



MERC Meeting Agenda

April 20, 2023

9:00 a.m. via Zoom

Welcome and Introductions

- Staff in Attendance (apologies for misspelled names)
 - Angella Holloway- Chestnut Health Systems/MERC
 - Beverly Holland- Chestnut Health Systems/Statewide ROSC
 - Cora Hughes- Midwest Career Source
 - Dana Rosenzweig- St. Clair County 708 MH Board
 - Michelle Brooks- Madison County MH Board
 - Monique Brunious- Chestnut Health Systems/Bond County ROSC
 - Toni Randall- Chestnut Health Systems/Bond County ROSC
 - Catherine McLaughlin- The Living Room at Call For Help
 - Kristin Degler- CenterPointe Maryville
 - Emily Won- Madison County Health Department
 - Deborah Humphrey- Madison County MH Board
 - Alicia Moesner- Chestnut Health Systems/RCORP
 - Patika Hackleman- Division of Rehabilitation Services
 - Stephanie Everhart- Chestnut Health Systems
 - Tisha Lancaster- DCFS
 - Ty White- Independent Member
 - Cathy Bloom- CenterPointe Maryville
 - Teresa Cornelius- HSHS St. Joseph
 - Julie Pohlman- Chestnut Health Systems/Statewide ROSC
 - Kaylynn Davis- Chestnut Health Systems Recovery Coach
 - Dan Hutchison- Chestnut Health Systems
 - Ciara Kitley- Call For Help
 - Violette Book- Chestnut Health Systems/OEND
 - Patrick Smalls- HSHS St. Joseph
 - Tawana Howard- St. Clair County Health Department
 - Burdett Rice- St. Clair County Probation
 - Jamie Armstrong- Amare
 - Mark Knott- Chestnut Health Systems/MERC

New Business

- Introduction of Mark Knott (maknott@chestnut.org) who has recently started at Chestnut Health Systems and will be working full time in the Madison/St. Clair Recovery Orientated Systems of Care (ROSC) program, also known as MERC. Mark brings with him a wealth of experience and knowledge of the recovery and treatment communities in the Metro East and he is excited about reaching out and connecting with as many MERC members as possible in the coming weeks.
- Discussed reducing confusion about meeting invites and meeting agenda being sent out via email. Microsoft Outlook (at least the version CHS uses) will not allow us to create an Outlook event that includes blind copies of email recipients. We avoided adding all email recipients, however this was brought up for discussion in today's meeting. The group shared feeling comfortable having their email available and also using the email group at times to link individuals to the appropriate resources. Please be mindful of times where it is appropriate to reply all and when it is appropriate to reply directly to the sender.
- Any agency updates about Opioid Settlement funds/plans that are taking shape or have already been put into action?
 - Dana provided an update on St. Clair County: sharing funds will be used for a Recovery Coach at Comprehensive to help with linkage to services, Recovery Coach at TASC to connect with Memorial Hospitals to link with overdose patients, and also sub-contracted with CHS to provide funds to the Porchlight Collective, SAP to help with Harm Reduction and outreach.
 - Deborah provided an update; applications have been received and are being reviewed, awards for recovery oriented projects will be determined in the coming weeks.
- Update from Dan Hutchison: Reminder that the executive committee reviewed the Needs Assessment last month and honed in on two areas of primary focus for FY24. This does not mean other areas cannot/won't be addressed; however the focus will start with the following two areas, including the development of sub-committees to spearhead efforts:
 - Increase Support for Individuals Leaving Jails/Prisons
 - Increase Community Awareness of Resources and available Services
 - ****a handful of people have volunteered for each of these sub-committees, thank you all so much!** We could use one or two more for each. Once members have shown interest we'll connect everyone via email to discuss what the functions of the sub-committee will be in more detail.**
- CenterPointe Maryville, IL shared about available IOP programing with primary focus on Mental Health, also can help individuals fill out FMLA

and short-term disability paperwork. Currently accepting Commercial Insurance and Tri-Care:

- Adult Day Program 9:30am-12:30pm
- Adolescent (14-17 years old) 4:20pm-7:10pm

Announcements and upcoming events

- The Latino Roundtable will be hosting the Hispanic Health Fair Festival on May 6, 2023, (flyer attached)
- Drug Take Back Events This weekend 4/22
 - Belleville CVS and Walgreens
 - HSHS Highland 10am-2pm
 - O'Fallon Police Department 10am-2pm
 - Madison County at the admin building set up as a drive through event from 10am-2pm
- There will be a free movie (flyer attached) screening at Lewis & Clark College or Mental Health Awareness Month
- Madison County MH board and Madison County REO first symposium on youth to focus on substance use prevention and successful parenting approaches. Several presenters lined up including Amare, etc.
- Overdose awareness event Aug 31 6-8 Killian Park in Alton
- Centerpoint 5/12 Postpartum educational event more info from Cathy Bloom
- Space offerings from Teresa, Burdett at probation, CHS

MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting

Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 9:00 A.M. in person and Zoom

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.