



MERC Meeting Agenda

April 28, 2022

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Welcome and Introductions

- Introductions – Please enter your name, organization and email address in the chat feature.

Amber Nichols	Kris Gamm-Smith	Kristy Montgomery
Jacob Shepard	Latisha Wilson	Liz McQuaid
Janel Robinson	Cherie England	Ashley Amburn
Jean Schram	Raechell Young	Riane Greenwalt
Jess Wahlman	Sonja Vauters	Stacy Nonn
Jill Dupy	Stephanie Everhart	Susan Rehrig
Kaylynn Davis	Tawana Howard	Terri McKee
Tisha Lancaster	Toni Corona	Toni Randall
Brian Pollo	Elyse Schoen	Tyrone Hill
Burdett Rice	Debra Beckmann	Angela Shipp
Dawn Steward	Coach P	Patrick Miller
Angella Holloway	Dana Rosenzweig	Patricia Johnson
Ty Bechel	Beverly Holland	iPhone Guest

ZOOM SUD 1

Old Business

- FSN yard signs – Beverly reminded participants to request replacement FSN yard signs if they were in need of replacements.
- Follow MERC on Facebook: search **Metro-East Recovery Council – A ROSC Community**.
- Rx Summit - Atlanta, GA from April 18 – April 21. Local ROSC staff members attended. Discussion followed – **see bullet points below**.
- Clinton County DPH Meeting – Debra Beckmann and Tish Wilson of Take Action Coalition attended the meeting and advocated for keeping the allocated space in the new facility for mental health services. **According to Tish, Deb offered a strong presentation in the three minutes that is allotted for each speaker, and afterward two local newspapers ran stories about the issue.**

New Business

- **Rx Summit 2022**
 - Local ROSC coordinators attended this summit last week in Atlanta, GA. While we are all still digesting the information provided, some of the highlights include:

- The strength of Recovery programming in Tennessee is among the best in the country. It includes top-down engagement from State Dept. of Health, to regional law enforcement, to local universities/colleges, and faith communities.
 - Recovery programs are relatively new and have generally seen tremendous success initially. Many are just now entering the sustainability and maintenance phases.
 - Many speakers endorsed a “grass-roots” approach, with local ROSCs or individual citizens taking the lead on the formation of Recovery programming.
- MERC welcomes Ty Bechel of Amare, NFP as our guest, introducing Amare’s plans to expand services into St. Clair County. **Over the past three years, MERC has supported Amare through funding for housing and transportation, and sponsored Amare’s “Rockin’ for Recovery” event. MERC is delighted to support Amare as it works to expand its Recovery services into St. Clair County. Ty provided an overview of Amare’s beginning and its current projects.**
 - Toni Corona of Madison County Health Department requested input from participants regarding the MCHD’s recent prioritization of three public health issues: Substance Use Disorder; Mental Health; and Access to Care. Those interested in providing input are encouraged to contact Toni at: tmc corona@co.madison.il.us .

Announcements and upcoming events

- Upcoming NARCAN trainings: **May 19 at 10-11 AM or 2-3 PM.** Refer to flyers.
- Annual MECAM Conference: **May 12, 2022.** The conference will meet VIRTUALLY. **Registration is NOW OPEN.** I will forward the new flyer at the conclusion of this meeting.
- Amare NFP’s Townhall meeting: **May 12, 6-8 PM,** featuring experts: Jason Farley, Amare; Danielle Gilbert, AMFM Healthcare; Rick Richardson, Ampact’s Recovery Corps; and Karen Tilashalski, Chestnut Health Systems. Facilitated by the Dream Center’s Dar Bryant. See flyer.
- **Kristine Gamm-Smith of NAMI SWI provided information on an upcoming presentation about their upcoming event on SSDI and SSI. Kris noted that the speaker is a great presenter and can answer a lot of questions and concerns. Kris will provide a flyer, which will be included with this attachment. She encouraged any questions to be directed to her at: kgpgammsmith@gmail.com, 618.709.8100 (Cell) OR 618.798.9788 (Office)**

Moment Quote: “For behind all your stories is your mother’s story, for hers is where yours begins.” -Mitch Albom, author, For One More Day.

MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 9:00 AM.

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.