

Ford County ROSC Council Meeting

February 28th, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

Attendees:

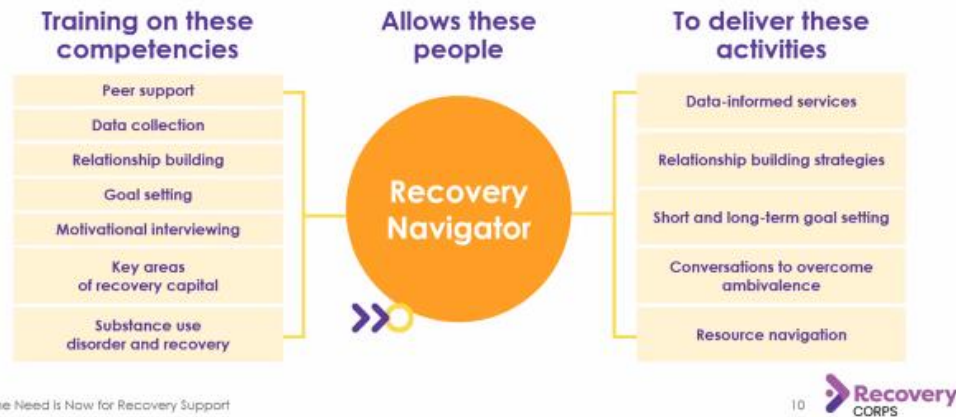
Frankie Ward, Kari Knapp, Barb Brumleve, Ivy Ward, Cheryl Root, Abby Hartman, John Schneider, Abby Behrens, Bill Kirby, Leann Courson, Helena Longfellow, Sandra Beecher, Jeremy Darnell, Anne, Kami Garrison, Dale King, Chestnut Health Systems (Anonymous),

Guest Speakers: Cheryl Root & Abby Hartman, Recoverycorps

Discussion:

- The meeting opened with Frankie providing introductions discussing today's speakers from Recoverycorp—Cheryl Root and Abby Hartman.
- Cheryl is a friend to several ROSCs in central Illinois. She introduced herself as a Director at Recoverycorp and Abby Hartman (Program Coach for Illinois Recoverycorp). Division of Americorp and falls under their umbrella.
- Recoverycorp is a not-for-profit program designed to provide strategic solutions to our nation's opioid epidemic and other substance use disorders. It started in Minnesota with five members and has expanded to Illinois and Virginia. Goal is to impact as many people with as many solutions as possible. Illinois facilities span from Chicagoland to Rockford and down to central Illinois and St. Louis and downstate areas.
- Presentation started with a commentary on opioid and hard drug epidemic, COVID implications, fentanyl overdoses, and other related issues facing many urban and rural towns in Illinois. Overdoses have increased over 115% in the past 5 years. "We always feel 10 steps behind when it comes to what's coming on the streets in rural areas. You almost feel like it's impossible to keep up with. But if we can save one life then it's worth it". Opioids play a factor in 70% of all overdoses.
- Program started in Minnesota with 5 members in 2017 and are up to over 270 members across the country (Americorp). Our own team has nearly tripled in size since 2020.
- One of the strategies is getting "boots on the ground" and people out in the communities, engaging people seeking recovery across a multitude of paths and forms.
- **Two primary roles:** *Recovery Navigators* (People with Lived Experience who serve in mentorship and peer support roles, similar to a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist—CPRS; research and support recovery capital in determined areas; work with individuals seeking services, collect data on recovery capital using dedicated tool, housing, job seeking, interview skills and independent living skills. *Recovery Project Coordinators* (work to build capacity, external/network capacity, and workforce capacity—help communities build up in a holistic manner—intervention, prevention, being a part of statewide and regional initiatives, and more. Navigators work on a day-to-day operational level whereas the Coordinators are more tactical//strategic.

How it Works



- Recovery 101: Teaches basics of recovery to newcomers—use of proper language, brain development, addiction as a disease, co-occurring disorders, trauma and grief, history and cultural context of illegal substances in our culture.
- Relationship Building Strategies
- Recovery Coach Academy: This is the crux of what we do.
- Other Member Services or “Perks”: Tuition relief for schooling, childcare provided, and many trainings towards certifications.

Perks

- \$1,100 stipend paid every 2 weeks
- Individual health insurance – monthly premium 100% covered
- Up to \$6,495 for tuition or student loans
- Childcare assistance – based on family size and income
- Training and professional development

Service Commitment

- 40 hours/week
- Start dates in August, alternative dates in October and January if needed
- Up 11-month service term
- Up to 1700 total service hours

- Members are subject to background checks. Onboarding process takes about a week. “Positions start in August”.
- Robust data collection is accrued and utilized by both Navigators and Coordinators. Helps determine number of ‘customers’ served, what services are being engaged with most, increases in access to recovery capital, and much more. Over 80% of members also report feeling higher self-esteem, quality of life, self-efficacy, and ability to utilize recovery capital.

Recoverycorp Q&A:

- **Who can become a site or how does that work?** We partner with a variety of folks across the state so just about any entity in this space can become a site.
- **Sobriety Requirements for Navigators:** Recovery Navigators require at least one year of continued sobriety from when they start the position (“one year of interrupted recovery time”). If they are still on probation or parole, it would depend on the site and what are the charges.
- **In terms of establishing a site, what roles are required?** Some sites have only Coordinators or Navigators (it’s what the individual site needs), or both. There are not any set requirements (i.e. no Sith “Rule of Two”).
- **All Awareness Day – Ivy Ward:** Ivy shared news about the **All Awareness Day on May 13th at North Park in Gibson City from 11am-2pm**. It will feature all types of information and agencies beyond just SUD/MH. Advocate for a cause that is dear to them or should have more light shined up on it. Share resources and build awareness across a wide variety of areas that can benefit communities. Free event. Powder paint,

All Awareness Day

Who: This event is open to everyone in the community. Individuals/Organizations bringing awareness to a cause/sharing a resource.

What: All Awareness Day is a day created to give individuals and organizations the opportunity to bring awareness to and share resources with communities for all causes while showing support for one another.

When: Saturday May 13th 11 AM – 2 PM

Where: North Park - Gibson City

Contact Information

- **Email:** AllAwarenessDay@gmail.com
- **Facebook:** [All Awareness Day](https://www.facebook.com/AllAwarenessDay)



- **Get Involved:** There are three ways someone can participate as a 1) Resource, 2) an Awareness or Cause (SUD, LGBTQIA+, Breast Cancer, etc.), or 3) as a Sponsor (via Amazon wish lists). The goal is to bring communities together (Champaign, Ford,) to provide a platform to stand on and come together in unison. Please also contact Frankie and/or Ivy if you have suggestions on how to enhance the event or if you would like to set up an info table.
- Please share this event with people you know!
- ROSC Social Media being updated with Ford County services. Please contact Frankie if you have services to spotlight for the community and would like us to feature on our Facebook site too.
- Abby Behrens, Childrens Home and Aid announced a new event in April. It is part of the Butterfly Project, which benefits children exposed to families with Domestic Violence. April 22nd is our “Taking Steps to End Child Abuse 5K” at Fairview Park in Bloomington, IL. Benefits go to

help the **Family Visitation Center** and memorializes two children in the community who were victims of child abuse and passed because of it.

- I-CAN Conference on June 27 (Dave King). Same day as council meeting so FYI and TBD.

Next Meeting:

- Thursday, March 28th at 8:30 a.m.
- Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87970797355?pwd=Si9DQjIzT1lkTWtaZEIiWERJNVBEdz09>

Meeting ID: 879 7079 7355

Passcode: 379316

One tap mobile

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