

Kates Community Initiatives ROSC Council

Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, September 19, 2025

Location: Virtual (ZOOM)

Time: 1:00 PM

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Erica Bledsoe (KCI) at 1:00PM.

2. Attendees

- Kimberly Haywood (BBC)
 - Cherone Mayes (KCI)
 - DeShara Shells (Far Southside ROSC Initiative)
 - Ron Bratcher (KCI)
 - Jahari Stamps (S.H.A.R.P.)
 - DeShunn Bray (KCI)
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3. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes-Ron Bratcher (KCI)
 - Second-Cherone Mayes (KCI)
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4. Old Business

a. Health and Wellness in Recovery Training

- **Date:** Wednesday, August 27, 2025
- **Format:** Zoom
- **Presenter:** Ronald Bratcher (Certified Health Professional and PLE)
- **Note:** Zoom link was provided via email.

Ron Bratcher delivered an insightful presentation on **health and wellness in recovery**, emphasizing the importance of addressing the whole person—mind, body, and spirit—throughout the recovery journey. He highlighted practical strategies for maintaining physical health, managing stress, and building supportive routines that promote long-term recovery. The session was highly informative, offering valuable tools and perspectives that can be applied both personally and professionally in supporting recovery efforts. Ron's engaging and relatable approach made the content accessible and impactful for all participants.

b. 6th Annual Recovery Conference

- **Hosted by:** United Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Coalition
- **Date:** Friday, September 12, 2025
- **Time:** 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM
- **Location:** Hilton Oak Lawn, 9333 South Cicero Ave.
- **Note:** Flyers was distributed to all attendees and placed on all social media platforms.

The **United Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Coalition's 6th Annual Recovery Conference** was an informative and inspiring event that brought together professionals, advocates, and individuals in recovery to share knowledge, resources, and lived experiences. The conference featured engaging presentations, workshops, and networking opportunities focused on advancing recovery support and community collaboration. A highlight of the event was the presentation of the **Recovery Champion of the Year Award to Leonard Noble**, in recognition of his outstanding dedication and contributions to the recovery community.

5. New Business

a. Mental Health and Recovery in the HIV/LGBTQIA+ Marginalized Population

- **Date:** Wednesday, September 24, 2025
- **Format:** Zoom
- **Presenter:** Jahari Stamps (S.H.A.R.P.)
- **Note:** Zoom link and additional information will be sent via email before the end of the meeting.

b. Strength in Unity: Embracing Recovery Together

- **Date:** Saturday, September 27, 2025
- **Time:** 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- **Location:** Dan Ryan Woods Forest Preserves, 83rd & Western, Grove 3
- **Hosted by:**
 - Far Southside ROSC (TEECH)
 - Breaking Barriers Collectively ROSC (BBC)
 - Kates Community Initiatives ROSC (Kates Training Academy)
 - Alliance Care 360
- **Description:** A family-oriented event to celebrate the strength and resilience of those on their journey in recovery.
 - Featuring inspirational speakers, games, food, raffles, resource booths, and more.
- **Note:** Flyer was sent via email to all invited and asked to spread the word.

c. Community Engagement in Ashburn and Burbank

- Finding ways to break the stigma of recovery in the communities using multiple pathways
- Scheduled community engagement on Tuesday September 23rd to engage in the Burbank community.
- Engagement with the Oxford House (Men and Women) in Burbank. Resource was provided by DeShara Shells (Far Southside ROSC Initiative)

6. Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned by Erica Bledsoe (KCI) at 1:45 PM.