



MASSAC COUNTY ROSC

Strategic Plan

The ROSC in Massac County has discovered several gaps across the continuum of care concerning recovery support through our community needs assessment, a public survey, and key interviews with stakeholders and local agencies. The gaps found include: no overdose response team outside of emergency services, community stigma toward substance use and recovery, residential treatment/detox available beds, sober/transitional housing, lack of gainful employment opportunities and awareness of available resources.

Massac County is a rural county located in far southern Illinois, and has a population of 13,627 (2024 US Census estimate). The county has a total of 237 square miles. Bordering counties include Pope, Johnson, Pulaski, and McCracken County, Kentucky. Massac County is bordered on the south by the Ohio River. The county seat is Metropolis and other small towns located in the county are Joppa and Brookport. The following is data collected from the US Census Quick Facts (2023):

White	89%	Median Income	\$62,584
Black	6.7%	Poverty	17.7%
American Indian	1%	Unemployment	5.6%
Asian	1%	Health Uninsured	6.5%
Hispanic	3%		
Two or more races	3%		

According to our research of county data, there were at least 8 opioid overdose deaths in 2022, the highest per capita throughout the state. The Overdose Data Dashboard ran by the Illinois Department of Public Health indicates for 2023, Massac County had recorded 26 emergency department visits for drug overdoses.

The following strategic plan outlines our goals and actionable steps to enhance access to resources, continue to build strong partnerships, and promote awareness and education. By leveraging community strengths and fostering collaboration to fill gaps, we aim to empower individuals on their recovery journey, reduce stigma, and create a network of community support that is both inclusive and sustainable.

1. Increase awareness of and accessibility to harm reduction services and treatment for individuals in the community.

Goal 1: Collaborate with local crisis teams to spread awareness and provide information to those who have contact with crisis teams to increase likelihood of follow-up care.

Strategy:

- a. Prepare small bags with Narcan and materials for all local resources to provide information on multiple pathways.
- b. Meet with local crisis teams to discuss collaboration on this project.
- c. Launch project by September 2025.

Goal 2: Increase local awareness of available treatment centers in surrounding areas.

Strategy:

- a. Continue to cultivate relationships with these centers and obtain information concerning their programs.
- b. Continually update our resource sheets and information to have available for all community members.
- c. When individuals are accepted into treatment centers connect with transportation through our Rides to Recovery volunteer network.

Goal 3: Present to potential stakeholders alongside mental health professionals concerning the possibility of crisis/detox beds being made available by July 2025.

Strategy:

- a. Meet with local mental health professionals to gain information regarding details of local need for this.
- b. Schedule meeting to involve all stakeholders concerning the potential for crisis beds being made available in Massac County

2.. Increase capacity for individuals to access opportunities to build recovery capital.

Goal 1: Implement a supportive network of services to aid in increased recovery capital for individuals in recovery and seeking jobs and fill this gap in Massac County.

Strategy:

- a. Network with local businesses to gain information on places of employment that are “recovery friendly” and what their hiring process looks like.
- b. Meet with General Assistance, a local agency that offers resume building assistance to collaborate.
- c. Host a local job fair including all of the local businesses hiring and any agency that can aid individuals seeking gainful employment by January 2026.

Goal 2: Develop a volunteer program to provide spaces for individuals in recovery to practice community building and gain opportunities to personally network with local agencies.

Strategy:

- a. Meet with all local organizations that could potentially partner and develop a list of those accepting volunteers by September 2025.
- b. Provide an interest form for individuals to help gauge what organization they would like to volunteer and facilitate a connection.

3. Decrease stigma surrounding substance use/recovery across Massac County.

Goal 1: Complete three community education/training presentations on substance use and/or recovery by January 2026.

Strategy:

- a. Attend CADCA’s National Training Institutes as well as local trainings such as SIDAC, and SIRN conferences to engage in training concerning coalition building and substance use prevention and recovery to be up to date on all of the most current strategies and information available.
- b. Target specific audiences to boost lacking ROSC sectors, like the faith community.
- c. Narcan training at local civic groups, churches, and businesses.
- d. Hold an open forum community education on substance use and the effects it has on children (Drug Endangered Children).

Goal 2: Host sober social activities open to the entire community.

Strategy:

- a. Engage with local agencies to collaborate for these events
- b. Provide anti-stigma resources and information at these events.
- c. Get PLE’s with the desire to share their story in different capacities to be involved and participate in these events.

Goal 3: Initiate Oxford House in Massac County by January 2026.

Strategy:

- a. Continue to foster connection and relationship with Oxford House IL Outreach Coordinator and relevant community stakeholders.
- b. Include discussions concerning Oxford House in meetings when

applicable.

- c. Continue to seek new ROSC Council members that may be interested in investing in property to partner with Oxford House Inc.
- d. Get buy-in and support from the general community by continuing to advocate for the need and potential of transitional sober housing through education.