



# **ROSC Council FY 26-29 Strategic Plan**

## **Abstract**

The Westside ROSC (Recovery Oriented System of Care) Council's strategic plan outlines a comprehensive framework for enhancing recovery support services within our community. This plan prioritizes collaboration, accessibility, and equity, focusing on strengthening partnerships across diverse sectors to create a seamless continuum of care. By implementing these strategies, the Westside ROSC Council aims to foster a resilient community where individuals and families affected by substance use and mental health challenges can achieve sustainable well-being.

Updated: March 2025

## Westside ROSC Council FY 26-29 Strategic Plan

### ROSC Definition

A ROSC is a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to achieve abstinence and improved health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of alcohol and drug problems.

### ROSC Goals and Objectives

The 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.

The Objectives

1. 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 PLEs (persons with lived experience) voices to be heard.

### The Lead Agency

Chicago Recovering Communities Coalition (CRCC) is a 501c3 organization with the purpose of providing recovery support services to individuals in or seeking recovery from alcohol, and other drugs and those struggling with mental health issues.

CRCC is a peer driven, and peer led Recovery Support Organization, which strives to make a difference in people's lives by increasing public awareness of alcohol and drug dependency and mental health issues. CRCC aims to bridge the gap with those in recovery and attempt to get into recovery as well as those with mental health issues by providing recovery services, education and information.

CRCC strives to end discrimination surrounding addiction, recovery and mental health by opening doors to removing barriers to recovery regardless of the pathway, all the while ensuring that all people in recovery and/or people seeking recovery are treated with dignity and respect to the stakeholders, families and friends ultimately building healthier communities.

In its Leadership Role, CRCC has successfully facilitated the development and maturation of the Westside ROSC Council since 2018, in strengthening the recovery-oriented system of care within our communities.

### Purpose:

The purpose of this updated strategic plan is to build upon goals, activities, and actions for the Westside ROSC Council (WS Council) developed during its initial planning cycle (2019-2024). Through its continuous quality improvement process (CQI), CRCC and the Westside ROSC have reviewed the successes and challenges experienced during the implementation of its first 5-year strategic plan to modify and update the current plan, which is intended to guide providers, policymakers, the recovery community and the general public in building and strengthening our community-based, recovery-oriented system. The Recovery Oriented

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## Supporting a Diverse Chicago West Side Community

Systems of Care (ROSC) is “a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resiliencies of individuals, families, and communities to improve health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of alcohol and drug problems.”

### Current Successes and FY-26 Project Goals

During CRCC’s current leadership of the Westside ROSC Council (WS Council) since 2018 and as managed through its original strategic plan, the Council has enjoyed success in key project areas, including:

- **Interagency Collaboration:** The WS Council has obtained collaborations in the areas of substance use and mental health on the Westside of Chicago’s most afflicted communities as evidence of the extensive discussions of creating more resources and developing continuums of care. Through its monthly meeting process, over 200 agency partners in over 40 different sectors are now members of the Council.
- **Community Resources:** At these monthly meetings, agencies provide information and updates on services and supports available as well as gaps as reported by service recipients, family members and community stakeholders. CRCC, in their leadership role, collects and combines this information and utilizes, along with its annual service analysis survey, to identify system-wide service/support needs for recovering populations. Priorities for the FY-26 project have been selected through this process.
- **Community Education:** Through its analysis process, the WS Council, through CRCC’s leadership, has developed and deployed a community-wide recovery awareness campaign and has published an extensive library of recovery resources on its website to assure on-demand access of these resources. This allowed the WS Council to provide education in the areas of stigma, multiple pathways, and recovery support. It appears the ROSC initiative created a safe place for the community to begin to break the generational curses within their communities.
- **Resource Development:** Under CRCC’s leadership, the WS Council has procured critical resources to support the functions and work of the group. However, these resources are time-and-scope limited. The work of the Council over the last 7 years spotlights the need for additional, long-term resources to address the many challenges individuals, families and communities face in supporting long-term recovery.

Through its current project implementation and strategic planning process, the WS Council has identified 3 key challenges for its FY-26 ROSC Project and have developed goals, objectives and activities to address these challenges during the 3 project years. These 3 Project Goal areas are:

- Addressing NIMBY stigma issues in communities related to recovery residences (Goal 2)
- Addressing transportation issues for treatment and recovery services (Goal 3)
- Establishing warm hand-offs between treatment organizations and recovery organizations (Goal 4).

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**Goal 1: On-going support of the Westside ROSC Council (WS Council) through CRCC Leadership**

**Objective 1: By June 30, 2028, increase the capacity the WS Council by increasing membership and participation by 10% each year.**

**Activity 1:** CRCC will support monthly meetings of current and new members to increase participation in WS Council.

**Activity 2:** CRCC will identify and outreach to key organizations and individuals to join WS Council to increase membership by 10% per year.

**Activity 3:** CRCC will update yearly new member orientation that clarifies membership roles, terms of service, responsibilities, meeting attendance requirements.

**Objective 2: By June 30, 2028, secure resources to maintain WS Council as a formal structure.**

**Activity 1:** CRCC will identify resources (i.e., federal, state, local, donations, fundraisers, etc.) and processes to maintain financial support of the WS Council, including monthly meetings, website, materials and community education activities.

