

Ogle/DeKalb ROSC Minutes

12/18/2024

1pm

Attendees- Gerald Lott (Executive Director), Lauren Metzler (SVVOR ROSC Co-Coordinator/ Operations Director), Steve McBride (SVVOR Peer recovery specialist), Katie Ruetten (SVVOR Peer recovery specialist), Clare Williams (SVVOR Secretary), Ashley Maki (DeKalb PD), Charlotte Bowie (Safe Passage), Paul Benson (Safe Passage), Lisa Gonzalez (DeKalb County Health Dept.), Penny Stark (RCA), Johanna Gonzalez (ROSC Coordinator), Ben Rudolf (ROSC TA), Sarah Grunden (OMNI Youth Services), Heaven Allen (DeKalb County Community Mental Health Board), Bahiyah Khalilallah (SROSC), Quortne Hutchings (NIU Assistant Prof. of Counseling), Johanna Gonzalez (IDHS-SUPR)

Presenters: Dana Fedenia and Stephanie Garland (Opvee)

Gerald

- November SVVOR had 37 intakes
- Steve (SVVOR Recovery Coach) is back and has been visiting the Lee county jail weekly. We are hoping to have him go to the DeKalb county Jail as well.
- We are awarding 1 CEU from ICB for those who attend the ROSC meetings!! Please see Clare's email to fill out the form, and then send it back to her.
- Our Midnight Masquerade is **Friday December 27th @ 6pm**. Please see the attached flyer for more details.
- We are doing Blessing Bags every week in a different county every time.
 - In each bag is food, narcan, drug testing strips, our butterfly flyers, and warm things like gloves and socks.
- We released our Community Needs Assessment. **Please send it to everyone you know in Ogle, DeKalb, Lee, and Whiteside counties!**
 - If you fill this survey out, you can enter to win a \$50 Amazon gift card. Drawing will be January 15th.
- We are finishing our newsletter, so if you have anything you want in the newsletter, please contact Clare or Lauren.
- CGH Hospital in Sterling is re-instating their detox program on Monday, December 23rd.
- We are in the final stages of getting to open another Sober home in Rochelle, hopefully within the first quarter of 2025. Should be 10-12 beds for either men or women, but could be up to 40.

Dana Fedenia (Opvee Presentation)

- Opvee Nasal Spray is the first and only nasal opioid rescue medicine specifically indicated for synthetic opioids like fentanyl. It was FDA approved in 2023.
- Opvee is not looking to replace Narcan, it is just adding to the help against the fentanyl crisis.
- Opvee is a different molecule: Nalmefene. It is indicated for the overdose of natural or synthetic opioids in patients 12 years old and older. It is for the emergency administration as emergency therapy, and not as a substitute for emergency medical care.
- In 2022, about 90% of all opioid overdose deaths were caused by synthetic opioids like fentanyl. It produces an overdose quickly and can stay in the body up to 8 hours.
- We did a test on 69 volunteers where we induced an overdose. We found that after using Opvee, at 2.5 minutes they were at 80% breathing rate, and at 5 minutes, their breathing rate was 98%. The half-life of Opvee is 11.4 hours.

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- **Questions and answers from both meetings:**

- **Does it operate quicker than Narcan? And can they operate together in the body at the same time?** → There are no contradictions based on pharmacology, so there would be more additive effects than anything. Opvee does work a bit faster, but Narcan is still good.
- **How many times was that study done, and have third parties replicated them?** → The study was done once to get FDA approval. It was reviewed by third parties, but not replicated in that exact format.
- **Will we be able to distribute Opvee free from the State?** → We are working to get to that point.
- **Do you need training to use Opvee?** → We do train people to use it, but it is the same training as Narcan.
- **Can I keep it in my car, or what temperature should it stay at?** → It should stay at room temperature, and you should generally avoid extreme heat or cold. It has a shelf life of 28 months.

- **What can ROSC do for you?**

Penny - RCA of St. Charles

- As of this week, we have opened a 14 bed, co-ed Recovery home. They need a 30 day treatment completion and step down to PHP is required (which insurance should cover). Rent is between \$25-35 a day.

Heaven - DeKalb County Community Mental Health Board

- We are gearing up for our next round of grants. One of which is a financial literacy grant meant to enhance your financial knowledge.

Quortne - NIU

- I have been in contact with student affairs to start a college recovery group.
 - **Gerald:** Next Recover-Con is **October 11th, 2025** and it was free for us to book the space thanks to Quortne

Paul - Safe PAssage/DeKalb

- I've been talking with Steve a lot to start up some Sober Nights over here, and also getting together an AA list.

Ashley - Dixon PD

- I need to inform you all on Sober Living of America. Hospitals and substance abuse agencies send people to these places, and then they are kicked out, meaning there is an increase of people out on the streets in DeKalb.
 - **Steve:** I got a call from Maureen, and they are bringing people from out of state to these places, but then they get pushed out with no help from the people who put them there.

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- **Penny:** They have been calling themselves a “treatment center” and that they’re associated with RCA. This is a lie, and they are not good!