



MERC Meeting Agenda

9:00 a.m. via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/97144229718>

September 21, 2023

Welcome and Introductions

- Welcome and please introduce yourself, your organization, and the role you play at your agency and new information concerning your agency.

Attendees of MERC Meeting

Angella Holloway- Recovery Supports

Beverly Holland- Recovery Supports

Burdett Rice- Judicial probation

Emily Won- Healthcare

Daniel Hutchison- Recovery Supports

Jane Nesbit- local government

Jen Nagel-Fisher- Harm Reduction

Kat Houghton- Recovery Supports

Mark Knott- Recovery Supports

Monique Brunious- Recovery Supports

Stacy Coleman-Braggs- Healthcare

Teresa Cornelius- Healthcare

Tisha Lancaster- Local Government

Toni Randall- Recovery Supports

Tracy Dones- Service Provider

Old Business

1. Stigma Reduction Subcommittee Meeting was held Sept. 9, 2023 via Zoom at 2pm. o Attending members: Angella Holloway, Mark Knott, Greg Norkus /The subcommittee is looking into having someone address the individuals before they leave jail so they can receive access to services needed. Also looking at whether there is another agency that would look after individuals over that age limit
2. Next sub-committees meeting Oct 10 at 2pm via zoom
3. Our Brother's Keepers: Mike Schuette provided an overview of services and programing available. Our Brothers Keepers | Prison Ministry and ReEntry of Southern Illinois (obkministry.org)

- a. Services for men aged 18-25 who are leaving the prison system
- b. For more information or to make referrals call 618-271-7821 or email obkpmschuette@gmail.com
- 5. MERC funds were allocated to provide updates to the Partnership for Drugfree Communities website Partnership for Drug-Free Communities (partnershipdrugfree.org) Please take some time to review this website to ensure your organization's is represented (if you want it to be) and reflects up-to-date information. Please send updates or requests for your organization to be included to ddhutchison@chestnut.org Page 3
- 6. Next sub-committees meeting Sept 12 at 2pm. This meeting will be held via Zoom. A link will be sent prior to the meeting. New members are always welcome.

New Business

- MOU's

Dan Hutchison addressed what MOU's are and explained in detail where they are used. He laid out the strategy behind them relating how will not actually need them at his time in our MERC council. During this time Dan reviewed meeting protocol.

Announcements and upcoming events

- TAC event Sept 24 from 12-6pm in Breese II at the North Park it will be a Celebration of Life
- Rockin for Recovery (Amare) 9/23 (flyer attached)
- Letter of Commitment

Wellness Moment

- Mark Knott – Chestnut Health Systems Community Health Specialist III
Mindfulness moments are important with phone and social media addictions taking over our lives; Take a break from the phones be in the moment with your loved ones. Mindfulness is about being in the moment and not just there, be the moment.

MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting

October 19, 2023

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.