

Event name	[From Meeting] GBPS ROSC Monthly Council Meeting – December 23, 2024
Time	December 23, 2024, 12:25 PM - 01:28 PM (CDT)
Participants	In attendance: Mark Bailey, Jermalia Hudson, Acclivus Inc. Community Liaison, Stacy Munroe, GBPS, Henry Scott, GBPS, Kami Garrison, Statewide ROSC Technical Assistant, Ralph Dunbar Monroe Foundation, Nicole Fryison, CPS, Family & Community Engagement Manager, Tomi Moore, GBPS, Henry Scott, GBPS, Chimere Bias, Institute for Positive Living, Laurel Dudley, GBPS Director, Dorian Figgers, GBPS, April Smith, Henry Community services, Ralph Dunbar, The Monroe Foundation, Johanna Gonzalez-IDHS/SUPR

## **Quick recap**

The meeting involved discussions on mental health services, community organization introductions, and the announcement of a Narcan giveaway event. The conversation also covered the programs offered by community organizations, partnerships for service provision, and the goal of having recovery partners provide direct service within the community. Lastly, the meeting focused on the need for community health services, particularly in the areas of nutrition and cooking skills, and the potential for partnerships with organizations providing direct services.

# **Next steps**

All participants invite additional community members and service providers to join the Ross Council. All participants to assist in distributing and collecting community surveys, aiming for 2,500 responses.

April Smith to distribute surveys at food giveaways in Douglas, Washington Park, Fuller Park, and Grand Boulevard areas.

Nicole Friesen to distribute surveys to parents at Dyett High School.

Bomani Obadele to follow up with Chicago Public Schools representatives about the Illinois Youth Survey.

Bomani Obadele to compile a list of kitchens providing meals in the service area for the January meeting.

Bomani Obadele to reach out to Saint Bernard's Wellness Center about their services.

Cecilia Butler to reach out to Safer Foundation about joining the Ross Coalition.

Johanna to email Safer Foundation contact information to Bomani Obadele

Bomani Obadele to contact Safer Foundation about presenting at the January meeting.

Bomani Obadele to reach out to the Englewood Ross group.

All participants to attend the Narcan giveaway on January 4th at Expressions Barber College if available.

## Summary

## **Integrating Mental Health with Treatment**

Mark and Ralph, both with a history of treatment, discussed their experiences and the potential for mental health services to be more integrated with treatment. They agreed that trauma is often the

underlying cause of many issues and that mental health services could be beneficial. However, they also noted that insurance often limits the duration of treatment, which can hinder progress. They concluded that mental health services should be more accessible and not just a temporary solution.

#### **Community Organizations Introduction Meeting**

The meeting involved representatives from various community organizations, including Grand Boulevard Prevention Services, Institute for Positive Living, Chicago Public Schools, and others. The participants introduced themselves and their roles within their respective organizations. Laurel Dudley from Grand Boulevard Prevention Services requested everyone to input their information into the group chat. The meeting also included a mention of the Statewide ROSC Project and its technical assistance role in region one in Cook County. However, there were some missing participants from the expected community organizations.

#### Narcan Giveaway at Barber College

Obadele announced a Narcan giveaway event at Harris Freshman's Barber College on January 4th from 12 to 2 PM. The event was organized in partnership with Vernon's, one of the owners of several barber and beauty shops in the community. Obadele also encouraged other attendees to share any upcoming community events they were aware of. GBPS confirmed the address for the Narcan giveaway as 235 East 47th Street.

#### **Bronzeville Programs and Community Services**

In the meeting, Nicole from the Bronzeville Parent University discussed the programs they offer for parents, including financial literacy, GED preparation, and conversational Spanish classes. They also have a clothing closet, Chaunce's Closet, which receives monthly donations from Cradles to Crayons. Nicole's organization serves the Bronzeville and Hyde Park areas in Chicago. April from Henry Community Services shared about their monthly food pantry and baby pantry services, which are in partnership with Chicago State University and home-based daycare centers. They are also considering expanding their baby pantry services to women's shelters.

#### **Expanding Partnerships and Resource Sharing**

April discussed her organization's partnership with DCFS which involves mentoring clients and providing resources for employment, housing, and counseling. She expressed a desire to expand the organization's relationship with other community organizations to offer more resources to individuals seeking help. Obadele explained the purpose of the ROSC system, which aims to create community councils for recovery and provide pathways for individuals seeking treatment. Ob also mentioned the Narcan giveaway initiative in high-traffic areas due to high levels of overdoses in the community. Laurel asked April about her organization's ability to provide food and snacks to other organizations, which April confirmed was an option. April was asked to provide her contact information in the chat for further communication.

## **Recovery Partners and Outreach Plan**

The meeting focused on the organization's goal to have recovery partners providing direct service within their community. The main aim is to get service providers at the table by the next meeting to explain their work. The conversation then shifted to the outreach plan, with Stacy Monroe discussing the updated communication and outreach plan. The goal is to support individuals in recovery and build the ROSC Council by inviting others to join and actively participate. The council also aims to gather community feedback through a survey, targeting 2,500 responses from the communities they serve.

## **Survey Distribution and Community Outreach**

Stacy initiated a discussion about the distribution of surveys to gather 2,500 responses over the next few months. The team agreed to send out copies of the survey to everyone on the call and also

discussed the possibility of using a QR code for individuals to complete the survey on their phones. The team also discussed the idea of distributing surveys at community events, such as the Narcan outreach on January 4th and the food giveaways in Douglas and Washington Park. April agreed to take some surveys to the food giveaways on both the west and south sides. The team also discussed the potential of connecting with the Better Women's Program on the East Side, as suggested by Mark. The conversation ended with the team agreeing to reach out to Mark for further information and to include the Better Women's Program in the coalition.

### **Community Health Services and Partnerships**

The meeting focused on the need for community health services, particularly in the areas of nutrition and cooking skills. The team discussed the lack of such services in their service area and the potential for partnerships with organizations like the Safer Foundation and Saint Bernard's Wellness Center. They also discussed the importance of engaging with organizations providing direct services, such as addiction treatment and halfway houses. The team agreed to follow up with these potential partners in January. The conversation ended with well wishes for the holiday season and a reminder of a community event in January.