**Activity 2:** CRCC will present resources and processes to WS Council membership to develop an action plan to procure these resources.

**Activity 3:** CRCC will implement an action plan to secure these resources to sustain WS Council activities.

**Objective 3: By June 30, 2028, increase community awareness of WS Council's role and actions to foster ROSC within the community, including project priorities.**

**Activity 1:** Develop and implement a ROSC joint public awareness effort/media campaign on common components of ROSC.

**Activity 2:** Continue education on long-term recovery, stigma and stereotypes through provision of best practices information, training materials and current research through the WS Council website and community-based events.

**Goal 2: NIMBY stigma and Recovery Residences**

**Objective 1: By June 30, 2026, complete an initial assessment of community challenges limiting recovery residence development**

**Activity 1:** Inventory the current level of service capacity for Recovery Residences and other recovery-oriented housing options within and across the WS Council membership and

**Activity 2:** Conduct an assessment of current recovery residences through an inventory of current housing capacity, demand, challenges, etc. through listening sessions with current RR operators.

**Activity 3:** Conduct 2 community-focused listening sessions to gather community and stakeholder feedback regarding challenges to increased RR housing development.

**Activity 4:** CRCC, on behalf of WS Council, shall research current best practices in addressing NIMBY stigma and Recovery Residences and report on finding quarterly.

**Objective 2: By June 30, 2027, design a Recovery Residence Capacity Building Action Plan**

**Activity 1:** CRCC, on behalf of the WS Council, will develop and facilitate a Recovery Residence Work Group (RRWG), to include WS Council members, recovery residence operators and interested community stakeholders.

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**Activity 2:** Through the RRWG, identify 2 initial educational and capacity-building challenges spotlighted by WS Council members, recovery residence operators and community-focused listening sessions and develop an initial Action Plan to address these challenges

**Objective 3:** By July 1, 2027, implement at least one educational and one capacity-building activity from the Recovery Residence Capacity Building Plan

**Activity 1:** WS Council shall select one educational and one capacity-building activity, based on the recommendations of the RRWG and based on available resources.

**Activity 2:** RRWG, with the assistance of CRCC, shall launch and monitor the implementation of these educational and capacity building activities.

### Goal 3: Transportation for treatment and recovery services

**Objective 1:** By June 30, 2026, complete an assessment of transportation issues (non-emergency) for persons and family members that impede access to treatment and recovery support services within the WS Council's ROSC service area.

**Activity 1:** Inventory current transportation needs and challenges experienced by WS Council members through an initial needs assessment

**Activity 2:** Conduct 2 community-focused listening sessions to gather community and stakeholder feedback regarding transportation challenges to treatment and recovery services.

**Activity 3:** CRCC, on behalf of WS Council, shall research current best practices in addressing transportation issues for treatment and recovery services and report on finding quarterly.

**Objective 2:** By June 30, 2027, design a Transportation Action Plan for non-emergency transport to treatment and recovery services.

**Activity 1:** CRCC, on behalf of the WS Council, will develop and facilitate a Transportation Work Group (TWG), to include WS Council members, persons in recovery, family members, and interested community stakeholders.

**Activity 2:** Through the TWG, identify 2 initial capacity-building challenges and develop an initial Action Plan to address these challenges

**Objective 3:** By July 1, 2027, implement at least one activity from the Transportation Action Plan.

**Activity 1:** WS Council shall select one capacity building activity, based on the recommendations of the TWG and based on available resources.

**Activity 2:** TWG, with the assistance of CRCC, shall launch and monitor the implementation of this capacity building activities.

### Goal 4: Establishing warm hand-offs between treatment organizations and recovery organizations

**Objective 1:** By June 30, 2026, complete an assessment of existing continuum of services within the WS Council's ROSC service area.

**Activity 1:** Inventory current service providers within the WS Council ROSC service area, including service array, current capacity, waiting lists for services, eligibility and participation requirements and rules. Including formal and informal referral processes in place.

**Activity 2:** Assess current referral processes, protocols and wait times among WS Council member organizations.

**Activity 3:** Identify two most common referral challenges within the WS Council membership.

**Activity 4:** On behalf of the WS Council, CRCC shall research and report on the best practices on warm hand-offs.



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**Objective 2: By June 30, 2027, design a pilot WS Council Warm Hand Off Project.**

**Activity 1:** CRCC, on behalf of the WS Council, will develop and facilitate a Warm Hand Off Work Group, to include WS Council members, people in recovery, family members, and interested community stakeholders.

**Activity 2:** Through this Work Group, identify a treatment organization and a recovery organization to design an Action Plan to launch a Warm Hand Off Project. The action plan will address funding, staffing, eligibility criteria, and processes and protocols for initial and subsequent (if necessary) handoffs.

**Objective 3: By July 1, 2027, initiate the WS Council Warm Hand Off Project.**

**Activity 1:** WS Council shall launch and monitor implementation of project.

**Activity 2:** CRCC, on behalf of WS Council, shall conduct an assessment of the project, including agency staff, individual participants and family members feedback on the challenges and successes of the Project.