



Greene & Scott County R.O.S.C.

Recovery Council

**Needs Assessment
2024-2025**

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OVERVIEW OF GREENE/SCOTT RECOVERY COUNCIL

The Greene & Scott County Recovery Council (GSRC) will work to build a thriving coordinated network of community-based services and supports (or infrastructure) that are person-centered. GSRC works as an advocate because people can and do recover in our community and recovery is a community responsibility and value.

GSRC Mission:

Empowering and improving connections to ourselves, our families, and our communities within the Greene and Scott County areas to improve recovery outcomes, reduce stigma and educate our community, therefore, improving health, wellness, and the quality of life for all.

GSRC Vision

To build a thriving recovery system within Greene and Scott County that will reduce the risk of substance use and mental health challenges to improve recovery outcomes for all.

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Description for FY 2026 (July 2025 - June 2026)*

GSRC seeks to (1) Reduce stigma and increase engagement among community members, (2) improve awareness of substance use and mental health through education and outreach, (3) Facilitate cooperation across sectors, perspectives, and lived experiences, (4) Increase access to multiple recovery support options and timely care, (5) Increase the number of people pursuing and maintaining recovery

Project Expectations for FY 2026*

Identify and address the needs of the recovery community and promote infrastructure development of Recovery Community Organization (RCOs) or Recovery Community Center (RCC) through training and education in issues such as operations, billing systems, recruitment, sustainability, and integration into larger systems.

- Involve people with lived experience. Lived experience means personal knowledge about substance use disorders (SUDs), including co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (CODs), treatment, and recovery gained through direct involvement, which may include that individual's involvement as a patient, family member, or loved one of a person receiving SUD/COD treatment services.
- Create an integration of systems within the ROSC: local hospitals, primary care, mental health, law enforcement, local business owners, local government representatives, and policy makers, person with lived experience and SUD intervention, treatment, prevention, and recovery support service providers.
- Build a menu of services and support, including all the components listed in the definition above: person-centered, building on strengths/resilience, coordinated, and community-based.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographic of Target Counties

Greene and Scott counties are neighboring regions spanning 796 square miles, with a significant reliance on agriculture for their economic stability. Reflecting trends typical of the rural Midwest, the population in this service area is predominantly white, making up approximately 97% of residents. Furthermore, many individuals living in low-income and medically underserved circumstances face challenges in accessing essential behavioral health services, including prevention, treatment, and recovery resources. This is largely due to the considerable distances that separate these communities from regional population centers where such services are more readily available.

As noted above, the area is mostly White and non-Hispanic. Scott County, poverty rate is 11.4%, while the rate for Greene County is 13.8%, and the national rate is 11.1%. As of December 2024, the official unemployment rate in Greene County is 3.7% and Scott County 5.8%(versus 4.1% nationwide.) The rate of person in the labor force is 58.4% in Greene County and 58.6% in Scott County (vs. 62.5% nationwide).

Population

In Greene County, the 2010 population was 13886, and in 2024 the population was 11417 a decline of nearly 18%. Scott County has seen similar decline. With both counties experiencing a 3% decrease in the past year. As noted above, there are high rates of Medicare and Medicaid coverage. In Greene County 6.8% of the population have no health insurance coverage, while 23.3% has Medicaid coverage. In Scott County, 4.9% have no health insurance coverage while 13.8% have Medicaid coverage. For comparison purposes, nationally, 8.2% Americans are uninsured - despite the advent of the ACA - while 23.7% have Medicaid coverage.

COMMUNITY SERVICES & SUPPORTS ASSESSMENT

Introduction to Community Services & Supports Assessment

Since 1969 the Greene County Health Department has been driven by its mission to assure access to resources with a focus on prevention, health education, home health, and resource support to tirelessly serve the residents of our region. The team carries out that mission through the:

1. Advocacy for mental health
2. Emergency Preparedness
3. Environmental Health Protection
4. Home Health Access & Care
5. Health Education
6. Personal Health Services
7. Substance Use Prevention
8. Recreational & physical activity improvements

This project really began in 2021, during which time the department conducted numerous focus groups and listening sessions in addition to conducting a community needs assessment. Out of this, our community set the priorities for the department which includes developing and building services and supports to meet the needs of mental health and substance use within our communities. This project sparked what can only be described as a movement and led to the development of the Recovery-Oriented System of Care Project or ROSC Project which blossomed into the Greene & Scott County Recovery Council (GSRC). While our work began with a focus on Greene & Scott, a regional effort emerged as the project ramped up and the community assessment analysis was conducted.

Collectively, our region lacks the support necessary to adequately meet the needs of the mental health and substance use crisis. 98% of the individuals interviewed recognized that there is little to no support in our region. The bulk of the available resources are located well outside of our immediate vicinity. This includes treatment for mental health and substance use, counseling services, and support groups. 88.8% identified a top priority was the development of infrastructure within our own community with the top priority being developing a system for which the community can receive assistance navigating resources followed by the need for treatment providers and support group infrastructure.

