

## Perry/Jackson ROSC Council (PJRC)

### FY25 Strategic Plan



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The primary vision of the Perry/Jackson ROSC Council is to sustain recovery support within the community through unity and intentional collaboration among allies, stakeholders, and those in or seeking recovery.

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## PERRY COUNTY

### History & Demographics

Perry County is located in rural southwestern Illinois. a region colloquially known as “Little Egypt.” The region is named such because of the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and noted parallels with the Nile River delta in Egypt.

	Perry County	Illinois
Current Population (Estimate V2024)	20,272	12,710,158
Population Change 2020 – 2024	-3.2%	-0.9%
White alone	88.2%	76%
Black alone	8.5%	14.6%
Hispanic or Latinx	3.8%	19.0%
Two or more races	2.0%	2.3%
Persons age >65	20.7%	17.6%
Persons with a disability age <65 (2019-2023)	16.2%	8.0%
<b>Source:</b> <a href="https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/perrycountyillinois,IL/PST045223">https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/perrycountyillinois,IL/PST045223</a>		

Consistent with the state, Perry County has seen a slight population decline in recent years, dropping by 3.2% between 2020 and 2024 (Census QuickFacts, 2024). The

demographics of Perry County are much less diverse than the rest of the greater southern Illinois region. Across Perry County, the population is 88.2% White only, 8.5% Black, 3.8% Hispanic or Latinx, and 2% multi-racial (Census QuickFacts, 2024). Perry County is also home to a comparatively large number of senior citizens. The average for individuals who are >65 years old in Perry County is 20.7%, surpassing the state average of 17.6% (Census QuickFacts, 2024).

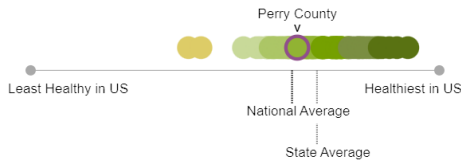
	Perry County	Illinois
Civilian Labor Force (Population age >16, 2019 - 2023)	49.3%	64.9%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher (persons age >25 years, 2019 - 2023)	12.3%	37.2%
Persons in Poverty	17%	11.6%
Median Household Income (in 2023 dollars, 2019 - 2023)	\$59,286	\$81,702
<b>Source:</b> <a href="https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/perrycounty">https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/perrycounty</a>		

Census data from 2019 to 2023 showed that 49.3% of individuals in Perry County are counted in the civilian labor force, which is almost 20% lower than the state average, 64.9% (Census QuickFacts, 2024). An often-identified barrier to quality employment is lack of higher education attainment. There is true in Perry County, where only 12.3% of individuals 25 years or older have attained a bachelor's degree; this is significantly lower than the state average of 37.2% (Census QuickFacts, 2024). This number is relatively lower than the rest of the greater southern Illinois region and is perhaps due to the long history of Perry County being home to blue collar industries such as mining. In addition to lower-than-state-average labor force and bachelor's degree attainment, there are limited economic opportunities and slightly elevated poverty levels in Perry County. The poverty rate across Perry County is 17%, which is almost 5 points higher than the state average, 11.6% (Census QuickFacts, 2024). Economic disparity is also apparent when reviewing median household income data. The median household income for Perry County was \$59,286, which is approximately \$22,416 less than the state average, \$81,702 (Census QuickFacts, 2024).

## Health Outcomes & Factors



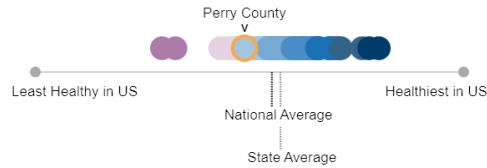
### Perry County Population Health and Well-being - 2025



Perry County is faring about the same as the average county in Illinois for Population Health and Well-being, and slightly better than the average county in the nation.



### Perry County Community Conditions - 2025



Perry County is faring slightly worse than the average county in Illinois for Community Conditions, and slightly worse than the average county in the nation.

