

**Chicago Recovering Communities Coalition
Westside ROSC- 10 /28/2022 Meeting Minutes**

**10:00am-12:00pm
Via Zoom Online**

Welcome Extended by; Venessa Moreno: Expressed appreciation for all persons present, and continued support, and for attending this Rosc Symposium.

Goals and Objectives by; Venessa Moreno: Westside ROSC Councils overall goal is to advocate and assist with guiding and monitoring the development of an integrated system of recovery by creating a shared vision to improve availability of services by building a sustainable ROSC Council. Our objectives 1. To create communities of recovery that encourage and integrate resources for the recovering individual, families, and friends. 2. Develop supportive recovery communities that foster growth, respect and understanding of those who have identified problems in the areas of substance use and mental health. 3. Implement effective communication that will allow for inclusion of PLE's (persons with lived experience) voices to be heard.

Participants: 68

Speakers.

Dora Wright

Chicago Recovering Communities Coalition (CRCC)
Founder/Executive Director

Title of Presentation: What is a ROSC Council

Person in long-term recovery (35 years). Founder of the 1st Recovery Community Organization in the state of Illinois. 25 years of experience as a certified addictions counselor in the field of alcoholism and substance abuse treatment and recovery. 11 years of experience setting up and managing Residential Extended Care Facilities/Recovery homes in the Public and Private sectors. Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Care Administration, State certified thru IOADAPCA as CADC/GCE, CPRS, NCRS, DUI Certification, Certified Property Manager. Recovery Coach Trainer thru CCAR. Current Executive Director (3 years) at The Path Recovery Living for Women, 10 bed state licensed facility. Current President of the Illinois Association of Extended Care. Advisory Board Member to GLATTC- Great Lakes Addiction Transfer Technology. Current Board Member Polished Nail School and Salon, 1st Black Owned Nail School. Board Member to CAARD – Center for African American Development.

Sandra Harrison

DVA Leadership and Development Training Consultants
Founder/CEO/Social Impact Entrepreneur

Title of Presentation: Looking After Our Mental Health

Sandra Harrison is founder and CEO of DVA Leadership and Development Training Consultants. DVA works with community-based organizations to build capacity. Sandra is an award-winning, Master-level trainer. She is proficient in audience engagement and draws out the best in her participants. Harrison designs programs for vulnerable population and the staff that works with them. Harrison is an active Roosevelt University alumni. Sandra calls Aurora home where she serves on several boards and commissions

Elizabeth Cruz

Women's Justice Institute Women's Justice Institute
Senior Advisor, WJI: Women's Justice Institute Women's Justice Institute
Adjunct Faculty (Human Services/Psychology)

Title of Presentation: Redefining the Narrative: Health and Well-Being - A Public Health and Restoration Approach vs. Incarceration of Women

Liz Cruz has worked in leadership positions throughout the field of mental health and substance use for more than one decade. This work recently led her to an appointment as the Lead Strategic Advisor to the Health & Well-being Working Group of the historic Statewide Women's Justice Task Force of Illinois, a project of the

Women's Justice Institute (WJI), which united directly impacted women and over 100 other women leaders behind building a plan to reduce the women's prison population by at least 50%. Since the appointment to the WJI, Liz has taken on a special role as Senior Advisor for the WJI and is currently working as the Lead Care Coordinator for the Cook County Health/SAMHSA Women's Reentry Initiative. Liz also provides support to partner agencies in relation to civic engagement, training, assistance, and implementation of gender responsive/trauma informed policies/practices and providing quality improvement/assurance on several grants with the WJI.

Lee Rusch

West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force/Prevention Partnership, Inc.

Director

Title of Presentation: We've Got This! : A Community Comes Together to Save Lives

Lee Rusch has served as the Director of the West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force through the auspices of Prevention Partnership, Inc since July 2019. He has enjoyed a long career in the human service field with a primary focus on youth work and prevention. His experiences cut across a number of disciplines, including juvenile justice, counseling, prevention and education, harm reduction and training/facilitation. Lee was one of co-founders of the Prevention Partnership, Inc. One of its co-founders, Luther Syas serves as the Outreach Director of the Task Force. A Chicago resident, he lives with his partner Sharon, and dog Rowan. He is the proud grandfather of Margaux Jones who has re-introduced him to the joys of childhood. He enjoys live music – especially blues, rock and jazz; reading; and travel.

Denise Holman:

Cook County Department of Public Health

Cook County Department of Public Health

Opioid Health Educator

Title of Presentation: Overdose Prevention & Naloxone Training

Hi, my name is Denise Holman or you can just call me Dee. I was born and raised in Chicago but lived in DC and Ann Arbor for a few years before I returned back home. I graduated from Howard University with a degree in Health Management and University of Michigan with a degree in Public Health. Over the years I have worked in research, health insurance, HIV, and homelessness and population health. I joined Cook County Department of Public Health in December of 2020 as a Health Educator with a substance use and prevention.

Jesse Heffernan:

NAMI Chicago

Vice President of Strategy and Innovation

Title of Presentation: Intro to NAMI Chicago

Jesse Heffernan is a person in long-term substance use and mental health recovery. He is a Recovery Coach Professional that has been providing recovery coach training and consulting services for substance use recovery and mental health organizations for over 8 years. He is the Co-Owner of Helios Recovery Services and served as the Program Director NAMI Fox Valleys Iris Place mental health peer-run mental health respite and Outreach and Empowerment Coordinator for Faces & Voices of Recovery, a national advocacy organization. He currently sits on boards for RISE TOGETHER and The Privilege Institute He lives in Wisconsin with his wife / business partner and 4 children, enjoying all things in geek culture, basketball, and coffee. It is his belief that Recovery is the process of returning to inherent worth and dignity.

Dominique Phua

Thresholds

Team Leader Substance Use Treatment Center

Title of Presentation: ***Treating the Whole Person: The Integration of Mental Health and Substance Use Care***

Dominique Phua, LCSW, CADC is a supervisor at an outpatient substance use treatment program at Thresholds on the west side of Chicago. Ms. Phua brings several years of clinical experience supporting individuals impacted by trauma, addiction and mental health, which stems from her variety of clinical roles as a foster care case manager, community therapist, residential community support worker and a substance use counselor/supervisor. Ms. Phua graduated with her masters in social work from the University of Southern California with a concentration in mental health and was inducted into the Phi Alpha honor society. She has

guest lectured at the University of Chicago on integrated care and is a current 2nd year participant in the trauma consultation group with Woman Care Counseling and Training Center. Ms. Phua specializes in trauma informed care, integrated services, treatment of severe mental illnesses and person-centered therapy.

Q and A

Closing comments: Dora Wright Thank you to everyone we really appreciate all that you do so thanks again for attending I am very happy for this turn out thanks to my team who worked hard to put this together

Venessa Moreno: Thanks again to every and last reminder please put your information in the chat because that is the only way we can get you your CEU'S.

Please Join Us in Building

A Sustainable Westside ROSC Council

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