

MERC Meeting Summary

Aug 21st, 2025

Attendees:

Angella Holloway CH/St Clair County ROSC

Alex Schnieder HSHS

Antoinette Sprivey-Gateway Foundation SOR

Asley Ramos- Gateway Foundation

Beverly Holland -CH- Statewide ROSC TA

Charlie Pracket-Gateway Foundation SOR

Cora Hughs- Community Pastor

Conswala Jones- CH- ST Clair County ROSC

Dan Hutchison- CH-Community Director of ROSC/DOPP/OEND

Deb Beckman-CH-Statewide ROSC TA

Dusty Hammer-CH-OEND team

Dustin Pearcy-Oxford House inc.

Jen Nagel-Fischer- Executive Director Porchlight Collective

Kathy Kehrer-CH

Michelle Wasser- Gateway Foundation- SOR

Mike Luther- CH- OEND/DOPP

Morgan Lancaster- CH

Patrick Small- HSHS- Highland /Greeneville

Stehanie Everhart- CH

Teresa Cornelius- HSHS Highland/Greenville

Tisha Lancaster- DCFS

TI White- Community

Business

What is a ROSC

We will be including how our strategic plan will be guiding us next year Looking into new opportunities where we can have conversations on Stigma Please bring your thinking caps if you have ideas about opportunities in our area

8/21/25 Meeting Summary.

Meeting was opened with introduction for new and reoccurring members. Members presented with what a ROSC is: a Recovery Oriented Systems of Care is a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person centered and builds on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to experience recovery and improved health, wellness and quality of life for those with or at risk of substance use and/or co-occurring conditions.

The central focus of the ROSC is to:

- Reduce Stigma
- Promote Medication Assistance Recovery
- Promote harm reduction
- Ensure effective service delivery
- Prioritize equity

Members discusse sub-committee groups for accomplishing goals set. Next meeting we will further discuss and set up sub-committees for discussed projects

Group did not discuss upcoming survey for the community.

Group discussed other ways to get information out to the community, via round table discussions and holding events at public places.

Group also discussed how better to connect community and members to events and organizations moving forward via social media and various websites.

Discussed Facebook page for multi-county ROSC members to share and gather information. Partnership for a Drug Free Community is a multiple county coalition that can share these events across the board.

Group was informed of new Community Connect website through HSHS. They will do all the leg for clients to get connected with other organizations, via Alex Scheider. If you're interested in connecting your organization with HSHS Community Connect please reach out - Alex.schneider@hshs.org

Announcements and upcoming events

September is Recovery Month so look for more emails from MERC promoting community events in our area.....

Don't forget sept 20^{th} , 1-6pm- Bethalto Park. Amare's Rocking4recovery free music and family friendly.

At the Edwardsville Library there are monthly Stigma conversations along with Narcan demonstrations which will continue to be held on September 19th at 6pm, check the library Facebook page schedule. A link to the Facebook page can be found on their website: Home | Edwardsville Public Library

MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting Thursday, Sept 18th 2025 at 9am

Metro East Recovery Council (MERC) Vision:

A community system that nurtures and supports individuals and families seeking or maintaining recovery for themselves or a loved one.

Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) Mission:

Collaborating to build and empower communities of recovery.