



Recovery Oriented Systems of Care

Madison and St. Clair County Council

Meeting Minutes- January 10, 2019

Metro East Parks and Recreation District (104 United Drive, Collinsville)

Attendance: 16

Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was opened at 9:00am, followed by brief introductions and welcome to all new attendees.

Project Coordinator, Ty Bechel: Donna introduced Ty Bechel as the new ROSC Program Coordinator. Ty has been with Chestnut Health Systems' Adult Substance Use Disorder Program for a couple of years. He moved into the ROSC role in December and will be coordinating all aspects of the program. Ty talked about recovery and how everyone comes to it in slightly different way. He also shared his hopes and plans for the work the group will be taking on the next few years. Ty will be contacting many of the people already engaged with the Council and will be actively working to expand the group as well.

Group Identity- Name, Tagline, Mission, and Vision: There was a great deal of discussion regarding the name of the group. Before we can actively market the work we are trying to do, it is important to have branding materials available. The group discussed several potential names for the Council. A vote was taken and the name of the group moving forward will be the Metro East Recovery Partnership. It was brought up that there is a group in the community already, the Partnership for Drug Free Communities, and it may get confused.

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

Mission: Collaborating to build and empower communities of recovery.

The group discussed and developed a working tagline: *Supporting those with behavioral health challenges*. There were several other options discussed for the tagline. Ty will continue to work on this and will send options out to the email list so that we can finalize plans.

Ty will also be working on a logo with the Chestnut Health Systems graphic designer. Once we have a number of options, Ty will ask for input from the group. We hope to have a logo in place before the next meeting.

Social Media- Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn: This is going to be an important part of getting the word out about the group and our events, programs, and initiatives. Ty will be develop pages, handles, and profiles for these platforms once the logo is approved.

Assessment: Ty and Donna discussed the assessment process. The state provided a fairly long (72 questions) assessment document for us to use in the community. We found it a bit cumbersome and did not have great participation. Ty reworked it a bit and was able to condense it to one in which the person gives a 1-5 rating to a series of 24 statements related to recovery systems in our area. There are also two open ended response questions asking for additional comments. Ty distributed the assessment document and asked members to both take the assessment themselves and distribute it to other people in the community.

Donna noted that in early data, we are getting very different information from individuals who work in the field and from community members in general.

Agency and professional respondents report the following concerns regarding recovery systems in the two-county area:

1. Lack of awareness/education about addiction and support services for families and community members. There is still great stigma attached to individuals with SUD on the part of both family and community members;
2. Lack of age-appropriate education, treatment, recovery supports, and leisure activities for youth in recovery;
3. Lack of timely access to treatment services;
4. Lack of appropriate services for students in recovery offered at local colleges and universities.

Community members and people in recovery have reported the following concerns:

1. Lack of resources for individuals with limited or no insurance;
2. Lack of secular-based recovery programs such as SMART Recovery, etc.
3. Lack of adequate job placement services and partnerships.

There was discussion regarding how this group can work together to begin to alleviate some of these concerns.

MOUs: Ty distributed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) document for agencies and individuals to complete and sign. The MOUs are a linkage agreement stating that we all agree to work together to improve recovery supports.

Strategic Plan: We are required to submit our Strategic Plan by the end of February. As we collect more assessment data, we will develop strategies to overcome the issues currently being experienced by those in the recovery community. The Council will be consulted fully on each part of the Strategic Plan.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be held on February 14th from 9:00-10:30am