

MERC Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021

9am Zoom

* We welcomed 24 members to our September meeting.

**Old Business**

* Laura Schumacher is no longer with Chestnut/MERC. We thank her for her previous service to this council.
* Recovery Month
* August 31st Bond County Overdose Awareness Event- MERC was represented at this event and recovery information was made available to the public.
* September 1st Clinton County Overdose Awareness Event- MERC was represented at this event and recovery information was made available to the public.
* September 1st Library displays have been set up in Alton, Troy, Belleville, Edwardsville, Dupo, and O’Fallon. They include books and information about recovery.
* September 10th Madison County Suicide Awareness Event- MERC was represented at this event and recovery information was made available to the public.
* September 11th “Rockin’ for Recovery”- MERC was represented at this event and NARCAN was handed out as well as information about recovery.
* September 12th “Countywide Day of Prayer”- Over 35 faith based organizations were contacted as well as several ministerial alliances and asked to include people in recovery and their families and friends in prayers this month.

**New Business**

* Deborah Humphrey MBA, BSN, RN, Executive Director of the Madison County Mental Health Board presented about the roles and responsibilities of the 708 board.
* Sonja Vauters shared information about the Walk for Mental Health and presented a wellness moment to the council.

**Upcoming Events**

* September 23rd “Facebook Live Event” featuring a panel with Toni Randall, Mark Sanders, and Ty Bechel at 7pm. Panel members will discuss different perspectives of Substance Use Disorder and recovery.
* October 21st Narcan Virtual Training at 10am & 2pm.
* October 16th Walk for Mental Health at 10am in Fairview Heights at Moody Park.
* Family Support Network Zoom meeting Wednesday, October 6th at 10am.
* Partnership for Drug-Free Communities Zoom Meeting Wednesday, September 22nd at 10am. Paul Cook, Parenting Coach, will presenting “Reinforcing The Need To Get Parents In The Community More Involved In Drug Prevention”. [https://www.paulcooktalks.com/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.paulcooktalks.com_&d=DwQFaQ&c=euGZstcaTDllvimEN8b7jXrwqOf-v5A_CdpgnVfiiMM&r=dmdEtmsB-o-n2UQJGNBoCebSgSt0bE2xuhlEecO7JQQ&m=JfUno-kjCoXx-izxGNksts_VYyPStUFDEZy6y3edMdM&s=Z9RAhu7LgtV-xVI5R1IatmYO2V9lwemSCiHsjEEm9J4&e=)
* Oct 23rd is National DEA Drug take back day [Take Back Day (dea.gov)](https://takebackday.dea.gov/)

**Next meeting: Oct. 21, 2021 9:00 am via Zoom. Link will be e-mailed the day before.**