Of the total respondents, 38% identified Locust Street Resource Center as the most significant service provider within our area. Locust St Resource Center provides services in Greene but on a limited basis. The organization also maintains a central location in Carlinville that creates additional transportation.

47.8% indicated the lack of support or resources as being the biggest contributing factor with lack of meeting infrastructure coming in at 15.7%. Other factors included mental health challenges, generational learning, lack of family supports, and financial resources 84.5% of key informants who identify with having lived experience identified stigma and education as a community challenge as they have been victim of discrimination and/or harassment.

Stakeholders-focused stigma efforts included healthcare providers, employers, educators, and law enforcement. A significant portion of key informants identifying as an individual with lived experiences indicated risky health behaviors. 68% indicated tobacco use, and 77% indicated alcohol use at a rate of more than 2 drinks per day.

29.3% self-reported depression symptoms within the last 30 days with 29% indicating no primary care physician. Of the persons with lived experience, 23% self-reported a lack of medical insurance despite 98% living at or below the poverty level. 37% of PLEs identified transportation as a barrier while 7% of stakeholders indicated as such.

In our community needs assessment in 2022, Greene's per capita overdose fatality rate has increased substantially from 19.89 to 39.4. The lack of significant infrastructure to address the social determinants of health inequities are major contributor to this rise. 2.61% identified overdose as a significant challenge. Scott's data is omitted to prevent disclosure of PII.

Contributing factors to substance use and mental health challenges mentioned in the community are trauma, transportation, food access, housing, generational learning, domestic violence, poverty, education, healthcare access, and stigma. A significant portion of key respondents identifying as a person with lived experience maintaining recovery indicated substance use as a result of mental health challenges, 44%.

In 2022, the Greene & Scott County Recovery Council team met with and conducted a combined 115 key informant interviews in preparation for the 5-year Strategic plan. These interactions included a focus on individuals with lived experience in addition to law enforcement, faith-based organizations, educators, treatment professionals, judicial representatives including the bench & probation offices, and other community stakeholders. Additionally, the department conducted a thorough analysis of collective community needs assessments from across the region. Of the interviews conducted by the Council, 100% reported that substance use and 97% said that mental health is an issue in our area, which includes the communities throughout the region. Local law enforcement collectively identified psychostimulant events area sharply rising within the region and syndromic surveillance confirms this increase.

Throughout 2023 and into 2024, each month the GSRC met for the monthly meeting where participants, which included persons with lived experience with mental health or substance use and community partners met to review the work of our council and strategized on efforts taken thus far. A separate committee was established that is made up entirely of persons with lived experience with mental health and/or substance use and justice-involved individuals. Our assessment of the needs within our community didn't just stop in year one, these discussions took place on a routine basis as the council continued evaluating the ever-changing needs and dynamics within our community.

Stakeholders

Greene and Scott County Jail
Greene and Scott County Probation - PreTrial
Jersey Community Hospital (JCH)
Locust Street Mental and Behavioral Health
Gateway Family Guidance Center
TASC
Bright Futures
Birth to Five Illinois: Region 40
Illinois Valley Economic Development Group
North Greene School District
Carrollton School District
Greenfield School District

Current Work

In response to these barriers, the council developed a long-term Strategic Plan that aimed to address these while working to mitigate and eliminate many of them along the way. The following are the actions our council has taken in our first fiscal year in relation to our Strategic Plan:

Our work in 2024

1. The council significantly grew during our fiscal year and to ensure continued engagement, the team developed creative ways to ensure our partners have what they need from us and to ensure they are regularly updated on our work together. This includes individualized contacts such as 1:1 meetings, email, touchpoint meetings, etc. This outreach and engagement have grown the council into having representatives across more than 20 sectors, maximizing our reach within the community.
2. To raise awareness about the council and our work to address stigma, the council sponsored and participated in many events, including the Greene County Fair, the Greene County Health and Job Fair, school events, organizational events, memorials, celebrations, and more.
3. Social media efforts have grown significantly reaching nearly 70% of the combined population in Greene/Scott. This work aimed to educate our community about recovery, reduce stigma, and connect our community to recovery resources. The team also found new ways of reaching our community by launching a podcast, updating our internet presence, launching recovery information on our app, and even boots on the ground face to face, door to door engagement on a routine basis. We launched a PSA campaign that aims to further educate our community on the stigma and normalize the conversations around mental health/substance.



