

Date: Monday, August 5, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Location: LifeSpan Center Auditorium & Zoom

Facilitator: Lisa Blackwell, Coles County ROSC Coordinator

1. Welcome & Introductions

Lisa welcomed attendees and asked everyone to introduce themselves

Name	Organization
Lisa Blackwell	Coles County ROSC Coordinator
Kaylee H	Person with Lived Experience
Jenna A	Person with Lived Experience
Jasmine Gast	Recovery Navigator, Coles County
Stephanie Burton	Dial-A-Ride Transportation
Leanna Morgan	BASE Program Coordinator
Whitley Grayson	Recovery Navigator, Drug Court
David Cottrell	Deflection Specialist, TASC (Champaign)
Megan Edmondson	Prevention First – Director of Programs
Brandon Curry Varner	DART Supervisor, TASC
Tammy Clancy	Our House – Adult Services Coordinator
Carlee Parks	SAIL – Center for Independent Living
Carrie McKinzie	Gateway Foundation
Scott DeWeese	The Pavilion Hospital
Kristen Davis	Family Guidance Centers
Heather Meyers	Salvation Army – Veteran Services
Christine P.	Our House – Outreach / Grant Coordinator
Gary Stephen	Wingman Ministries

2. Spotlight Speaker – Kaylee Hensley (Person with Lived Experience)

Kaylee courageously shared her recovery story, marking 13 months sober. She detailed her past substance use, time in jail, and how treatment and drug court changed her life. Now enrolled in school, employed, and rebuilding family ties, Kaylee serves as an inspiring example of recovery success.

3. Approval of July Minutes

The July meeting minutes were approved by motion and second.

4. Program Updates – Jasmine Gast, Recovery Navigator

- **Resignation Announcement:** Jasmine will leave her role on August 15 to attend nursing school.
- **Hope Shelter:** Received updated resource packets.
- **Jail Outreach:** Still paused due to renovations. AA/NA books distributed.
- **Laundry Day (July):** Served 13 families (37 people) with help from Salvation Army.

5. Overdose Awareness Month (August)

- **Candlelight Vigil:** Friday, August 30, 7–8 PM at Kiwanis Park, Charleston
 - Attendees encouraged to bring photos of loved ones lost to overdose
 - Seeking volunteers and speakers
 - Light snacks will be provided
 - Flyers and newsletter will be distributed

6. Recovery Month (September) – Planning

- **Paint the Town & Light the Town Purple:**
 - Encourage purple lights, window art, porch lights
 - Supplies may be available for community members
- **Narcan Training:** Will be hosted at Lake Land College (date TBD)
- **Creative Ideas:** Recovery-themed drinks, tattoo flash sheets, social media campaigns
- **Volunteers Needed** for events and outreach

7. Outreach Projects & Partnerships

- **Homeless Awareness Bags (November):**
 - Items needed: socks, hats, hygiene kits, hand warmers, Narcan
 - Donations being sought from local partners (e.g., Salvation Army, Sarah Bush)
 - Christine P. and other community members volunteered to help
- **Women's Hygiene Bags:**
 - In collaboration with Maggie for justice-involved/recovering women



- Possible Partnership with WIN Recovery (Champaign) being explored
-

8. Strategic Planning and Deliverables Update

- **Community Survey Launching soon**
 - **Transportation Volunteer List:**
 - Working on a local list for rides to treatment, recovery meetings, or upon jail release
 - Dial-A-Ride may expand hours in the future
 - More volunteers needed
-

9. Spotlight Council Member

Brandon Curry Varner

- Overview of TASK and DART services:
 - Recovery navigation, treatment referrals, rides to rehab
 - Focus on reducing incarceration through early deflection
 - Services are free and funded by the Illinois cannabis tax
 - Support available 24/7 for enrolled clients
 - Featured Contact
 - Brandon Curry Varner
 - Contact Deflection Specialist Supervisor – DART (TASC)
 217-502-1776
 bcurryvarner@tasc.org
 - Will return as **September's Spotlight Organizational Speaker**
-

10. Announcements

- Contact Lisa if DOPP drop box sites need refilled
- Flyers and Facebook events for upcoming campaigns will go live soon
- Council encouraged to participate in all outreach efforts