



MERC Meeting Summary

9:00 a.m.

Feb. 20th, 2025

Attendees

- Angella Holloway CHS MERC ROSC
- Ashley Ramos Gateway Foundation
- Beverly Holland CHS Statewide ROSC
- Cheri Simpher Amare Intern
- Dan Hutchison CHS
- Deb Humphrey Mad Co 708 MH Board
- Dusty Hanner CHS OEND
- Elbert Jennings IL State Police
- Greg Norkus St. Clair Probation
- Jacob Dunavant IRC
- Jennifer Schulz Centerstone
- Kathy Kehrer CHS
- Kelly Jefferson NAMI
- Kristin Anderson CHS
- Mark Knott CHS MERC ROSC
- Meagan McGlasson IRC
- Megan Tyler Sacred Spaces of Care
- Monique Brunious CHS Bond ROSC
- Morgan Hempen CHS Youth SA Prevention
- Paul Fischer Porchlight Collective
- Ryen Stone CHS Youth SA Prevention
- Stephanie Everhart CHS Vocational Coordinator
- Thomas Wood Amare (Board Member) guest
- Tisha Lancaster IDHS
- Toni Randall CHS Bond ROSC
- Tracy Dones CHS Faith & Recovery Colab
- Ty White Community Member
- Tyrone Hill Amare

- Violette Book CHS OEND

### **Old Business**

Going over the community survey and asking the council to help send this out to the community and its leaders. We are having flyers and card made up and are counting on you to help us get this out to our community of Madison and St. Clair Counties. An idea was brought to us about adding a link to the flyer along with the QR code here is the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KRJJ7W>

### **New Business**

- Opened the floor on ideas on how to better reach the community- Increase “marketing” presence on social media. Using MERC’s Facebook page to promote stake holders events and services and ask them to promote events and services that MERC is involved in.
- Use physical flyers more often, having them posted on boards at various locations throughout the community
- Building relationships with not only other agencies but also with individual members of the community, with an emphasis on community leaders and gatekeepers
- Also, better marketing or Branding of what MERC is and what it is that MERC actually does.
- MERC is not so much a service provider but more of a bridge builder for the resources available to the persons with a SUD
- Thomas Wood board member of Amare nfp shared about the work Amare does and their open executive director position they are working to fill- posting will be open for the next couple of weeks with a goal of filling the position by mid March
- Amare nfp is reaching out to our Community Leaders & invite candidates to apply for our Executive Director role. All candidates will be asked to apply using this link: <https://amare.bamboohr.com/careers/40>
- IRC shared shared about upcoming movie/panel discussion event "Finding Jacob" .Flyer will be attached.
- Center Stone shared about a GloBingo fundraiser 4/12 to support MH/SA tx services. Interest in attending or sponsoring contact Jennifer (inset email). Link here <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1096374308069?aff=oddttdtcreator>

### **Announcements and upcoming events**

At the Edwardsville Library there are monthly Stigma conversations along with Narcan demonstrations which will continue to be held on the 3rd or 4<sup>th</sup> Wed of each month check the library Facebook page schedule. A link to the Facebook back can be found on their website: [Home | Edwardsville Public Library](#)

Weekly Early recovery meeting Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at 144 E Ferguson in Wood River (Amare). Open to the public. For more information reach out to Tyrone Hill [thill@amarefp.org](mailto:thill@amarefp.org) or Mark Knott [maknott@chestnut.org](mailto:maknott@chestnut.org)

### **MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting**

March 20<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 9am

### **Metro East Recovery Council (MERC) Vision:**

*A community system that nurtures and supports individuals and families seeking or maintaining recovery for themselves or a loved one.*

### **Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC)**

#### **Mission:**

*Collaborating to build and empower communities of recovery.*