

Douglas County ROSC Council Meeting Notes

Date: March 26, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Location: Virtual via Zoom and In-Person at the Douglas County Annex, 209 East Van Allen, Tuscola, IL

1. Welcome and Introductions

Douglas County ROSC Council Meeting Attendees:

Jaya Kolisetty- Executive Director CU-RACES, **Summer Phillips, Casey, Nancy Finisee** – Douglas County Health Department, **Lisa Edwards**-County Coroner **Janson Pantier**- Douglas County Probation, **Michelle Hibbard** -Rosecrance Behavioral Health, **Brody Good**- Douglas County Probation, **Tiffany Ellison**- Hour House Base Program, **Dani Prince**-Hour House Base Program, **Kandis Mills** - Douglas County ROSC Navigator, **Stefanie**-Community Member, **Rob Wentz** – Firefighter/Community Member/PLE Guru, **Camille Gordon** – HOPE of East Central IL Representative, **Tia Schum** – Piatt County ROSC Coordinator, **Nick Spidle**-Hour House Base Program, **Kristin Davis** Family Guidance Center

2. Review and Approval of November Meeting Minutes

- February meeting minutes were reviewed and approved without objections.
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3. Organizational Spotlight / Guest Presentation

Presenter: Jaya Kolisetty, Executive Director at CU-RACES

Topic: Outreach programs

- Key highlights:
 - Jaya shared the mission of the organization: At Rape Advocacy, Counseling, & Education Services (R.A.C.E.S.), we believe in empowering survivors, educating communities, and advocating for a world free from sexual violence.
 - RACES has been providing free confidential services for over 50 years. Their service area includes Douglas County. Serving persons as young as 3 years old and at age 17 years old the person is considered an adult not needing a guardian's permission for services. The services provided include prevention/education and response. At RACES they are a team of 20 full time and five part time staff right now.
 - Have a crisis and advocacy hotline open 24/7. The number is 217-348-4444.
 - Staff are available (24/7) to be advocates for those who are in the ER and do provide them with support, advocacy and new clothing. RACES will also provide follow up care support to anyone who has been in the ER. Staff from CU RACES can also help support the person who is supporting their loved one who is in the ER. The closest hospital to Douglas County that offers evidence collection is Carle Hospital.

- Staff at RACES help people navigate the legal system including order of protection information and this includes issues related to stalking. They are also able to connect people with any additional legal services needed.
 - Please contact RACES if your school, business, or organization would like more information or would like to provide education/services to those you serve. They are happy to help and partner with anyone in Douglas County!
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4. Deliverables

Strategic Plan-Emailed out to council members

- This is the council's living document so please feel free to ask questions about it or reference it.
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5. Transitional Housing Updates (PJ's Place)

- Next meeting will be on April 11th at 9 am in person at 209 E Van Allen in Tuscola and zoom.
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6. Faith-Based Recovery Initiative

- Tools are given to congregations for free so they can better assist those with mental health and substance use challenges.
 - ROSC can help congregations who would like to become certified.
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7. STYLE Group (Strength Through Your Lived Experience)

- Rob Wentz said he is still looking for others who would like to get together for support, encouragement, and to help plan community activities. People may be or have been impacted by different lived experiences so please feel free to come to this group and learn more. Next meeting is on April 15th 6pm in person at 209 E Van Allen in Tuscola. Please help spread the word about this group.
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8. Navigator Updates

- Updates for March:
 - Community in person groups are happening twice a week in the month of April. We are looking for people who would like to attend. Please let others know about these free groups. We have fun activities such as adult recovery coloring books and junk journaling planned. **Wednesdays at Home Town Grounds in Tuscola from 11:30-12:30.**

- A second community group will be held in **Arthur at the Public Library every Wednesday from 6 to 7 pm during the month of April.**
 - Ongoing jail visits going really well. Recovery books are now available to those in the jail. Books were well received.
 - Assisting with community outreach.
 - Thanks to a partnership with Parkland College GED classes have started in the Jail. There are five who are signed up for this program. Parkland has provided all necessary supplies for the students.
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9. Upcoming Douglas County ROSC Events

- **Open Gym with ROSC** at Villa Grove Community Recreation Center-**April 27th** from 1-3pm. Free use of the gym to play basketball, pickleball, door prize, recovery resources.
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10. Next Meeting Details

- **Date:** May 28th, 2025
- **Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- **Location:** Virtual and In-Person at the Douglas County Annex.
- **Guest Speaker:** Scott DeWeese from The Pavilion Behavioral Health System