Overall measures of health outcomes and health factors consider length and quality of life, as well as health behaviors, access to healthcare resources, socio-economic factors, environment, and other such data. Perry county is faring about the average county in Illinois and slightly worse than the average county in the nation as you can see in the graph above. Some of the contributing health factors, listed in the table below, reflect behavioral and systemic challenges that individuals in Perry County must overcome.

	Perry County	Illinois
Premature Death (Years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population)	9,300	7,900
Life Expectancy	75.4	77.5
Adult Smoking	21%	13%
Excessive Drinking	21%	19%
Alcohol-impaired Driving Deaths	40%	26%
Drug Overdose Deaths (per 100,000 population)	22	29
Suicide (per 100,000 population)	21	11
Adult Obesity	40%	33%
Limited Access to Healthy Foods	9%	5%

Food Insecurity	16%	12%
Population to Primary Care Physicians (ratio)	1610:1	1260:1
Population to Mental Health Providers (ratio)	400:1	300:1
<b>Source:</b> <a href="http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/illinois/perry?year=2025">www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/illinois/perry?year=2025</a>		

Adult smoking is more prevalent in Perry County (21%), compared to 13% state average (County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2025). The prevalence of excessive drinking is comparable to the state average, yet alcohol-impaired driving deaths (40%) in Perry County surpass the state (26%) by 14 points. Approximately 21% of adults reported excessive drinking, compared to the state average (19%). Total drug overdose deaths (22) are only slightly lower than the state’s total average (29). This is alarming for Perry County residents due to the fact of the rural population. Suicide rates in Perry County are especially alarming as well, with a rate of 21, which is almost twice the state average of 11. Obesity rates in Perry County were 40%, which is slightly higher than the state average obesity rate, 33%. Across Illinois, 12% of the population reported food insecurity; however, in Perry County, 16% are food insecure (County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2025). Harmful behavioral and environmental factors are further exacerbated by limited healthcare services and availability. There are 1,610 patients per primary care physician, and 400 patients per mental health provider (County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2025).

## **Youth Population Data**

There are two high school districts across Perry County. The following table lists these school districts and certain characteristics, as well as provides state average data for comparison.

	Pinckneyville CHSD 101	DuQuoin CUSD 300	Illinois
Total Enrollment	404	1,317	1.9M
Graduation Rate	94%	86%	87.7%
Mobility (Transfer in/out)	9%	8%	7.9%
Chronic Truancy	4%	12%	20%
Low Income	42%	45%	49.8%
Homeless	4%	2%	2.6%

**Source: ISBE Illinois Report Card (2024)**

Across all school districts in Perry County, the average graduation rate for PCHS (94%) is higher than the state average and DCHS (86%) is slightly lower than the state average of 87.7%. On average, truancy rates were lower than the state average (20%) (ISBE Illinois Report Card, 2024). Across all high school districts in Perry County, the percentage of low-income students is slightly lower but close in range with the state average (49.8%).

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Youth within these two school districts and Pinckneyville Middle School and DuQuoin Middle School completed the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS; 2024). The following tables

provide an overview of youth responses to substance use across 30 day and one year time periods.

<b>Past 30-day Use (8th - 12th graders)</b>	<b>Perry County</b>		
	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
Alcohol	26%	19%	32%
Binge-Drinking	15%	8%	18%
Tobacco/Vaping	15%	19%	30%
Marijuana	10%	10%	15%
Rx Drugs (not prescribed)	0%	0%	0%
<b>Used in Past Year (8th - 12th graders)</b>	<b>Perry County</b>		
	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
Common Substances plus Vaping	41%	38%	54%
Alcohol	37%	33%	51%
Marijuana	13%	16%	23%
E-cigarettes/Vaping	23%	23%	31%
Illicit Drugs (Excluding Marijuana)	3%	1%	1%
Any Rx Drugs to Get High	1%	1%	3%
Rx Drugs (not prescribed)	2%	3%	5%

**Source: Illinois Youth Survey 2023 County Report : Perry County**

According to IYS (2024) responses, the three most commonly used substances by youth in Perry County were alcohol, common substances plus vaping, and ecigarettes/ vaping products.

