

Arrowleaf ROSC Kickoff Meeting
03/28/2023
10 AM to 11 AM
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Kerie Moore, Arrowleaf, LCSW, Chief Program Manager- kerie.moore@myarrowleaf.org
Emily Middleton, Arrowleaf, LCSW, Director of Community Services-
Emily.middleton@myarrowleaf.org
John Cantrell, Arrowleaf, BA, CADC, MHP, ROSC Program Manager-
john.cantrell@myarrowleaf.org
Haley Robison, Arrowleaf, Peer Recovery Specialist, Johnson County ROSC Council-
haley.robison@myarrowleaf.org
Katt Decker, Arrowleaf, Peer Support Specialist, Union County ROSC Council-
matthew.decker@myarrowleaf.org
Kat Houghton, EHD, Region 5 ROSC mentor-khoughton@egyptian.org
Chrystal Cantrell, CPRS, Take Action Today-chrystalc@takeactiontoday.net
Shara Robinson, Take Action Today-sharar@takeactiontoday.net
Paige Shearer, Victim advocate in Pulaski County-pshearer@pulaskicountyil.gov
Edna Bundren, Vienna High School Employee-ednakbundren@viennahighschool.com
Greg Frehner, Super Intendant Vienna Grade School-gfhrener@viennagradeschool.com
Cindy Rice, Southern 7 Health Department-crice@s7hd.org
Phillip Hosfeldt, Vienna High School Employee-phillipmhosfeldt@viennahighschool.com
Kathy Anderson, Vienna High School Employee-kathylanderson@viennahighschool.com
Katie Unthank, Director of Health Education, Egyptian Health Department-
kunthank@egyptian.org
Casey Pollard, Pastor at Shawnee Worship Center, President of the Ministerial Alliance-
Pastor@shawneeworshipcenter.org
Homer Baker, Person with Lived Experience-homerbaker0@gmail.com
Dennis Jeffra, Persona with Lived Experience-dennisjeffra91@gmail.com
Kim Pint, County Supervisor-kpind@smtcil.com
Erik Bethel, Illinois State Police, TASK Force-erik.bethel@illinois.gov
Joshua Stafford, Principal at Vienna High School-joshuawstafford@viennahighschool.com
Julie Manley, Vienna High School Employee-juliea.manley@viennahighschool.com
Jeannine Woods-

Welcome and Introductions

Kerie welcomed attendees and asked for each individual to introduce themselves, state what county they are from, and what position they hold.

Kickoff Discussion Topics:

- Discuss what ROSC is and how the program works in detail.
- Discuss that we will have three ROSC councils per Alexander/Pulaski, Union, and Johnson. Explain the great benefits of this decision starting out.
- Discuss the council's goals.
- Stakeholder Roll and how valuable their feedback is for the councils and communities.
- Discuss the activities within the ROSC program

- Community education and training.
- Developing the “no-wrong-door” pathways.
- Increasing accessibility recovery support offering resources.

Attendee Feedback and Comments

Community Education and Training:

1. Crystal suggested that we distribute Narcan in the community and our schools! Meeting people where they are is such an essential factor when helping individuals get a foot in recovery.
2. Emily stated the program for Substance Use Prevention Education is for 4th-grade through High School students. Our youth struggle with the reason to say “NO” when they are given that first opportunity to use. Educating them about other things to do or say at the time would be beneficial.
3. John stated that the disease of addiction affects not only the addict but everyone around them. Children are 50% more likely to become addicted when growing up in a family affected by the disease. The whole family needs to recover, not only the addict individually. We need to focus on the entire family during recovery.
4. Crystal suggested that community education is a huge factor in getting the education out to everyone in the community to have a better understanding and possibly help reduce the stigma against addiction.
5. Casey stated that beginning with the children’s self-image and self-worth is a great way to help boost their self-esteem and help deter them later in life!
6. Greg said that age-appropriate conversations are critical from the school side! The grade school connects with Arrowleaf and other programs to build more resources and availability on resiliency and self-esteem. He stated that the age gap between Kindergarten through Junior High children is very challenging when bringing forth appropriate conversations with them, and that needs great attention. “We are not going to swallow the whole elephant today, we can take a bite here and there, but we need many people at the table to take more bites.”

Developing the “No-Wrong-Door” Pathways:

1. John discussed that ROSC is focused on the unique fact that we are here to meet people at their needs. The initial phase is getting those away from home to get clean, and then working on their recovery journey. With ROSC, the individual returns home, and we can help with their base needs. Having the support and help behind them, the better their chances will be! “Recovery is the expectation, not just the possibility.”
2. Kerie stated that at an Educational Overdose Awareness Day event at Pope County School with fifth graders, they showed to be very knowledgeable about substances, more so than she would have thought. That our youth is a huge focus for our communities!

Significant Barriers in the Community:

1. Dennis stated that he feels one of the biggest problems is the loss of family income, leading to neglect. The children suffer the most financially and spiritually when living in homes affected by addiction.

2. Jeannine stated that the availability for women that need inpatient detox and treatment and that have children are afraid they will lose their children if they receive the care that they need.
3. Kerie said that one of our most significant barriers in the community is our need for more resources. When somebody calls or says that they need help, with such a short window of time compared to the availability of open beds, sometimes it is not possible to get the individual into a treatment facility promptly. She explained to Casey what resources Arrowleaf offers when they receive a request from an individual seeking treatment.
4. John stated that trauma exposure it's a significant cause of contributing factor to substance use in our community.
5. Crystal stated that indirectly stigma plays a large part as some people do not know how to help, and some do not understand that addiction is a disease.
6. Haley stated that our youth strives so hard to fit in anywhere they possibly can due to the lack of attention within their homes from their families or loved ones.

Increasing Accessibility Recovery Support Offering Resources:

1. Casey discussed how vital programs for the communities are. He stated that as a pastor, he has witnessed the effects of the individual with substance use disorder and the youth. He said he was unaware of the easy access Junior High and High School students have to drugs. He receives requests for prayer in abundance from those with the disease of addiction.
2. Casey said that he would love for our councils to come to his church for a Sunday morning service to have a panel discussion with his congregation.
3. Casey also offered to participate and partner with ROSC councils to go to the schools and into the community.

Awareness of Community Resources

- Crystal said that the peer recovery support services are here to help bridge the gap for those without recovery support after treatment.
- Casey said their church offers Celebrate Recovery Resources such as prayer and paying for hotel rooms for those in need. Although at this time, they have backed away from paying for hotel rooms as individuals were smoking in the rooms and bringing pets, which left the church with the bill for the damage.

Updates on Upcoming Events:

- ❖ There will be ROSC council meetings per county upcoming in the month of April!

Suggestion for Engagement that was not Present Today:

1. Jeffrey Isabel- Student Pastor. (John stated he has been in contact with Jeffrey Isabel and that he has a significant interest in being involved with the councils but was unable to attend the meeting today due to being out of town.)