

Massac County Drug Awareness Coalition  
Monthly Coalition Meeting  
Wednesday, December 18, 2024, 8:00 a.m.  
Metropolis City Hall/Zoom  
MINUTES

1. Welcome
  - a. In-Person- Harry Masse (Law Enforcement Sector Rep), Toni Miller (Exec Committee), Darla Bond (Counselor), Holly Windhorst (Director), Jasmine West (Prevention Coordinator), Jordan Strong (Recovery Coordinator), Lasha Vincent (Peer Recovery Services)
  - b. Zoom- Tor Neal (Arrowleaf), Steve Miller (Civic Sector Rep), Josh Stratemeyer (State's Attorney), Johanna Gonzalez (ROSC)
2. Approve Old Minutes- No changes were made to the minutes. Harry Masse motioned to approve the minutes and Toni Miller seconded. All were in favor, and none were opposed. The motion was carried.
3. Executive Committee- Nothing to report, all will be covered throughout the meeting.
4. Fundraising/Sustainability
  - a. Opioid Settlement- The county approved MCDAC to get some of the opioid settlement funds. One of the approved causes for the settlement funds is to give it to a community coalition hence why we have received it. They also gave MCDAC a set amount for the Drug Endangered Children Alliance. Thank you to Josh Stratemeyer for advocating for these funds.
5. Prevention - Jasmine
  - a. Youth Advisory Council- We are still going strong with our two Youth Advisory Councils at both Joppa and MCHS.  
Joppa wanted to do an assembly this month but with finals and motivation decreasing at the end of the year we have postponed it to March for National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week or in April for Alcohol Awareness Month so they can make a solid plan. I also have mentioned the summer trip for CGTI and they seem excited and want to go so hopefully we will have some from Joppa traveling with us as well this summer.  
MCHS was able to do an event for National Driving Impaired Prevention Month by handing out keychains that say "Be Aware Don't Drive Impaired" to all the Juniors and Seniors that drive. They enjoyed that yesterday morning. MCHS has also looked forward to 2025 and the plans. We have a January trip with 10 students to Bloomington-Normal to CGTI Mid-Year for a quick weekend which they are excited about. In March we have roughly 8 kids ready and excited to participate in the 3rd Advocacy Day with the Illinois Prevention Network in Springfield, Illinois. They are also looking at what to do to increase mental health

awareness. Currently, they are reworking their clothespins idea instead of it starting with them and going throughout the school of passing them out in the morning with lanyards so all students are involved.

- b. Drug-Endangered Children (DEC) Alliance- We had a meeting yesterday with DCFS about backpacks and Handle with care. At the last DEC meeting, we discussed where to keep the bags and DCFS has a closet that can fit roughly 20 bags as well as clothing so we will have 2-3 of each age range there and keep any extras in our upstairs area. We will be starting to use the money from the opioid settlement to buy the items in the new year. For Handle with Care, we have a meeting with the superintendent of Massac Schools tomorrow to discuss the best route for this. We need to work out the details such as who the police/sheriff need to call at the school, and how it will work for the teachers and when we can get this fully implemented. We are working on sharing the dates for the next year for the DEC meetings but we are working on solidifying a location before we send everything out.  
We also found out from DCFS that they are renovating a place in Marion that will work like an Isaiah house. This location will have beds and showers for those youth who were removed and have not received housing yet. This was a goal from the DEC alliance so we are excited to hear this is happening.

#### 6. Recovery - Jordan

- a. Recovery Council Update-Zoom link posted on FB for the meeting scheduled last week on 12/12 was spammed and had to be cancelled-we will rehost the meeting tomorrow 12/19 to cover upcoming events and opportunities. The council has remained small in number but regularly has new attendees and new ideas, thoughts, and experiences being brought to the table. The Painting Night for the Recovery Council will be held Thursday, January 16, at 5:00. We will need a headcount for this event so please register soon.
- b. Recovery Survey-Our survey has been approved and we have begun disseminating it. We were informed this morning that the FB link was restricted and community members were unable to access it. Jasmine has since fixed this so it is available online. We have also decided to do paper copies and will be going to all of the housing complexes in Massac County.
- c. Christmas Care Packages- This is the third year we have been able to do these care packages for the individuals in the county jail they include recovery positive material and comfort items. These are beneficial in getting resource information into the jail. We have had at least one person each year reach out as a result of these care packages-one to us and one to one of the churches who donated items.
- d. Laundry Event - Friday, Dec. 20, 11-3 Date for December Laundry event, we will begin needing volunteers for these to help while there are staff transitions. We will not have another RecoveryCorps member until later in January.
- e. Bowling Event- March 1st - The bowling event for 2025 will be held from 5-8. They will close the bar and access the gambling machines. We have always

gotten great feedback from these events. They are open to the entire community and create a place for families and individuals to come together and make connections with others in a safe, sober environment.

- f. Dignity Fair - Dec. 18 at SICIL - We will be set up there today and would like to let everyone know they'll be offering resources for those struggling with stable housing and they will have lots of organizations present.
7. Resource Center Update - Lasha: Participants are steady and a new connection has been made with another treatment center (Maryville Chestnut). We could use winter clothes donations for participants in need.
8. Other/Public Comment
- a. MCDAC wants to say congratulations to Melissa Brenningmeyer, she was the Project Coordinator with Recovery Corps, and she was offered a full-time position at Massac County Mental Health.
  - b. The Police reported having some negative feedback on the Compliance Checks that happened before Thanksgiving. MCDAC did awards for those that passed these checks and when we posted we thankfully did not have any negative feedback.
  - c. The police were able to do the Shop with a Cop program with 20 kids last weekend. They received a huge donation of toys from the Masonic Lodge, and they are currently looking for youth and families that are in need so they are not sitting in the department through Christmas. MCDAC mentioned Haven House as a place where these could be donated.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 am, Wednesday, December 18th.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 8:00 a.m., Metropolis City Hall