

ROSC GBPS Meeting Minutes

Date: May 19, 2025 **Time:** 12:31 PM (meeting started) **Location:** Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Attendees:

- Bamani Obadeli (Coordinator, GRCC's iPhone lu p)
 - Kenneth Bell (Statewide ROSC, Technical Assistant for Region 1, Cook County)
 - Stacy Munroe
 - Yolanda Woods (Intern, Grand Boulevard Prevention Services)
 - Marvell Singletary (Site Supervisor, Accurate)
 - June Reed (Executive Director, Sylvester House Enterprises)
 - Carolyn Wadlington, EdD (Intern, Grand Boulevard Prevention Services)
 - Cecilia Butler (Community Member)
 - Aimee Potter (VA)
 - Narestus S Coley MSW LSW (Lawrence Hall)
 - Nygeria Slayden-Figgers (Executive Director, Grand Boulevard Prevention Services)
 - Isaetta Walton
 - Edward Boone (West Side ROSC)
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Apologies for Absence:

- Taproots presenter (not on the call as of the discussion point)
 - CPS partners (not on the call)
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1. Call to Order & Welcome

- Bamani Obadeli officially called the meeting to order at 12:31 PM.
 - Welcome extended to all attendees for the annual ROSC (Recovery Oriented Systems of Care) monthly meeting.
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2. Sign-in and Introductions

- Attendees were reminded that the **chat is the official sign-in sheet** and were asked to provide their name and organization.

- Brief introductions were conducted, with attendees sharing their name, organization, and a "feeling scale" from 1 to 10:
 - **Bamani Obadeli:** Coordinator, Grand Boulevard Prevention Services - 10
 - **Kenneth Bell:** Statewide ROSC, Technical Assistant for Region 1 (Cook County) - 8.5
 - **June Reed:** Executive Director, Sylvester House Enterprises - 9.75
 - **Marvell Singletary:** Site Supervisor, Accurate - 10
 - **Carolyn Wadlington, EdD:** Intern, Grand Boulevard Prevention Services - 9
 - **Yolanda Woods:** Intern, Grand Boulevard Prevention Services - 10
 - **Stacy Munroe:** ROSC - 9
 - **Cecilia Butler:** Community Member - 8 (due to clean-up efforts on Saturday)
 - **Aimee Potter:** VA - 6
 - **Narestus S Coley MSW LSW:** Lawrence Hall - Welcome extended.
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3. Agenda & Documents

- The agenda was expected to be posted by Destiny. Attendees were reminded that the agenda was included in the reminder email.
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4. Upcoming Events & Announcements

- **Narcan and Fentanyl Strip Testing Giveaway:** Bamani Obadeli reported on a successful event held last Saturday in the Fuller Park community at a laundromat. The property owner, Isaac, has offered his businesses (convenience store, laundromat, game shop) for future giveaways and preventative events.
 - **Youth Employment Opportunity:** Nygeria Slayden-Figgers encouraged organizations needing youth to work at their sites to contact her.
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5. Special Presentation: Sylvester House Enterprises

- **Presenter:** June Reed, Executive Director, Sylvester House Enterprises.
- **Introduction by Nygeria Slayden-Figgers:** Introduced June Reed, highlighting her goal to develop residential housing for women, especially returning citizens, due to the stigma often faced by women in addiction recovery.
- **Presentation Summary:**
 - Sylvester House is a soon-to-be-opened residential facility on the south side of Chicago (65th and Vern, Woodlawn community).
 - The primary focus is providing stable housing for **returning citizens**, emphasizing its imperative role in their journey to sobriety and overall success.

- June Reed is a former task drug court case manager and currently works with women, providing referrals and supportive programs.
 - She has previously worked with the founder of Taproots (hopes they can present at a future meeting).
 - The initial housing program will be for **single women, returning women, and survivors of sexual violence**.
 - Targeted opening date: **June 2025**.
 - June shared her personal motivation, having lost her father to a heroin overdose, highlighting the intergenerational impact of substance abuse. She believes her lived experience aligns with her purpose to help others.
 - The program will be **mixed-focus (recovery and reentry)**, with connections and MOUs with various recovery programs.
 - Services will include resources for credit, independent housing, job referrals, job readiness, and mental health support.
 - **Discussion/Questions:**
 - **Narestus S Coley (Lawrence Hall)** shared information about the **HOPES program** at their South Shore location, which assists returning citizens aged 16-99 with hospitality and culinary arts training. She will send a flyer and contact information for sharing.
 - **Stacy Munroe** inquired about the exact location, which June confirmed as 65th and Vern, on the south side of Chicago in the Woodlawn community.
 - **Nygeria Slayden-Figgers** noted that Woodlawn is just outside their direct service area but close enough for potential collaboration and benefits.
 - **ROSC Council Collaboration:** Nygeria Slayden-Figgers discussed the ROSC Council's goal to bring agencies together to provide services for people in recovery. She emphasized the importance of verifying that organizations are actively open and available when making referrals. She extended an invitation for Sylvester House and Lawrence Hall to become members of the council and expressed interest in developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
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6. Strategic Plan & Sober Events

- **Stacy Munroe** presented on **Goal 6 of the strategic plan:** "Strengthen prevention and early intervention efforts."
- **Activities include:**
 - Developing and implementing sustainable, safe, and sober events in their service areas (aiming for Fall 2025).
 - Enhancing youth substance use prevention efforts, including providing resources to parents and school staff for intervention, prevention, and treatment services.
- **Call for Volunteers:** Stacy Munroe requested volunteers to help with planning safe and sober events. Interested individuals were asked to put their names in the chat or email Bamani Obadeli, Stacy Munroe, or Nygeria Slayden-Figgers.

- Bamani Obadeli stressed the importance of collaborations to ensure every community sector is served and to share resources and ideas for community healing, particularly through sober events alongside Narcan and fentanyl strip distribution.
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7. General Announcements from Attendees

- **Marvell Singletary (Accurate):** Announced a **job fair**. Attendees should bring resumes, ID, and social security card. A flyer will be distributed.
 - **Edward Boone (West Side ROSC):** Invited everyone to the **West Side ROSC meeting on May 23rd at 10 AM (Zoom)**. This meeting will celebrate women and their succession in recovery and reentry, including women who have formed their own organizations and are helping others. CEUs are available. An invite will be sent out.
 - **Kenneth Bell:** Commended the West Side ROSC meeting for being informative. Announced that the **next monthly meeting for all ROSC Councils throughout Cook County** will be held towards the end of May, specifically on **Tuesday, May 27th**.
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Next Meeting:

- The next ROSC gbps monthly meeting will be June 23.