

## Ogle/DeKalb ROSC Minutes

1/15/2025

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 O'Dell (SVVOR Recovery Corp), Eric Harrell (SVVOR Recovery Corp), Charlotte Bowie (Safe Passage), Paul Benson (Safe Passage), Ben Rudolph (ROSC TA), Bahiyah Khalilallah (SROSC), Marta Jarka (NW Ben Gordon Center), Paul Benson (Safe Passage), Deanna Cada (DeKalb County Mental Health Board), Erika Hahn (Prevention Specialist for IHPP), Deb Beckman (Statewide ROSC Team), Kyle Romero (Association for Individual Development)

**Presenter: Todd Noak (Life Connections)**

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### Gerald

- SVVOR had a meeting with our local AA, as we have had a feud with our Lee/Whiteside District for a while. We are waiting for their response after their District meeting.
- We have a planning session with TASC where they are going to give us a grant to hire 3 more people dedicated to interfacing with the local police.
  - Will be on February 6th in our Rochelle Office from 9-5.
- As of New Years, Highlight Healthcare donated two buildings to SVVOR. One building will open in February and will be a transitional home for women. The other building will hopefully become a treatment center.
  - Penny Stark is leading a work group to explore options for the other building. Please email Gerald, Lauren, or Penny if you are interested in joining the work group.
- We had 37 intakes in December: 6-Whiteside, 5-Ogle, 4-DeKalb, 13-Lee, and 9 from other counties.

**Presenter: Todd Noack (Life Connections)**

- Started in 2016, it is a peer-run organization and respite, kind of like a BnB for emotional distress and life interruptions.
- To stay, we do a small screening when they call or come in. The questions are very direct and easy to understand. Some questions include “Do you have a place to return to? Can you be near a school? Can you care for yourself? etc.
- Each person who comes in needs to bring their own food and clothes, but we try to support them in any way we can.
- The house is male and female, and they can stay up to 7 days. We have a set of guidelines, with copies put into every room. Some of these guidelines include no substances and no inappropriate interactions.
- Working with the police departments was brought about because we found a few officers who did not have a stigma against homeless people or people in distress. We built a relationship with them, and they helped us spread the word in the departments.
  - Here is the link to the website and testimonial page:  
<https://lifeconnectionsrecovery.org/testimonials/>

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**What can ROSC do for you?**

**Marta Jarka**

- We are holding free Narcan dispensers, and we have openings for IOP.

**Deanna Cada**

- Grant applications are due in February.

**Paul Benson**

- Potential partnering with SVVOR + Ben Gordon to do monthly sober events. Jan 18th at 9am, there will be a women's rights rally in front of the DeKalb County Court House.

**Erika Hahn**

- Jan 22, I will be doing presentations about Prevention 1st and what we offer:  
<https://www.prevention.org/training/EventDetails?i=3415&t=>