

**Community Resource Assessment FY24
Piatt County ROSC Council (PCRC)**

Region: ROSC Region 4

Agency: Piatt County Mental Health Center

ROSC County: Piatt

Contacts:

ROSC Coordinator: Tia Schum

Purpose of the Community Resource Assessment: This research details a community resource assessment and describes how resources were evaluated in the context of local needs. The evaluation of local resources is an important initial step in partnership development and is essential for the success of health promotion and disease prevention interventions.

Executive Summary – Piatt County

Leadership Center Agency: Piatt County Mental Health Center

Type of Report: Community Needs Assessment – Piatt County

Setting: Rural

Total Number of Residents: 16,723

Number of School-aged Youth: 2,586

Total Number of Schools: There are a total of 12 schools in Piatt County (3 in Cerro Gordo, 3 in Bement, 4 in Monticello, 1 (High school) in DeLand, and 1 (Intermediate-JR High) in Mansfield.

Total Number of Institutions of Higher learning: 0

Total Number of Treatment Facilities: 3 – Kirby Medical Center, Piatt County Mental Health Center, Carle Clinic

Total Number of Coalitions/ROSC Councils: 1

History and Demographics

Piatt County was formed January 27, 1841 from Macon and DeWitt Counties. The county is approximately 439.1 square miles or 281,056 acres. Monticello, which had been laid out and named in 1837, became the county seat. The first courthouse was built in 1843 and the second was built in 1856. The present courthouse was completed in 1904.

According to the 2022 United State Census, there were 16,723 people, 7,402 households, and an average of 2.48 persons per household residing in the county. The population density was 38.0 inhabitants per square mile (14.7/km²). There were 7,402 housing units at an average density of 16.6 per square mile (6.4/kms). The racial makeup of the county was 97% white, 0.8% black or African American, 0.5% Asian, 0.2% American Indian, 0.1% from other races, and 1.4% from two or more races. Those of Hispanic or Latino origin made up 1.6% of the population. Out of the total population, 5.6% are under the age of 5, 22.2% are under age of 18, and 20.3% are aged 65 or over.



The median household income in the county was \$77,559, the per capita income was \$36,681, and the persons in poverty was 6.5%. The median value of an owner-occupied housing was \$152,000 and median gross rent was \$875.

County Health Rankings indicate that Piatt County is ranked among the healthiest counties in Illinois, with placement between 75% - 100%. Piatt County is ranked among the healthiest counties Illinois for health factors in the range of 75% - 100%. The table below indicates that for both adult smoking as well as excessive drinking, Piatt County is only points higher than the state average. However, when looking at the alcohol-impaired driving deaths, Piatt County is considerably higher than the state average.

2023 County Health Rankings	Piatt County	Illinois
Health Factors		
Adult Smoking	16%	13%
Excessive Drinking	19%	15%
Alcohol-Impaired Driving Deaths	64%	29%
Primary Care Physicians	1820:1	1230:1
Mental Health Providers	1200:1	340:1
Health Outcomes		
Premature Death	5200	7100
Poor or Fair Health	11%	12%
Poor Physical Health Days	2.6	2.7
Poor Mental Health Days	3.7	3.2

Youth Population Data

According to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), there are 4 school districts in Piatt County, with a 5th school district housing their intermediate – Junior High School in Mansfield, Piatt County. There are a total of 4 elementary schools, 4 junior high schools, and 3 high schools in Piatt County. There are approximately 2586 school aged children in the county. All school districts service Pre – K thru 12th grade. An individualized school district and state data comparison is provided below.

ISBE Report Card 2022 – 2023	Bement CUSD 5	Blue Ridge CUSD 18	Cerro Gordo CUSD 100	DeLand Weldon CUSD 57	Monticello CUSD 25	State of Illinois
Enrollment	284	643	447	178	1597	1.9 million
High School Graduation Rate	78.6%	88%	93%	88%	98%	87.3%
Mobility Rate	12.7%	8%	11%	18%	5%	7.6%
Truancy Rate	redacted	12%	Redacted	10%	1%	22.1%
Low-Income	39.8%	43%	35%	47%	22%	46.5%

The Bement school district does have a lower graduation rate than the state, however this rate is less than a 10% difference. The Monticello School district has a higher graduation rate than the state, however this rate is around 10%. Monticello School district is the largest school district in Piatt County.