## **Adult Population Data**

Adult substance use data offers valuable insights into substance use behaviors and attitudes within Perry County. Since the county lacks an inpatient substance use treatment facility, we rely on nearby centers to provide services for individuals in need. One such facility is the Gateway Foundation, located in Jackson County, which has been a key resource for Perry County residents. We have gathered referral data from Gateway for the past year (March 24–March 25). Additionally, we have obtained admission data from The Fellowship House, located in Union County, which also serves residents of Perry County (October 24- March 25). Below, you will find the number of referrals Gateway has received for Perry County residents over the past year, along with the admission numbers for Perry County residents at The Fellowship House in the past 6 months.

Gateway Substance Use Referrals (Mar.24-Mar.25) PERRY COUNTY	
Meth	14
Alcohol	6
Marijuana	1
Opiates	2
Cocaine	1
Benzos	1
Total Referrals	25

The Fellowship House Admissions (Oct.24-Mar.25) PERRY COUNTY	
Residential Rehab	2
Detox	2

Based on the limited data we were able to collect regarding adults, it is evident that the lack of residential substance use treatment facilities within our county significantly impacts the prevalence of substance use. Without local resources available for those in need, individuals often face greater barriers to accessing necessary care and support. This gap in services not only exacerbates the challenges for those struggling with substance use but also contributes to the continued rise in substance use-related issues within our community. The absence of a local inpatient treatment center further

increases the reliance on surrounding counties, which may not be equipped to meet the demand from Perry County residents, leading to delays in treatment and missed opportunities for recovery. This data highlights the urgent need for local, accessible substance use treatment options to address the growing concern within our county effectively.



# JACKSON COUNTY

## History & Demographics

Jackson County is located in a region colloquially known as “Little Egypt.” The region is named such because of the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and noted parallels with the Nile River delta in Egypt. Jackson County is included in the Carbondale-Marion, IL Metropolitan Statistical Area, meaning that it is a geographical region with a relatively high population density at its core and close economic ties throughout the region. Much of the county's economic situation is dependent upon the local university, Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

	Jackson County	Illinois
Current Population (Estimate V2024)	53,199	12,710,158
Population Change 2020 – 2024	-0.3%	-0.9%
White, not Hispanic or Latinx	76.9%	76%
Black	15.6%	14.6%
Hispanic or Latinx	5.3%	19.0%
Two or more races	3.2%	2.3%
Persons age >65	17.2%	17.6%
Persons with a disability age <65 (2018-2024)	12.7%	8.0%
<b><u>Source: United States Census Bureau Facts 2024</u></b>		

Consistent with the state, Jackson County has seen a slight population decline in recent years, dropping by 0.3% between 2020 and 2024 (Census QuickFacts, 2024). The demographics of Jackson County are slightly more diverse than the rest of the greater southern Illinois region. Across Jackson County, the population is 76.9% White only, 15.6% Black, 5.3% Hispanic or Latinx, and 3.2% multi-racial (Census QuickFacts, 2024). Jackson County is also home to a comparatively large number of senior citizens. The average for individuals who are >65 years old in Jackson County is 17.2%, consistent with the state average of 17.2% (Census QuickFacts, 2024).

	Jackson County	Illinois
Civilian Labor Force (Population age >16, 2019 - 2023)	56.6%	64.9%
Bachelor’s Degree or Higher (persons age >25 years, 2019 – 2023)	35.1%	37.2%

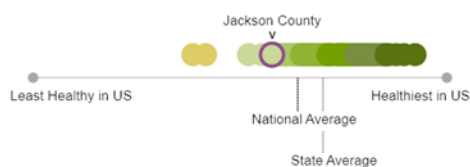
Persons in Poverty	20.7%	11.6%
Median Household Income (in 2023 dollars, 2019 - 2023)	\$45,572	\$81,702
<b><u>Source: United States Census Bureau Facts 2024</u></b>		

