

Subject: Meeting Minutes – Breaking Barriers Collectively Kickoff (August 15, 2025)

Dear Team,

Breaking Barriers Collectively held its kickoff meeting on **Friday, August 15, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** We were honored to have 25 participants **join us in person and 23 participants via Zoom.**

The meeting opened with **Ms. LaShaun, Founder**, who shared the history of Brighter Behavior Choices and their connected components. Following this, participants—both in-house and online—introduced themselves, their agencies, and the services they provide.

We were honored to have our TA Kenneth Bell present. Many of our stakeholders were present as well: Marquette Bank, Bethel Family Community Church, Mike Linck (Blue Cross Blue Shield), Ms. Walonza Lee Director from Westside Opioid Task Force just to name a few.

Members were also invited to complete surveys designed to gather feedback on the community's needs.

Next, Ms. LaShaun introduced our **new ROSC Coordinator, Ms. Kimberly Haywood**, who provided an overview of the purpose and role of ROSC council. She then welcomed our keynote speaker, **Ms. Toylanda Gardner**, a person with lived experience, who shared valuable insights on harm reduction and the importance of ROSC councils within communities.

During the session, attendees enjoyed a **brunch prepared by fellow ROSC members**. The gathering concluded with **prayer, fellowship, and continued engagement**, reflecting our commitment to community building. Some individuals even received information on free Grief Counseling

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this kickoff a success. We look forward to continuing collaboration and impact together.