

## MMCR September 28, 2023, 2pm Minutes

- distributed 988 cards brought in by the Montgomery County health department/988.
- Macoupin, Montgomery, and out of county events were discussed and shared. Attachments in email.
- Heather Thompson – PLE who recently passed away. Consortium members did a moment of silence, call to action, and remembrance of her. Video link was attached of her podcast with Ty Beckel 4 days prior to her death.
- Recovery Month definition was shared – slide provides definition of recovery month and what we are doing – for people battling substance abuse/mental health but also to those managing health conditions – all should talk about your recovery – no matter what it is.
- Kyra Jagodzinski – Coordinator of IL Harm Reduction & Recovery Coalition and Lake County Opioid Initiative reviewed laws that have recently passed or are in the house/senate for passing in IL pertaining to mental health and substance use. She connected us to lobbying and advocacy events and other coalitions that she is starting up in IL. She has also agreed to assist rural communities in creating a housing law. Other laws discussed:
  - Focus on Louie’s Law – comprehensive, reality-based safety focused EBP guidelines for public schools and communities – B of Education collaborates with SAMSHA and other stakeholders in creating and recommending drug education and mental health collaborative trauma – to encompass risk mitigation and harm reduction. Should include community, care givers, teachers, etc.
  - 2 pieces of legislation – in both houses, signed – Fentanyl Test Strips HB3203 (more expansive – sale of over counter test strips by any retailer and no longer paraphernalia) and HB1121.
  - SB1830 – Reducing Barriers to Recovery – reclassify small amounts of drugs from felony to misdemeanor.
  - HB2 – another one worked on that legalizes opioid prevention sites in City of Chicago – safe places to do drugs monitored by trained medical professionals. – October 20 – will create a mock overdose prevention site to show what it looks like
- Kevin S – presented on Community Wellness Committee. 708 board created a subcommittee to look at mental health crisis. Have had one official meeting and several unofficial meetings – have to follow open meetings act regulations. He will be looking for someone for minutes at the next meeting.
  - We are hoping to be a catalyst or group that gathers information from everybody – and we can look at funding issues. 708 does provide grants and is looking at utilizing input from this subcommittee. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month. 6 PM, the second Thursday of the Month. We want open conversations about what is going on in the community, loose meetings in the beginning and then open up to comments from the public.

- We talked about starting a peer workforce – if you know anyone – please let us know. These are people we want to have here.
- Lindsay M – presents on PLE involvement – goal is to bring their voices to this meeting. These are the topics they were most concerned with:
  - Legal issues – you get out of it what you put into it and family. What is at risk? Family, loss of life and self; what is helping? Sponsors, programs.
  - Biggest barrier? Housing. Transportation and Employment are other barriers. They want more sober living in the area, someone to help them transition from where they are at to the housing. There needs to be some kind of website or app that lists all the resources in your county.
- Bailey Jarman– Presents to the consortium Botvin at Macoupin Schools – Reached about 3500 students in total – about a third was on mental health, substance abuse, emotions – suicide prevention, tobacco prevention, Erin’s Law, coping schools, healthy relationships/boundaries, Botvin – targets social behaviors – decision making, coping with anger, coping with anxiety, violence in the media, assertiveness.
  - Goal is to match numbers from last semester – will try to keep it up. I am trained in middle and high school – looking to get training in elementary school and transitions (16+ - transition them into workforce).
- Elyse shares that she joined every town page she could think of in Macoupin and Montgomery County – asked what they would like to see in their communities. Results showed that there was a shortage of social workers, long waiting times to see a therapist, peer led, flexibility in times accommodating for the community, they are asking for help. Most popular topic was mental health support groups.
- County Gaps Overview – Our community successes over the past year:
  - Haven Home of Hope
  - Locust Street Resource Center
  - Next Network CIPT, MCPHD route system
  - 988
  - Community Wellness Committee
  - Etc. See Slides
  - NARCAN – harm reduction service in our area – by many different people in the community – over the last year we have handed out over 5000 NARCAN out.
  - MCPHD – Now has level 1 services. We are not here to compete – we are here to do it with everybody else.
- There is now a QR code – survey is now available online – focused on how to be a better consortium.
- Want to talk about housing next month bc Oct is homeless month. If you know someone that could speak on this subject, please let us know.
- Bringing Chris Fields into MC on October 24 Hillsboro Events Center 6 pM (see above). Captain during Oklahoma bombing – captured/photo of him carrying a baby. Will tell his story – suicide provider her story on what she experienced