

Perry/Jackson ROSC Council (PJRC)

FY25 Community Needs Assessment



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The community needs assessments for Perry & Jackson counties identified several barriers for individuals with substance use disorders, mental health challenges, and homelessness in various stages of recovery. In both Perry & Jackson County, all areas of the continuum of care – health promotion, prevention, intervention/harm reduction, treatment, and recovery—are impacted by negative, macro-level factors such as limited or nonexistent economic opportunity and infrastructure. Additionally, perspectives on within this county are heavily influenced by stigma and individuals lacking the understanding of SUD, mental health challenges, and homelessness within these counties are heavily influenced by stigma. Also, the unawareness of resources is seen across the board through community partners, community members, people with lived experience, and those seeking recovery. This combination of socio-economic disadvantage and stigmatization results in barriers, not only for individuals seeking care but also for families and communities who are impacted by substance use.

The following is an analysis of the gaps that were identified in the communities of Perry and Jackson Counties. This information was collected through SWOT Analysis, ROSC Council meetings, community survey, and meeting with individuals seeking or living in recovery, and community members.

Identified Gaps Across the Continuum:

<p>Access to Care/Treatment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of access to treatment due to costs and waitlists resulting in a delay between client readiness for treatment and inpatient bed availability. ● No inpatient residential treatment facility in Perry County. ● Need more access to long-term inpatient facilities closer to our area in order to assist in providing treatment in a timely manner. ● Lack of reliable transportation. Currently there are only two, limited, public transportation systems serving Perry County and two serving Jackson County. ● No medical detox facility. ● No adolescent inpatient facility. ● Lack of education/information and access to harm reduction materials.
<p>Housing Securities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of long-term, affordable housing options especially for people with a criminal history. ● Lack of emergency shelters regardless of SUD, mental health or criminal background.
<p>Health Promotion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of active food pantries in the community and/or transportation to get to and from has created a barrier for individuals trying to care for themselves and/or their families. ● Lack of community awareness, education and understanding regarding SUD resulting in increased community stigma.
<p>Recovery</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of sober living facilities and local recovery housing – especially those that support multiple pathways. ● Lack of support group/recovery meetings. ● Lack of adolescent support groups/recovery meetings. ● Lack of support services/support group meetings for family and friends of individuals with SUD. ● Lack of peer support services. ● Lack of employment and vocational services due to geographical isolation. ● Lack of recovery friendly workplaces, regardless of criminal background.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of faith-based advocacy and involvement in SUD community.• Lack of after-care/post-treatment recovery support services.• Stigma towards substance use disorder, homelessness, mental health, and previous felony charges prevents individuals from receiving the recovery opportunities needed to establish and grow in the community
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Community Readiness to Support ROSC

As of this assessment, the professional and lived experience recovery communities in Perry County have demonstrated little enthusiasm and willingness to participate with the Perry/Jackson ROSC council efforts, presently being headed by lead agency, Take Action Today. The council is continuously seeking to educate the community about the concept of ROSC and bring new stakeholders to the table.

We have noticed a higher level of community readiness in Jackson County to participate with the Perry/Jackson ROSC council efforts. We will continue to build and maintain the PJRC and ask other community partners from Jackson County to help us in collaboration with the positive goal of building relationships within Perry County.

Included in this Community Needs Assessment on the following page, is the SWOT Analysis conducted of Perry and Jackson Counties that were identified in our communities through information collected using community surveys, meeting with individuals seeking or living in recovery, community members, and monthly ROSC Council meetings. We will use this SWOT Analysis to continue to address weaknesses and threats and continue to build on the strengths and opportunities in our communities as we build and maintain PJRC.

SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PJRC ROSC Council • Take Action Today Resource Center in Jackson County. • Good Samaritan Homeless Shelter in Carbondale. • Warming Center in Carbondale • Gateway in Carbondale. • Fellowship House in Anna will take Perry/Jackson County residents for treatment. • Centerstone treatment in Carbondale. • Shawnee Health Services. • Comprehensive Behavioral Health Center in Perry County. • Perry County Counseling services. • Local businesses partnering with us to "Pop-up" and hand out resource information. • Land of Lincoln legal services. • Male Oxford Home in Jackson County. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of public transportation. • Lack of employment opportunities. • Limited resources and opportunities for the unhoused. • Lack of homeless services in Perry County. • Limited support groups or knowledge of them. • No inpatient substance-use treatment in Perry County. • No medical detox in Perry or Jackson County. • Lack of transitional housing for those re-entering society from treatment. • Lack of adolescent mental health and substance use services. • Lack of active food pantries or transportation to get to food pantries.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to build partnerships and collaborations in the communities through PJRC. • Use social media as a tool to share resources on community groups and pages. • Parks are open to the public to host recovery events to bring awareness that "recovery is possible" and to help reduce stigma. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy property destruction and theft by individuals with SUD who are stealing to meet their needs. • Residents are uneducated on recovery and available resources. • Absent parents or those still struggling with addiction contribute to the commonality of grandparents raising their grandchildren. • Stigma around substance use, homelessness, and mental health

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognize successful recovery stories and have them shared during meetings and events.• Service/Volunteer opportunities through PJRC and TAT for the recovery community.• Increase awareness of recovery groups and bring new ones into the communities through the PJRC or lead agency, Take Action Today.• Create PLE subcommittee to get them more involved in the community and FWRC.• Get the community involved with recovery events and happenings in the area.• Participate in community events to spread awareness of PJRC.	<p>challenges hinder the belief that “people do recover.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of follow-up/aftercare post-treatment.• Lack of stable housing post-treatment.• The lack of understanding SUD, mental health challenges and homelessness creates stigma in our communities.
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