Census data from 2020 to 2024 showed that 56.6% of individuals in Jackson County are counted in the civilian labor force, which is slightly lower than the state average, 64.9% (Census QuickFacts, 2024). An often-identified barrier to quality employment is lack of higher education attainment, however in Jackson County, 35.1% of individuals 25 years or older have attained a bachelor’s degree; this is nearly equivalent to the state average of 37.2% (Census QuickFacts, 2024). This number is relatively higher than the rest of the greater southern Illinois region and is perhaps due to Jackson County being home to a major educational institution, Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Despite having a comparatively average labor force and almost equivalent-to-state bachelor’s degree attainment, there are incredibly elevated poverty levels in Jackson County (20.7%), more than double the state average of 11.6% (Census QuickFacts, 2024). Economic disparity is also apparent when reviewing median household income data. The median household income for Jackson County was \$45,572, which is approximately \$36,130 less than the state average, \$81,702 (Census QuickFacts, 2024).

## **Health Outcomes & Factors**



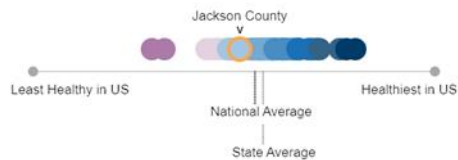
Jackson County Population Health and Well-being - 2025



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Jackson County Community Conditions - 2025



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county in Illinois and slightly worse than the average county in the nation as you can see in the graph above. Some of the contributing health factors, listed in the table below, reflect behavioral and systemic challenges that individuals in your county must overcome.

	Jackson County	Illinois
Premature Death (Years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population; 2020 - 2022)	10,800	8,400
Life Expectancy	74.9	77.5
Adult Smoking	19%	13%
Excessive Drinking	18%	19%
Alcohol-impaired Driving Deaths	29%	26%
Suicides (Per 100,000)	17	11
Drug Overdose Deaths (Per 100,000 Population)	16	29
Adult Obesity	39%	33%
Limited Access to Healthy Foods	15%	5%
Food Insecurity	16%	12%
Population to Primary Care Physicians (ratio)	620:1	1260:1
Population to Mental Health Providers (ratio)	240:1	340:1
<b>Source:</b> <a href="https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/illinois/jackson?year=2025">https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/illinois/jackson?year=2025</a>		

Adult smoking is more prevalent in Jackson County (19%), compared to 13% state average (County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2025). The prevalence of excessive drinking is comparable to the state average, yet alcohol-impaired driving deaths (29%) are lower in Jackson County in comparison to the state (26%). Approximately 18% of adults reported excessive drinking, compared to the state average (19%), although the percentage of motor vehicle crash deaths involving alcohol is 29%, which is less than

the state average of 26%. Total Drug Overdose Deaths (16) are slightly lower than the state's total average (29). This is alarming for your Jackson County residents due to the fact of the rural population. Suicide rates in Jackson County are especially alarming as well, with a rate of 17, which is 6 above the state average of 11. Obesity rates in Jackson County were 39%, which is slightly higher than the state average obesity rate, 33%. Across Illinois, 16% of the population reported food insecurity; however, in Jackson County, 12% are food insecure (County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2025). Harmful behavioral and environmental factors are further exacerbated by limited healthcare services and availability. There are 620 patients per primary care physician, and 240 patients per mental health provider (County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2025).

**Youth Population Data**

There are four high school districts across Jackson County. The following table lists these school districts and certain characteristics, as well as provides state average data for comparison.

	Carbondale Community HS	Trico Senior HS	Murphysboro HS	Elverado HS	IL
Total Enrollment	947	219	577	108	1.9 M
Graduation Rate	86%	93%	86%	78%	87.6%
Mobility (Transfer in/out)	18%	13%	15%	15%	7%
Truant Students	33%	8%	20%	9%	25.1%

Low Income	59%	55%	100%	61%	49%
Homeless	4%	9%	4%	Redacted	2.6%

**Source:** <https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/>

Across all school districts in Jackson County, the average graduation rate, for schools which reported this figure, was 86% which is slightly lower than the state average, 87.6% (ISBE Illinois Report Card, 2023). Likewise, truancy rates were slightly lower at 17.5% to the state average 25.1%, across all schools which reported this measure (ISBE Illinois Report Card, 2023). Across all school districts in Jackson County, there is a significantly higher percentage of low-income students (68.75% average) and higher student transfer in/out rates (15.25% average), or student mobility, compared to the state averages (ISBE Illinois Report Card, 2023).