4. In addition to helping facilitate the development of numerous support groups in our region, the team partnered with the Recovery Corps which provided our community with a recovery navigator that is working to bridge the gaps between clinical and non-clinical recovery. A health and wellness-based group Lifting Spirits was introduced in partnership with the Brickhouse in White Hall, the introduction of Guide Paths, and monthly “coffee talks” enabled individuals in recovery to network, discuss challenges, and develop healthy coping strategies and more. Efforts also included advocating for new support group options, eventually leading to the introduction of a new 12-step group in 2 communities in the area.
 - a.) Partnering with local organizations and advocates in mental health/substance use, we hosted numerous events that centered on providing valuable education about recovery, stigma, and the many pathways to support one’s mental health/substance use challenges.
 - b.) The establishment of the Executive Committee, a branch of ROSC dedicated specifically to PLE engagement was also leveraged as an opportunity to build recovery capital, educate on various resource support options, and gain valuable feedback and participation in ROSC work.
5. The team partnered with the Health Management Associates or HMA to expand MAR availability and access to the different pathways to recovery. This project aims to serve as an inflection point, reaching individuals when they need it most. This work will introduce telehealth options that will reduce the demand on the workforce within the center and advance efforts to improve overall mental and physical health while expanding our ability to further build recovery capital. Work is underway on this project.
6. We worked to provide safe family friendly recreational events including movie nights, art nights, game nights, bowling nights, and more. These events provided opportunities for individuals to network with other members of the recovery community, connect with recovery navigators, and identify additional resources needed to support and maintain long-term recovery. Throughout the year more than 120 people took part in these events.
7. Partnering with Greene County Sheriff’s Department, which also serves as a justice center for justice-involved individuals from Scott, the team began weekly meetings at the jail, connecting individuals with recovery resources and working to build recovery capital. In 2023, we served a total of 19 individuals as a result of this partnership and built long-term relationships with many of them who continue to be engaged in the council’s work.
8. We connected with individuals in the Illinois Department of Corrections, working to build a support system early on with the goal of long-term successful re-entry.
9. The introduction of the Recovery Education series, Life Skillz worked to build valuable skills necessary to support and sustain recovery capital that most often serves as a barrier. Monthly meetings are held on topics including employment skills like resume writing, interview skills coping mechanisms, stigma reduction, and more.
10. The team found creative ways to address recovery barriers like transportation and worked hard to ensure individuals had access to basic needs by linking individuals to insurance providers, housing supports, and even transportation providers. We partnered with our regional providers to reduce the barriers to scheduling transportation and helped provide alternative means when these efforts were not successful in meeting individuals' needs.

11. We have successfully advocated for the expansion of clinical treatments within Greene/Scott and launched new partnerships to meet the needs within our community. The partnerships will work to bridge the gaps using telehealth. Using creative solutions, we were able to successfully place new telehealth hubs in the areas that need them most. These efforts will provide resource connections and help reduce the strain on the system within our community and provides expanded access to additional healthcare resources, improving wellness.
12. Advocacy and engagement efforts with local employers have helped multiple individuals find gainful employment within the region and combined with our work to build recovery capital have helped over 100 individuals build the skills or connect with vital resources necessary to maintain long-term recovery.
13. We developed a prevention program that specifically targets youth, hosting events in the schools and within the community. This work reached every corner of our community helping connect youth to services and support and to normalize the conversations around mental health/substance use.
14. We deepened our connections with local first responders and law enforcement by using diversified funds (multiple funding streams) to support actionable collaboration and enhance data coordination on overdose prevention and response. This partnership has enabled us the ability to identify trends more easily in overdose data and more quickly respond to emergent threats.
15. As a part of our work to improve overall health/wellness, the team worked hard to diversify funding that enabled expanded capacity to address the various challenges faced by the mental health crisis. This work successfully helped us introduce creative programs centered around supporting mental wellness in youth which included sensory and "Livingroom" programs in our school districts and helped facilitate numerous workforce development opportunities. These efforts also further deepened our connections with community partners and enhanced collaboration. Creative efforts helped us identify previously unmet needs and improve relationships through the placement of AEDs, engagement on the Drug Court, improved efforts to advance health equity, and more.
16. We provided support and space to PLEs who identified clothing as a barrier to employment within the recovery community. This work encouraged the development of the Next Impressions Clothing Shoppe. This program is entirely PLE-led and developed and provides professional clothing to those in need and works to drive a sense of purpose and passion in community service.
17. Workforce development opportunities for the ROSC team helped the team gain valuable knowledge and further develop the skills necessary to continue our work, in addition to helping inspire growth within the peer support workforce. In combination with our other Community Health Programs, and awarded scholarships, the team was able to attend the RX Summit, complete the educational requirements necessary to achieve CPRS certification, present at and attend national conferences, and network with countless other recovery-centered organizations/groups..
18. Throughout the year, ongoing, regular, productive planning discussions about RCO development and long-term work to address community needs continued.. We were able to explore on a deeper level the gaps that exist within the "system" and introduce short-term solutions to reduce these gaps including our partnership with the Recovery Corps, our engagement work

within the Greene County Sheriff's Dept, our partnership with the Greene/Scott County Drug Court/Probation, the establishment of the recovery support program, resource navigation efforts, and more.

