Coles County ROSC Council (CCRC) Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, April 7, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Location: LifeSpan Auditorium / Hybrid via Zoom

Facilitator: Lisa Blackwell, Coles County ROSC Coordinator

1. Welcome and Introductions

Lisa Blackwell welcomed attendees.
Introductions were conducted.

Attendees:

In-Person Attendees:

- Carrie McKenzie Gateway Foundation (Springfield)
- Nick Spidel Recovery Navigator, BASE Program (Douglas County)
- Leanna Morgan Program Coordinator, BASE Program
- Lisa Blackwell Coles County ROSC Coordinator
- Jasmine Gast Coles County ROSC Recovery Navigator
- Whitley Grayson Cumberland County Drug Court Recovery Navigator
- Gary Stephan Wingmen Ministries
- Scott DeWeese -Pavilion Hospital Champaign

Zoom Attendees:

- Brandy Schlanser Coles County Recovery Navigator CORS Program
- Dani Prince Prevention Specialist/Interventionist, BASE Program
- Heather Meyers Outreach Coordinator, Salvation Army veterans Services
- Carlee Parks Independent Living Transition Advocate, SAIL
- Tyler Warner Recovery Navigator, BASE Program (Coles County)
- Kenneth Bell Region 1 Technical Assistant, Cook County
- Brenda Ingle SAIL TC Coordinator (retiring May 22)
- David Cottrell Deflection Specialist, TASC (DART Office, Champaign)
- Samantha Hicks Effingham County ROSC Coordinator
- Kristin Davis Family Guidance Centers (RSUPI)
- Skylar Miller Moultrie/Shelby County ROSC Coordinator (Community Member)
- Jenna Hays ROSC Supervisor, Hour House
- Michelle Hibbard- Rosecrance

2. Guest Speaker – BASE Program

Dani Prince from the BASE Program presented an overview of services provided by them. BASE stands for Build, Amplify, Support, and Empower. Base is an Hour House program focuses on youth ages 14–19 in Coles and Douglas Counties. It is funded by IDHS SUPR, the Opioid Remediation Trust Fund, and the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (CRTA). BASE provides a 12-session evidence-based curriculum on substance use prevention. The curriculum teaches coping skills, communication, decision-making, and peer support. Sessions include group activities, role-playing, and opportunities to practice skills. A Teen Resource Guide is available with local support services. The program is data-driven and informed by Youth Survey results and identified community needs. BASE is also connected with the Teen Intervene and Handle with Care programs.

Tyler Warner - Teen Intervene Program:

Teen Intervene is an evidence-based early intervention program for teens showing early signs of substance use. It involves one-on-one sessions between the teen and a recovery navigator. The program provides a safe space to talk about substance use, understand risks, and explore healthier choices. The goal is to empower teens to make informed decisions and prevent long-term consequences through early support.

Nick Spidel - Handle with Care:

Handle with Care is a three-part trauma-informed protocol for schools. First responders notify the school when a student experiences a traumatic event (only name, age, and "handle with care" notice—no details). School staff are alerted on a need-to-know basis to observe and support the student. If needed, schools can refer the student to on-site or local mental health services to ensure continued care and reduce barriers to support.

The BASE team also shared that youth resource bags are available, currently being updated, and encouraged outreach.

BASE Program Contact Information Program Coordinator:

Leanna Morgan – leannam@hourhouserecovery.org | 217-208-8984

Prevention/Intervention Specialists:

Dani Prince (Coles County) – daniellep@hourhouserecovery.com | 217-218-9274 TBD (Douglas County) – 217-218-9514

Recovery Navigator/Intervention Specialists:

Tyler Warner (Coles County) – tylerw@hourhouserecovery.org | 217-218-9382 Nick Spidle (Douglas County) – nicks@hourhouserecovery.org | 217-218-9972

10. Drug Court Updates – Whitley Grayson-Polzin

Whitley shared that there will be a Drug Court graduation in May, with four individuals expected to graduate. While the exact date is not yet confirmed, graduations are typically held on the last Thursday of the month. Additionally, the court recently wrapped up a sexual assault awareness project over the weekend.

3. Navigator Updates - Jasmine Gast

Jasmine shared updates on recovery literature donations to the Coles County Jail, ongoing education groups at Jail, Charleston and Mattoon libraries, and collaborative planning with local organizations for summer engagement. April's education theme is Alcohol Awareness Month.

4. ROSC Community Events & Announcements

- Recovery Strikes Pizza & Bowling: April 25 at EIU from 4–8 PM. Free community and student event.
- Community Laundry Day: April 24 from 9 AM-1 PM at Easy Wash Laundry, Division Street.

5. Anti-Stigma Campaign

The campaign for April focuses on 'Supporting Families in Recovery'. Anonymous testimonials are included in the newsletter and on Facebook. Members are encouraged to share to reduce stigma around SUD.

6. Strategic Planning Highlights

Key priorities discussed:

- Increase community stakeholder engagement and meeting attendance.
- Build a volunteer transportation list.
- Improve public awareness of Narcan and harm reduction resources.
- Plan a Second Chance Employment Resource Fair (likely in the Fall).
- Develop and share a list of CRSS/CRPS providers and navigators.
- Explore opportunities for transitional housing for women and children.
- Increase Narcan training offerings and explore youth awareness initiatives.

7. Community Engagement & Feedback

Participants discussed barriers to engagement and how to involve more community members. Ideas included social media outreach, landlord engagement for housing access, involving veteran and transportation services, and identifying more PLEs for future speakers.

8. Open Discussion & Announcements

Lisa requested suggestions for future speakers, especially persons with lived experience (PLEs). The idea for a Recovery Grub Fest in June was mentioned, with resource tables and food trucks. Suggestions were made to avoid planning events in the winter due to unpredictable weather

9. Closing & Next Steps

The next CCRC meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Location: LifeSpan Auditorium / Hybrid via Zoom

✓ Action Tasks & Follow-Ups:

1. Add BASE Team Contact Info to Meeting Notes

 Lisa to distribute contact information for Dani, Tyler, Nick, and Leanna via email.

2. Promote Anti-Stigma Campaign

- Share April's "Supporting Families in Recovery" materials on social media.
- o Encourage others to reshare the testimonials already posted on Facebook.

3. Plan and Promote Upcoming Events

- Laundry Day (April 24): Distribute flyers, seek donations (quarters, soap, dryer sheets).
- Recovery Strikes Bowling Event (April 25): Finalize pizza sponsor, distribute invites.
- Recovery Grub Fest (June): Start outreach to food trucks and organizations to table. Find contact for Lytle pool to book event.
- Second Chance Employment Fair (Fall): Begin list of potential employers and partners.

4. Member Outreach to Expand ROSC Membership

- Recruit landlords, transportation services, faith-based leaders, PLEs, and youth organizations.
- Explore Uber Health opportunities in rural areas.
- Consider inviting veteran organizations, Dial-a-Ride, and taxi services to join meetings.

5. Expand/Create/Update Local Resource Lists in next 10 months

- o Harm reduction (Narcan) locations
- CRSS/CRPS navigators and services

- Second chance employers
- o Volunteer transportation contacts

6. Schedule and Promote Narcan Trainings in next 6 months

 Jasmine and Lisa to plan trainings and possibly record a sharable educational video.

7. Invite a PLE to Speak at Next Meeting

 Members to recommend individuals with lived experience to share their stories.

8. Follow Up on Transitional Housing Leads

 Lisa to reach out to Will Yoder and Project 61 regarding housing opportunities for women and children.

Contact Information:

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