**NOTE:** It feels pertinent to point out that the percentage of low-income students in the Murphysboro CUSD 186 is an alarming 100%.

**NOTE:** There is no 2022 IYS data available for Jackson County.

**NOTE:** There is no data available for grades 10 and 12 as the only three districts to participate in the IYS (2024) were Unity Point Elem School, Giant City Elem School, and DeSoto Elementary School.

The following tables provide an overview of youth responses to substance use across 30 day and one-year time periods.

Past 30-day Use (8th - 12th graders)	Jackson County		
	8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Alcohol	12%	N/A	N/A
Binge-Drinking	3%	N/A	N/A
Tobacco/Vaping	6%	N/A	N/A
Marijuana	2%	N/A	N/A
Rx Drugs (not prescribed)	1%	N/A	N/A

Used in Past Year (8th - 12th graders)	Jackson County		
	8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Common Substances and/or Vaping	29%	N/A	N/A
Alcohol	26%	N/A	N/A
Marijuana	9%	N/A	N/A
E-cigarettes/Vaping	11%	N/A	N/A
Illicit Drugs (Excluding Marijuana)	0%	N/A	N/A
Any Rx Drugs to Get High	2%	N/A	N/A
Rx Drugs (not prescribed)	1%	N/A	N/A

**Source:**

[https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_178052/File/2024/Cnty24\\_Jackson.pdf](https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/UserFiles/Servers/Server_178052/File/2024/Cnty24_Jackson.pdf)

According to IYS (2024) responses, the three most commonly used substances by 8th grade youth in Jackson County were alcohol, marijuana, and vaping products.

**Adult Population Data**

Adult substance use data provides important insights into substance use behaviors and attitudes within Jackson County. The county is served by a single substance use treatment facility, the Gateway Foundation, located in Carbondale, which plays a vital role in supporting Jackson County residents. However, the lack of treatment centers in neighboring counties places significant pressure on this one residential treatment center in Jackson County ultimately creating a barrier for Jackson County residents in receiving the substance use treatment needed. We have collected referral data from Gateway for the past year (March 24–March 25), as well as admission data from The Fellowship House, located in Union County, which also serves Jackson County residents (October 24–March 25). Below, you will find the number of referrals Gateway has received for Jackson County residents over the past year, along with the admission numbers for Jackson County residents at The Fellowship House over the past 6 months.

Gateway Substance Use Referrals (Mar.24-Mar.25) JACKSON COUNTY	
Meth	17
Alcohol	28
Marijuana	9
Opiates	5
Cocaine	9
Benzos	2
Total Referrals	68

The Fellowship House Admissions (Oct.24-Mar.25) JACKSON COUNTY	
Residential Rehab	15
Detox	8

Based on the limited data we were able to collect regarding adults, it is evident that the lack of residential substance use treatment facilities within our neighboring counties significantly impacts the prevalence of substance use in our county. Without local resources available for those in need, individuals often face greater barriers to accessing necessary care and support. This gap in services not only exacerbates the challenges for those struggling with substance use but also contributes to the continued rise in substance use-related issues within our community. The pressure of our one local inpatient treatment center being responsible for serving our neighboring counties and the lack of their own inpatient treatment centers further increases the reliance on surrounding counties, which may not be equipped to meet the demand from our own Jackson County residents, leading to delays in treatment and missed opportunities for recovery. This data highlights the urgent need for local, accessible substance use treatment options to address the growing concern within our county and neighboring counties effectively.

## **Conclusion:**

In Perry/Jackson Counties, 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 economic opportunity and limited, or nonexistent, infrastructure.

Additionally, perspectives on substance use within this county are heavily influenced by stigma and individuals lacking the understanding of SUD, mental health challenges, and homelessness. 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 disadvantages, stigmatization, and unawareness results in barriers, not only for individuals seeking care but also for families and communities who are impacted by substance use.