19. The team worked hard to identify safe places within our community for people to turn to when looking for resources or support. Our satellite office in Roodhouse slowly grew into the hub of the recovery movement as we outgrew our original space and the number of individuals looking to build recovery capital increased. Recognizing there is always a member of the team in the office, the North Greene facility, a central location in between Greene/Scott, became recognized as a safe place to turn to for help and now serves as the primary location of the Greene & Scott County Recovery Council.
20. Harm reduction efforts provided training to more than 200 people and helped us strategically place almost 600 doses of naloxone in the first year of the GSRC's existence. This victory alone goes to show how our efforts to reduce stigma have advanced the community's openness to recovery. The team also improved access to and distributed fentanyl test strips and opioid education within the regional organizations and connected several individuals with syringe access programs.
21. In 2023, the ROSC advisory committee established a goal of addressing housing as a long-term plan and in the short term, working to address employment, transportation, and recovery support options. The team was able to identify potential solutions that would progress this project forward and help us achieve this goal, including identifying resources to support this work. In October 2023, they established a formal planning committee that is tasked with finalizing the steps necessary to achieve these objectives through the development of an RCO, a branch off our ROSC.
22. We conducted a total of 45 warm handoffs for substance use and a further 29 for mental health, ensuring people from across the community had access to vital recovery support services often located well outside our area.

2023-2025 Update: Actional Categories

We accomplished a lot in FY 2025, continuing to lay the groundwork for an intricate network of services and support within our community. With the guidance and support of our council we continue to collaborate and coordinate with community partners to address barriers and gaps identified in our community needs survey. This survey is part of the statewide deliverables and is the process of collecting timely data from stakeholders in Greene and Scott Counties. The questionnaire is in **Appendix A**. GCPHD surveyed over 90 Greene and Scott County stakeholders, including 85% from Greene and 15% from Scott. Participants of the survey were representative of the demographics of the two counties,

2024-2025 ROSC Survey

Have you heard of the Greene/Scott County ROSC?

Analysis: The survey indicates that a significant majority (72.16%) of respondents are aware of the Greene/Scott County ROSC, suggesting a strong level of public knowledge about this initiative. However, the 27.84% of respondents who are unaware highlights an opportunity for increased outreach and education.



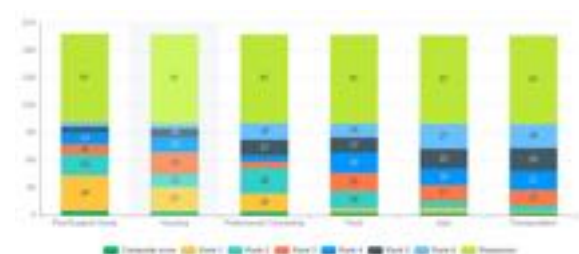
What county do you live in?

Analysis: The data indicates a significant majority of respondents reside in Greene County, accounting for 84.54% of the responses, while only 15.46% are from Scott County. This disparity suggests a strong regional bias in the survey sample, which may limit the generalizability of the findings to a broader context.



What do you think is the most important support for someone who is new in Recovery?

Analysis: The survey results indicate that "Peer/Support Group" is perceived as the most crucial support for individuals new to recovery, achieving the highest composite score of 4.63 and ranking first for 40.21% of respondents. In contrast, "Transportation" received the lowest composite score of 2.57, indicating it is considered the least important support option.



I feel safe/secure in my current living situation.

Analysis: The overwhelming majority of respondents, 96.91%, feel safe and secure in their current living situation, indicating a high level of satisfaction and stability in this aspect of their lives. However, 3.09% of respondents reported feeling unsafe, which suggests that there may be specific concerns or issues that need to be addressed for this small group.



I am facing financial difficulties.

Analysis: The survey indicates that a majority of respondents (60.82%) do not face financial difficulties, while a significant minority (37.11%) do. The low percentage of those preferring not to answer (2.06%) suggests that most participants are willing to share their financial status.



I have stable employment.

Analysis: The data indicates that a significant majority of respondents (75.26%) report having stable employment, while a smaller portion (24.74%) do not. This suggests a generally positive perception of job stability among the participants. However, the 24.74% of respondents without stable employment represents a notable segment that could benefit from targeted support or resources.



I have reliable transportation.

Analysis: The data indicates that a significant majority of respondents, 86.6%, have reliable transportation, suggesting a strong capacity for mobility among the surveyed population. However, the

13.4% who do not have reliable transportation could represent a potential barrier to access and participation in various activities or services.



Job training and employment assistance would benefit me and/or my family.

Analysis: The data indicates that a significant majority (60.82%) of respondents do not perceive job training and employment assistance as beneficial for themselves or their families, while only 39.18% believe it would be advantageous. This disparity suggests a potential lack of awareness or access to such programs among the respondents.



