



Meeting Minutes

Changing Communities, Transforming Lives

Call to order

The Metro-East Recovery Council monthly meeting was held at **104 United Dr., Collinsville, IL 62234** on **March 14th, 2018** from 9:00 am to 10:30 am.

1. **Introductions, Announcements** (St. Clair County Health Summit – March 28th, Meth Conference – April 17th and 18th).
2. **MOUs/Needs Assessments** – Chairperson asked any present Council Members to turn in any signed MOUs or completed Community Needs Assessment.
3. **Recovery Trivia** – Chairperson asked five (5) trivia questions related to recovery.
4. **MERC Facebook Page** - Council was made aware the MERC FB page is up and encouraged to like and invite others to like the page.
5. **MERC Member Challenge** – Members were challenged to bring one new person to the April 11th meeting.
6. **Reviewed Strategic Plan** – Council Members reviewed the Strategic Plan as a group that was submitted to the State of Illinois (Rex Alexander). MERC discussed goals and the measurable outcomes briefly. Ty and Brent discussed Certified Peer Recovery Specialists in more depth, advising MERC about Governors State University's ROSC and CPRS training and bringing this training to the Southern Region. MERC was also informed that Riverbender will be running 5 separate articles on people in recovery from 5 different demographics.
7. **Toy Beasley/TASC Winner's Circle Inner Circle Presentation** – Toy presented on Winner's Circle and Inner Circle support group. He is working on expanding and starting new meeting in the Southern Region. He was also discussing establishing a Facilitator's Training for those

interested in starting the support group that assists those with addiction, financial struggles, or other life challenges.

8. **Whole Street Productions and Amare's "Madison County Informed" Video Presentation** – Whole Street Productions and Amare premiered their collaborated pilot video series, "Madison County Informed." The social media-based video series will have new episodes monthly and will cover health and wellness topics and unsung heroes in Madison County (e.g., addiction, mental health, chiropractic, etc.).
9. **Employment and Recovery Advisory Board Briefing** – Beckie Marshall with Madison County Employment & Training Department informed MERC that Sara Ray Lorio, Ty, and her met to begin forming the Employment Advisory Board (EAB). A sign-up sheet for those interested in joining the EAB was sent around the room and many signed up. Ty informed MERC of the purpose of the Recovery Advisory Board (RAB) and sent a sign-up sheet around the room and many signed up.
10. **Kick-off and Lunch-and-Learn** - Kick-off event and event and a lunch-and-learn sign-up sheet went around the room. Many signed up and planning for both will begin shortly.
11. **MERC Group Exercise** – Broke into groups to have members fill in the blanks for what they believe should be included in a ROSC/MERC (e.g., therapist, recovery support groups, faith-based organizations, workplace/job training, etc.)

Motion – Next MERC meeting: April 11th, 2019 located at 104 United Dr., Collinsville, IL 62234 from 9:00 am to 10:30 am.

Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success. – Henry Ford

See everyone in April! ☺