The gaps that were identified in our communities through information collected using community surveys, meeting with individuals seeking or living in recovery, monthly ROSC Council meetings and SWOT analysis for the community needs assessment suggest that these gaps within these counties play an extensive role creating barriers affecting all areas of the continuum of care.

With this in consideration, the strategic goals below aim to establish how the Perry/Jackson Recovery Oriented Systems of Care Council (ROSC) will implement goals, objectives, and activities to help better serve our communities and measure the success of PJRC. We will use the ROSC concept by educating community stakeholders on our mission, objectives, events, and other related activities to gain support and to continue the services of the PJRC through lead agency Take Action Today.

## **Strategic Goals:**

**Goal A:** Increase community awareness of the PJRC development & mission.

Objective 1: Promote the concept of Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) and Perry/Jackson ROSC Council (PJRC).

Objective 2: Ensure community members know where to locate recovery support services.

Objective 3: Engage with other ROSC councils and welcome other systems of care or non-ROSC communities into our activities.



Objective 4: Increase recognition of the PJRC.

- Activity 1: Distribute PJRC promotional materials in our service area through multiple social media platforms, billboard ads, and USPS Every Door Direct Mailers (EDDM).
- Activity 2: Develop and attend resource/mutual aid groups, outreach events, public forums, and other educational training opportunities.
- Activity 3: Support and attend other coalition and ROSC council meetings.
- Activity 4: Promote the recovery resource centers of lead agency, Take Action Today located in Perry and Jackson counties as sites for harm reduction services, recovery and peer support services, and treatment referrals.
- Activity 5: Increase the number of Facebook followers on PJRC's Facebook page.
- Activity 6: Partner with local and regional radio and print media to share recovery-related messaging and events hosted by PJRC.

**Goal B:** Reduce stigma against people who use drugs and people living in recovery.

Objective 1: Increase recovery messaging.

Objective 2: Promote the message that "recovery is possible" and provide encouraging evidence that "people DO recover."

Objective 3: Expand outreach efforts to churches and other faith-based organizations to engage and educate them on how we respond to SUD and people living with SUDs.

- Activity 1: Promote person-centered language to acknowledge people living with substance use disorders.
- Activity 2: Hold community forums & educational events that highlight or emphasize evidence-based research surrounding stigma reduction.
- Activity 3: Increase the number of PLE's on the PJRC Council roster and encourage them to share their stories of recovery in public forums.
- Activity 4: Partner with local and regional radio and print media to share stigma-reducing messaging.

**Goal C:** Increase awareness of recovery support services in our area.

Objective 1: Increase awareness of available recovery supports and resources in our communities to those re-entering after SUD treatment.

Objective 2: Educate key stakeholders and community members on the recovery resources available in our communities.

Objective 3: ROSC Council will partner with TAT's CBHR team to establish a relationship between entities in the judicial system to bridge the gap between law enforcement and ROSC.

- Activity 1: Engage with other ROSC councils and welcome other systems of care or non-ROSC community stakeholders into our activities and attend their activities.
- Activity 2: Attend local recovery meetings and engage in conversation of how individuals can be a part of the ROSC council.
- Activity 3: The council will partner with other organizations offering weekly recovery support meetings.
- Activity 4: Provide recovery support materials including brochures, training opportunities, flyers, resource bags, educational materials, and harm reduction information to those we are trying to inform such as community members, law enforcement, faith-based organizations, and PLE's.

**Goal D:** Continue developing a fully representative ROSC Council.

Objective 1: Increase community engagement in the PJRC and community events sponsored by the PJRC.

Objective 2: Continue to build and support a recovery-ready community.

Objective 3: Continue recruiting representatives of required/critical sectors.

- Activity 1: Hold monthly ROSC Council meetings and share networking opportunities such as meetings, events, and training.
- Activity 2: Reach out to key stakeholders for partnership, such as law enforcement, faith-based organizations, and PLE's.
- Activity 3: Invite local businesses to sponsor our community events.
- Activity 4: Attend other local community events and meetings to show our support to other agencies and our community.