Do you know how to access assistance for food assistance.

Analysis: The data indicates a strong awareness among participants regarding how to access food assistance, with 86.6% affirming their knowledge. However, the 13.4% who do not know how to access assistance suggests a gap in information dissemination.



Do you know how to access assistance for affordable housing.

Analysis: The survey indicates that a significant majority of respondents (72.16%) are aware of how to access assistance for affordable housing, while a smaller portion (27.84%) lacks this knowledge.



Do you know how to access assistance for transportation

Analysis: The data indicates that a significant majority of respondents, 76.29%, are aware of how to access assistance for transportation, while 23.71% do not have this knowledge.



Do you know how to access assistance for family support services

Analysis: The survey results indicate that a significant majority of respondents (71.13%) are aware of how to access assistance for Family support services, while a smaller portion (28.87%) does not have this knowledge. This suggests a general familiarity among the population with available resources. However, the nearly 29% who are unaware highlights an opportunity for improvement in communication and outreach efforts.



Do you know how to access assistance for domestic violence services

Analysis Conclusion: The survey results indicate that a significant majority of respondents (76.29%) are aware of how to access assistance for domestic violence services, which suggests a strong level of knowledge in the community regarding available resources. However, the 23.71% of respondents who answered "No" highlights a critical gap in awareness that needs to be addressed.



Do you know how to access assistance for sexual assault and/or human trafficking services

Analysis: This survey question reveals that a majority of respondents (60.82%) are aware of how to access assistance for sexual assault and/or human trafficking services, while a significant minority (39.18%) are not. The relatively high percentage of respondents who are unaware of these services indicates a critical area for improvement in outreach and education.



Do you know how to access assistance for legal assistance

Analysis: The survey results indicate a strong awareness among respondents regarding access to legal assistance, with 77.32% affirming that they know how to obtain such support. However, a significant minority of 22.68% do not possess this knowledge, suggesting a potential gap in information dissemination.



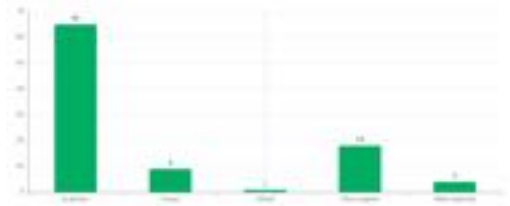
Do you know how to access assistance for physical health services

Analysis: The data indicates a strong awareness among participants regarding how to access assistance for physical health services, with 88.66% responding affirmatively. However, the 11.34% who are unaware represents a significant minority that could benefit from targeted outreach and educational initiatives.



What type of therapy do you think would be most helpful for someone experiencing substance use disorder

Analysis: The survey results indicate a strong preference for in-person therapy as the most helpful option for individuals experiencing substance use disorder, with 67.01% of respondents favoring this choice. In contrast, virtual therapy garnered minimal support at just 1.03%, suggesting a significant skepticism regarding its effectiveness in this context. Group therapy and peer support received 9.28% and 18.56% of responses, respectively, indicating that while they are considered helpful, they do not match the preference for in-person therapy. The "Other (specify)" category, accounting for 4.12%, could potentially reveal alternative therapies that respondents find beneficial, but further exploration is needed to understand these options.



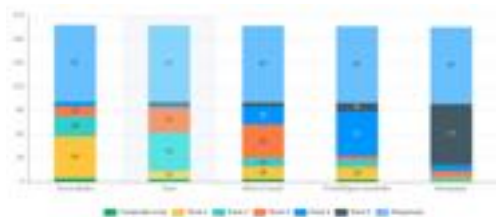
Would you like to get involved with the local ROSC

Analysis: The survey results indicate a significant majority of respondents (78.35%) are not interested in getting involved with the local ROSC - Recovery Oriented Systems of Care Council, while only 21.65% expressed interest. This stark contrast suggests a potential disconnect between the council's initiatives and community engagement.



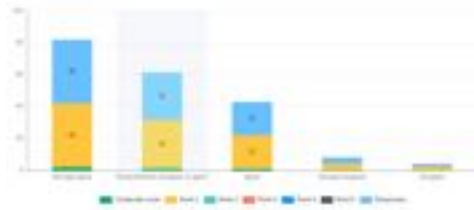
How do you prefer to receive information about county resource/events/services

Analysis: The survey indicates a clear preference for receiving information about county resources/events/services, with Social Media emerging as the most favored channel, achieving the highest composite score of 4.3. It is notable that over half of the respondents ranked Social Media as their top choice, while Flyer and Word of Mouth follow, with scores of 3.6 and 3.1, respectively. Email/Digital newsletters and Newspapers lag significantly behind, with composite scores of 2.6 and 1.4, suggesting they are less effective in reaching the audience.



