

ROSC Council Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2025

For FY25, the ROSC Council strategically focused on these three priorities to enhance recovery support in our community:

Strengthen and Build ROSC Council: Our priority was to extend the reach of the ROSC Council. This involved actively recruiting diverse members, particularly those with lived experience. The goal was to solidify the Council's role as a central hub for recovery initiatives. We successfully recruited individuals from the business community, health services, nonprofit service organizations, and other sectors. GBPS consistently targeted and engaged the specific communities of Grand Boulevard, Washington Park, Fuller Park, and Douglas, ensuring resources and efforts were tailored to their unique needs. This led to a stronger, more representative ROSC Council deeply embedded in the communities it serves. Through sustained outreach efforts (phone calls, zoom meetings, informational packets), a significantly increased number of providers actively participated in the ROSC Council.

Promote Harm Reduction Activities: We prioritized the promotion of evidence-based harm reduction strategies. This included increasing access to life-saving tools and information, fostering a non-judgmental environment, and reducing the risks associated with substance use. We successfully held 15 pop up events throughout the year distributing Narcan, Fentanyl strips, and literature.

Continuing to Elevate Community Voice in Recovery Initiatives: We worked to improve our hearing of the voices of individuals in recovery, their families, and the broader community in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of all recovery-oriented services and programs.

Our commitment to equity and inclusivity ensured that our FY25 efforts reached diverse special populations within our service area, with a focus on tailoring support to their unique needs:

- **Youth and young adults:** Engaged youth in discussions about safe practices and available resources.
- **Families Impacted by Substance Use:** Offered resources and education that incorporated harm reduction principles, empowering families to better support their loved ones.

The ROSC Council's dedicated work has yielded positive impacts across our community. The strengthening of the ROSC Council has led to more efficient operations, increased member engagement, and a more cohesive strategic direction. More individuals are accessing naloxone, fentanyl test strips, and information on safer use practices, directly contributing to overdose prevention efforts and improved health outcomes. This shift demonstrates a commitment to a recovery-oriented approach that is inclusive, responsive, and continuously evolving to meet the needs of our community.