In addition to handing out food, snacks and toiletries.

This rapport with the foundation of “when you’re ready for help” has allowed the team to receive requests to take them to the hospital or doctor and dental visits. Also, visits to social agencies.

Sargent Mallory shared the many success stories his team has experienced. Those included helping residents receive heaters, refrigerators, and motorized wheelchair.

This proves that the softer approach is beneficial.

The meeting was then opened for attendees to share their community events.

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 10:30 am.