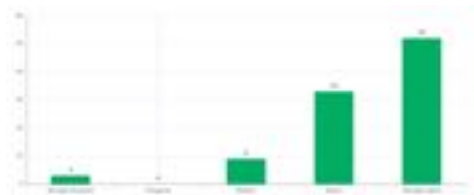
People who use drugs deserve respect

Analysis: The survey results indicate a strong consensus among participants regarding respect for people who use drugs, with the highest composite score attributed to "Strongly agree" at 2.06. This response category received full ranking from all 40 respondents, suggesting a robust endorsement of respect for this demographic. The "Neutral/Neither disagree or agree" category follows with a composite score of 1.55, indicating a significant number of participants are ambivalent but still leaning towards a positive stance. The "Agree" category, while lower at 1.08, still reflects a positive sentiment among 21 respondents. Conversely, the "Strongly disagree" and "Disagree" categories received minimal support, with scores of 0.21 and 0.1, respectively, indicating that negative perceptions are relatively rare.



People with a Mental Illness deserve respect

Analysis: The survey results indicate a strong consensus among respondents regarding the respect deserved by individuals with mental illness, with a combined total of 87.63% expressing agreement (Agree and Strongly agree). The negligible percentage of disagreement (3.09% for Strongly disagree and 0% for Disagree) suggests a positive attitude towards mental health awareness and respect. However, the 9.28% of respondents who selected 'Neither' may indicate a need for further education or awareness on the topic.



Medication Assisted Recovery (MAR) is an effective treatment for substance use disorders.

Analysis: The responses to the statement regarding Medication Assisted Recovery (MAR) indicate a divided perception among participants. A total of 51.55% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that MAR is an effective treatment for substance use disorders, while 25.67% disagreed or strongly disagreed. Notably, 22.68% of respondents remained neutral, suggesting uncertainty or a lack of information regarding MAR.



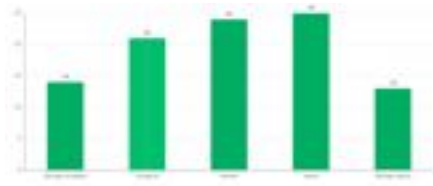
It is difficult to find healthcare providers who offer Medication Assisted Recovery in my community.

Analysis: The survey results indicate a significant level of ambivalence regarding the availability of Medication Assisted Recovery (MAR) providers in the community, as evidenced by the high percentage (43.3%) of respondents selecting "Neither." This suggests that respondents may be uncertain about the accessibility of these services or may not have sufficient information to form a definitive opinion. In contrast, the combined percentages of those who agree (26.8%) and strongly agree (7.22%) indicate that a minority of respondents perceive a lack of MAR providers, while a total of 22.68% disagree or strongly disagree with the statement.



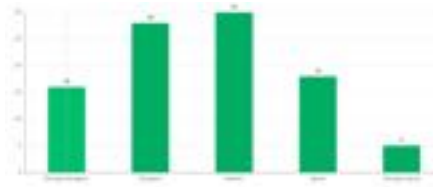
Harm reduction services like Narcan and syringe service programs reduce risks of drug use.

Analysis Conclusion: The responses indicate a divided perception regarding the effectiveness of harm reduction services like Narcan and syringe service programs in reducing the risks associated with drug use. A combined total of 37.1% of respondents (14.43% strongly disagree and 21.65% disagree) express skepticism about these services, while a slightly higher percentage (39.17%) agree or strongly agree with their effectiveness. The neutral response category ("Neither") comprises 24.74%, suggesting a significant portion of respondents may be uncertain or ambivalent about the issue.



It is difficult to find harm reduction services like Narcan and syringe service programs in my community

Analysis: The survey results indicate that a significant portion of respondents (30.93%) feel neutral about the availability of harm reduction services like Narcan and syringe service programs in their community, suggesting uncertainty or lack of information. In contrast, a combined total of 34.71% either disagree or strongly disagree, indicating a perception that these services are somewhat accessible. However, 23.71% of respondents agree or strongly agree that these services are difficult to find, which highlights a notable concern among a segment of the population.



It is difficult to find mental health and substance use treatment services in my community

Analysis: The survey responses indicate a mixed perception regarding the accessibility of mental health and substance use treatment services within the community. A significant portion of respondents (29.9%) disagrees with the statement, while a combined 42.27% agree or strongly agree that finding these services is difficult. The neutral responses (17.53%) suggest uncertainty or ambivalence.



We should increase government funding on treatment options for mental health and substance use disorders.

Analysis: The data indicates a strong overall support for increasing government funding on treatment options for mental health and substance use disorders, with a combined 73.2% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement. The low percentages of disagreement (14.4%) suggest that there is minimal opposition to this initiative. However, the presence of 12.37% of respondents who neither agree nor disagree may indicate a need for further education or awareness regarding the issue.



