

Lee/Whiteside ROSC Minutes

2/19/2025

3pm

Attendees- Gerald Lott (Executive Director), Lauren Metzler (SVVOR ROSC Co-Coordinator/Operations Director), Justice Castro (SVVOR Peer recovery specialist), Katie Ruetten (SVVOR Peer recovery specialist), Brandi O'Rourke (SVVOR Peer Recovery lead), Ashley O'Dell (SVVOR), Clare Williams (SVVOR Secretary), Monica Allen (YWCA), Debra Beckmann (SROSC), Rae Rogers (Arukah Institute of Healing), Brayden Everly (YWCA), Whitney Miller (LCSW Roberts Counseling), Karl Arellano (Sterling VA Clinic), Bahiyah Khalilallah (SROSC), Ben Rudolf (ROSC TA).

Presenters: Penny Stark (RCA)

Gerald

- January SVVOR had 34 emergency intakes
 - 25 male, 9 female. CGH referred 14 to us.
- We have two different federal grant programs. CRCC picked us to lead the northwest corner covering our 4 counties and some more.
 - PSCSS: Public Awareness Grant (flyers, ads, billboards, etc for support on helping with addiction recovery awareness)
 - We need 5 partners to sign an MOU to help us distribute materials. reach out to Clare if you'd like to help.
 - RUTF: Recovery United Task Force (mentoring people who want to start groups like ours or start an RCO)
 - We already are working with and mentoring several people on this. This includes helping with 501c3s, helping apply for grants, hiring new people, creating structure, etc.
 - We meet once a month, so contact Myself, Brandi, or Lauren
- 2 weeks ago we had our first TASC meeting. It was very successful, and we planned a planning retreat.
 - We can now hire 3 people to work for SVVOR with law enforcement within our four counties. (1 for Lee/Whiteside, 1 for Ogle/DeKalb, and 1 to oversee both.)
 - This will free up our coaches to focus on other things.
 - **Our next TASC will be March 14th at the Lee County Health Dept.**
- Our women's sober living home is getting a lot of notoriety. It will open soon. We have given many presentations to get the word out, and we are happy to come out to your areas as well.

Penny Stark's Presentation looking at Community Data within our 4 counties

- There is a huge need for mental health clinicians, but there is a wide disparity.
- There are very few available in patient detox and residential clinics in our area, and most of them do not accept medicare, or have beds that are always filled.
 - The closest are outside Chicago, or in Rockford.
- The majority of the people I work with either have medicare (underinsured), or flat out uninsured.
- The challenges to getting access to care are commonly insurance, bed availability, distance, and admission times.
 - In terms of distance, it takes almost a full day just to transport 1 peer because all the recovery homes are in the Chicago suburbs.

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- OUD and AUD are the most commonly diagnosed SUDs in Medicare claims.
 - Accounts for 80% of all alcohol and drug deaths.
- 3.3 million people in IL receive Medicare, but there are only 19 beds per every 100k people in IL.
- This is why the facility SVVOR has been given is such a big deal. That building can provide more beds (50 beds) and severely cut the time it takes to transport.

What can ROSC do for you?

Brayden -

- Our Community Fridge and Pantry is functional and stocked. It is in a shed in front of our building.

Karl -

- We've had lots of change with this new administration, but we are getting through.