The Piatt County Mental Health Center is the Substance Use Prevention Provider (SUPP) for Piatt County. The Center utilizes the evidence-based substance use prevention curriculum, *Too Good for Drugs*, to educate Piatt County middle school students, 6th – 8th. It should be noted that different schools get this curriculum different parts of the year as well as different school years. The curriculum helps to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to reduce risk factors and enhance protective factors related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use (ATOD) (Mendez Foundation, 2021). In addition, The Center provides curriculum titled “My Generation RX” to Piatt County middle school students as well. This curriculum is designed to educate teens on the importance of using medications safely, the key skills needed to say no to misuse, and positive alternative coping skills (Ohio State University and Cardinal Health Foundation, 2021). Piatt County Mental Health Center is also implementing a campaign around mental health, vaping prevention, and anti-bullying in Monticello Schools funded by the Drug Free Community (DFC) grant.

The Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) collects data regarding a variety of health and social indicators for 8th, 10th, and 12th graders on a biennial basis. The 2022 IYS data will be used for this report.

Past 30 Day Use	8 th Grade	10 th Grade	12 th Grade
Alcohol	3% (State of IL: 17%)	21% (State of IL: 27%)	35% (State of IL: 42%)
Binge Drinking (Past 2 week use)	1% (State of IL: 6%)	3% (State of IL: 12%)	15% (State of IL: 20%)
Any tobacco or vaping products	1% (State of IL: 12%)	14% (State of IL: 22%)	32% (State of IL: 34%)
Marijuana	2% (State of IL: 4%)	11% (State of IL: 10%)	18% (State of IL: 22%)

Key stakeholders from Piatt County stated that alcohol, tobacco or vaping products, along with marijuana are commonly misused substances among the youth population. When examining the IYS data, in 2022 the 10th and 12th grade 30 day use averages for alcohol are lower than the state average. This pattern for tobacco or vaping use as well as marijuana use continues with the exception of marijuana use at the 10th grade level. It should be noted that parental approval of use along with parent purchasing alcohol averaged 21% for 8th grade, 48% for 10th grade, and 48% for 12th grade. This shows that parents are permissive with the use of alcohol while underage.

The IYS data also evaluates some youth mental health concerns, and data points to note for Piatt County in 2022 include:

- 22% of 10th graders and 19% of 12 graders answered yes when asked if in the past 12 months they seriously considered attempting suicide.
- 31% of 8th graders, 38% of 10th graders, and 36% of 12th graders answered yes when asked if in the past 12 months have they ever felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more weeks in a row that you topped doing some usual activities.

When examining the County Health Ranking data, the average number of poor mental health days for Piatt County residents, 3.7, is higher than the state average of 3.2. Additionally, the ratio of mental health providers in the county is 3.5 times higher than the state ration at 1200:1 and 340:1 respectfully.

Adult Population Data

According to the 2019 State Drug Crime Arrest comparison Report the following data was reported: In 2019, there were a total of 32 drug related arrests; 4 under the Cannabis Control Act, 4 under the Controlled Substance Act, 23 under the Drug Paraphernalia Act and 1 under the Methamphetamine Act.

IL Prescription Monitoring Program (ILPMP)	2020
Total Buprenorphine Patients per County (the total number is based on the patient's location)	40 patients
Total Buprenorphine Prescriptions per County (the total number is based on the location of pharmacy where the prescription is dispensed)	302 patients
Greater than 90MME on Average per Day (Patients who have been prescribed greater than 90MME (Morphine Milligram Equivalent) on average per day)	177.7 (per capita)

There is 1 MAR provider in Piatt County. This MAR provider is at Kirby Hospital in Monticello, IL. Dr. Mandhan is the addiction specialist in Piatt County.

According to key stakeholders in the community, opioids including heroin, methamphetamine, and fentanyl are the substances of most concern in the county. According to the opioid data dashboard, there were 2 overdose deaths in 2022, 2 overdose deaths in 2021, and 2 overdose deaths in 2020 in Piatt County. When that data is applied to the county's population for those years, Piatt County had an overdose fatality rate per capita of 1.20 in 2022 and 1.23 in 2021. Both of these rates are significantly lower than the state's rates, which were 2.95 in 2022 and 2.95 in 2021 (IDPH, Opioid Data Dashboard, 2018-2020).

Piatt County Mental Health Center reports that hundreds of boxes of NARCAN® were distributed between 2021 and 2022 to stakeholders and/or organizations within Piatt County.

Additionally, they trained 151 individuals between 2021 and 2022 on how to properly administer NARCAN®. To date, there has not been any NARCAN® usage reported for fatal or nonfatal overdoses to the Sangamon County Health Department.