Everyone in my community can get help for mental health regardless of income level, insurance status, race, ethnicity, primary language, disabilities, gender identity, sexual orientation, or citizenship status

Analysis: The survey responses indicate a mixed perception regarding the accessibility of mental health support within the community. A significant portion of respondents (39.18%) agree that help is available, while a combined total of 24.75% either disagree or strongly disagree. Notably, 19.59% of participants remain neutral, suggesting uncertainty or ambivalence about the issue.



Everyone in my community can get help for substance use regardless of income level, insurance status, race, ethnicity, primary language, disabilities, gender identity, sexual orientation, or citizenship status.

Analysis: The survey results indicate a mixed perception regarding the accessibility of substance use help within the community. A significant portion of respondents (39.18%) agree that help is available regardless of various factors, while a notable 20.62% (combined "Strongly disagree" and "Disagree") express skepticism about this claim. The "Neither" category, comprising 22.68% of responses, suggests ambivalence or uncertainty among participants.



Age

Analysis: The age distribution of the respondents shows a significant concentration in the 35-44 age group, which accounts for nearly a third of the total responses (32.99%). The 25-34 age group also represents a substantial portion (24.74%), indicating that younger adults are the most engaged demographic in this survey. Conversely, the age groups of Under 18, 18-24, and Over 65 have the least representation, with percentages below 10%



Income level

Analysis: The income level responses indicate a significant concentration of participants in the lower income bracket, with 41.24% earning under \$24,999. The middle-income range (\$25,000-\$49,999) follows at 26.8%, while higher income brackets are notably less represented, with only 10.31% earning \$100,000 and over. This suggests a potential opportunity for organizations to tailor their products or services to better meet the needs of lower-income individuals.



Gender

Analysis: The data indicates a significant gender skew in the responses, with 64.95% identifying as Female and only 35.05% as Male. This disparity suggests that the survey may not fully capture the perspectives of all genders, potentially leading to biased conclusions.



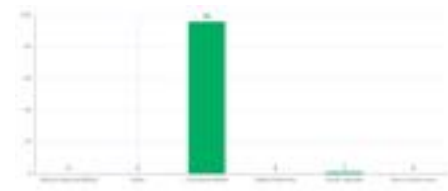
Ethnicity

Analysis: The data reveals a significant skew in ethnic representation, with 98.97% of respondents identifying as Non-Hispanic, while only 1.03% identified as Hispanic or Latino. This disparity suggests a potential lack of inclusivity in the survey sample.



Race

Analysis: The data indicates a significant overrepresentation of Caucasian/White respondents, comprising nearly 99% of the total responses, while other racial groups such as African American/Black, Asian, Native American, and Two or more races are entirely absent or minimally represented. This lack of diversity suggests potential bias in the sample, which may limit the generalizability of the findings.



Primary Language

Analysis: The survey results indicate that English is the sole primary language among respondents, with 100% of participants selecting it as their primary language. In contrast, Spanish, French, and other languages received no responses, reflecting a lack of linguistic diversity in the participant pool.



Conclusion and Updated List of Gaps

The survey conducted on the Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) in Greene and Scott Counties provides valuable insights into community perceptions and needs regarding recovery support services. A significant majority of respondents (72.16%) reported awareness of the ROSC, indicating a solid foundation for further engagement and education about recovery resources.

The results highlight that peer support groups are perceived as the most critical support for individuals new to recovery, emphasizing the importance of community-based resources. Additionally, a notable 96.91% of participants feel secure in their current living situations, yet 37.11% acknowledged facing financial difficulties, suggesting a potential area for targeted assistance.

Transportation and access to various support services remain pivotal, with high percentages of respondents indicating knowledge of how to access food assistance (86.6%) and transportation (76.29%). However, there is still a notable percentage of respondents unsure about accessing other essential services, such as domestic violence support (23.71% unaware) and sexual assault services (39.18% unaware).

The survey also reveals a strong consensus on the need for increased government funding for mental health and substance use treatment options, with 72.2% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with this statement. This sentiment underscores the community's recognition of the challenges faced by individuals in need of these services.

Furthermore, the survey indicates a strong belief in the respect and dignity owed to individuals struggling with substance use and mental health issues, with 87.63% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing that people who use drugs deserve respect.

In summary, while there is a robust awareness of recovery resources and a general sense of security among respondents, the survey identifies critical gaps in knowledge about specific services and highlights the need for enhanced support and funding. These findings provide a roadmap for community leaders and policymakers to address the challenges faced by individuals in recovery and to foster a more supportive environment for all residents.