Resource Assessment

The Piatt County Mental Health Center is Piatt County's Drug Overdose Prevention Program (DOPP) provider. They are funded through the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery (IDHS/SUPR) to provide Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) to Piatt County community members and residents.

Kirby Medical Group is Piatt County's critical access hospital that offers primary care, emergency room services, addiction medicine, mental health services as well as other comprehensive health care. Kirby offers mental health services in Monticello, IL; Atwood, IL; as well as Cerro Gordo, IL.

Substance Use Gaps Across the Continuum

Promotion: Community stigma due to a lack of education and understanding about substance use disorders is a barrier that prevents residents from accessing services. Key stakeholders familiar with law enforcement and adult and youth behavioral health services stated that there is a large amount of stigma attached to substance use within Moultrie County. Stigma amongst residents is influenced and elevated by the belief that addiction only occurs amongst individuals who come from troubled homes; have criminal records; or struggle with a mental illness. A stakeholder stated, “The ‘normal people’ are outspoken and pretty much say the substance users are worthless and they want them out of the community. The users come from a long line of users...the drug culture is passed down and it is literally how they have grown up and learned that way to live and use drugs.” Additionally, stakeholders in the community reported incidents of stigma among some first responders in the county.

Prevention: The Piatt County Mental Health Center is Piatt County’s SUPS provider, and they provide a 10-lesson comprehensive, evidence-based substance use prevention education to the middle schools throughout Piatt County. They also provide a short curriculum called “My Generation Rx” which covers medication safety to middle schoolers throughout Piatt County, this curriculum is not comprehensive. Due to limitations of the SUPS grant, The Piatt County Mental Health Center is not able to provide the comprehensive substance use prevention education curriculum to Piatt County high school students. 100% of high school students in the county are not receiving comprehensive, evidence-based substance use prevention education services.

Intervention/Harm Reduction: There is currently no drug court offered in Piatt County, and this was identified as a gap in services by several stakeholders in the county. Drug courts often offer SUD treatment as an alternative to incarceration, thus decreasing the burden and costs of repeatedly processing low-level, non-violent offenders. Without the availability of a local drug court, individuals arrested for low-level, non-violent substance use related offenses lack access to treatment and support services that would enable them to begin their recovery journey.

Stigma and a lack of education regarding harm reduction services has created a barrier around accessing these types of services.

Treatment: There currently is 2 SUD treatment providers for outpatient and medication assisted recovery (MAR) treatment within Piatt County. Residents seeking inpatient treatment must travel to Springfield, Decatur, Champaign or Bloomington, all of which are a minimum 30 minute drive away for Piatt County residents.

In order to access any SUD treatment services transportation would be required to make the trip outside of the county, thus creating a large barrier that can prevent access to services. As stated above, county residents have to travel to Charleston, Mattoon, Decatur, or Springfield

to access treatment services, which range from 30 minute to hour long one-way trips. Transportation barriers can result from a variety of factors including: lack of driver's license (expired, physically lost, lost due to criminal charges, etc.), lack of a personal vehicle, lack of income needed to pay for fuel, or simply challenges in the cost, or availability in scheduling and navigating the public transportation system. There are no Safe Passages or Warm Handoff programs in Piatt County.

As for public transportation, Piattran is able to provide regular transportation services to Piatt County residents, however, this is still not a fix-all solution. Residents must call at least 24 hours in advance to schedule a ride, which is not always realistic or possible for those with a substance use disorder. Additionally, there is a significant cost associated with trips outside of the county, with the cost being \$4 in the city of Monticello travel, \$5.50 for in county travel and \$8.00 for out of county travel. All of these rates are for 1 way travel. Key stakeholders in multiple sectors mentioned that transportation is an issue that needs to be addressed, with one stating, "Transportation is a huge barrier for those in need of substance use services of any kind because time, more often than not, plays a key factor in providing immediate services."

Recovery: Recovery housing is not available within Piatt County. The closest recovery housing available to residents of Piatt County is over an hour away in Champaign, IL, or 30 minutes away in Decatur, IL thus again making transportation a barrier to access.

Additionally, there are 2 AA recovery support meetings within the county, however, both are offered in Monticello, IL, making access for those who live in rural parts of the county difficult. There is also a Community Enrichment Group offered in Bement, IL to assist with the southern part of Piatt County. This group offers a zoom link for those who need to utilize this option due to transportation issues.

Conclusion

Better access to education, prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery support services will help to reduce stigma and empower Piatt County residents to embrace positive change in understanding substance use disorders. Our next steps will include assisting community stakeholders with developing a community action plan that addresses the gaps and barriers identified in this document.