SWOT Analysis Results

On March 18, 2025, members of the GCPHD consortium and key stakeholders gathered to conduct a SWOT analysis of the survey results. Through careful examination of the current survey findings alongside insights from previous work, a range of important topics was addressed, encompassing vision, impact, barriers, access, needs and gaps, communications, and action plans. The analysis revealed more than 20 significant and identifiable needs that could hinder care for individuals living with opioid use disorder (SUD) in Greene and Scott counties. The consortium then refined these obstacles into six actionable categories:

- ENGAGEMENT
- RECOVERY Support/PEER Support
- STIGMA REDUCTION
- HOUSING
- TRANSPORTATION
- CRIMINAL JUSTICE POPULATION
- PREVENTION EFFORTS

Strengths

- ❖ The ROSC provides several types of communications for outreach including social media, flyers, in-person meetings, virtual visits

- ❖ ROSC members are excited to be engaged in the ROSC program and want to continue the work
- ❖ ROSC council listen to PLEs and works hard to meet their needs by finding resolutions to challenges and barriers within our communities
- ❖ ROSC work with PLEs to inform and drive decision making regarding resources.
- ❖ ROSC council focuses on relevant topics and educational content related to current events and issues in our counties
- ❖ ROSC council has been focused on youth prevention, harm reduction, and support programs
- ❖ ROSC council seeks out outside organizations to bring support groups to the communities that don't already exist.

Weakness

- ❖ Community engagement is limited
- ❖ Lack of funds to be able to fill gaps such as housing, transportation, nutrition, and mental health resources
- ❖ Lack of support from local governing officials to bring recovery programming & housing to our counties
- ❖ Limited access to behavioral health workforce in the area

Opportunities

- ❖ Opportunity is present to develop anti-stigma campaigns for mental health and substance use disorders and surrounding topics
- ❖ Opportunity to support in the development of more youth health mental health and substance use programs and services
- ❖ Opportunity to increase outreach about training opportunities for our counties.
- ❖ Opportunity to encourage warm hands offs to peer support services after release from the criminal justice system
- ❖ Opportunity to present at health summits, town halls and community events to engage individuals.

Threats

- ❖ Increased use of methamphetamine use access
- ❖ Limitations in funding or resource allocation for recovery oriented services
- ❖ Resistance from sectors of the community
- ❖ The increase demand for mental health services
- ❖ Sustainability and availability of mental health and substance use services budget cuts

Gaps: (as noted in analysis)

Support

Treatment

Funding

Transportation

Stigma

Housing

COMMUNITY READINESS

Community Readiness

Methamphetamine and opioid use has been a significant issue in our community for many years. Since 2021, the Greene County Public Health Department, along with key partners in healthcare, criminal justice, behavioral health, and substance treatment, has collaborated to tackle this problem by developing treatment and recovery programs. There has been a strong awareness of these initiatives. Professionals and individuals with lived experience in recovery communities have shown enthusiasm and a willingness to engage with the Greene and Scott County Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) efforts, currently led by the Greene County Public Health Department project team. The ROSC Council has been able to make substantial strides in raising awareness of substance use disorder and Recovery in the way of family oriented events, presentations to key-stakeholders, and continuous outreach to members and organizations in Greene and Scott County. Although advances have been made, opposition to this topic is still extensive due to generational beliefs, hardened ideas in work environments, and the hurt caused within families due to the nature of addiction. Community members lack the education and awareness of SUD as well as access to local resources. Stakeholders are reluctant and weary of prevention efforts and harm reduction efforts. Council members and PLEs have been willing to share their experiences with SUD within the communities, local businesses, and other other organizations in an effort to break down barriers to conversations surrounding this sensitive topic. The team is actively seeking to involve new stakeholders to ensure a diverse range of roles and perspectives are represented.

PRIORITIES FOR EXPANSION

Continued ROSC Expansion

The Greene/Scott County ROSC has identified key strengths, challenges, and opportunities through our SWOT analysis. Expanding recovery support services in our rural communities requires sustained commitment from stakeholders, strategic outreach, and resource development. Our community connections, engaged recovery network, and presence of local treatment supports provide a solid foundation, barriers such as stigma around harm reduction, limited transportation, and lack of recovery housing continue to exist. Continued building of relationships with law enforcement and county officials remains a priority.

Technical Assistance Needed

- Continual Council membership and PLE Committee recruitment
- Increase community awareness and education on SUD through targeted outreach and training sessions.
- Increase engagement with law enforcement and county officials to reduce stigma and build trust
- Create opportunities for community service and attendance at pro-social events for those involved in the criminal justice system
- Develop training programs for businesses to support employee recovery
- Expansion of anti-stigma education and awareness campaigns
- Housing solutions that accept individuals with criminal backgrounds.

Conclusion

We accomplished a lot in 2023, 2024 and 2025, laying the groundwork for an intricate network of services and support within our community. None of this would have been possible without the direction and guidance of our council. Our continued collaboration and coordination is the key to our success. As we move forward, building permanent solutions to address the barriers to recovery will be the key to our continued success. With ongoing collaboration, increased public awareness, and targeted technical assistance, we aim to enhance the recovery system in Greene and Scott Counties and ensure that individuals seeking recovery have access to the resources they need to thrive and find increased overall wellness.