



## MERC Meeting Summary

Sept 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### Attendees:

- Alex Schneider -HSHS
- Angella Holoway -CHS /SCC ROSC
- Ashley Ramos- Gateway Foundation
- Beverly Holland -CHS/Statewide ROSC
- Conswala Jones – CHS/SCC ROSC
- Cora Hughs -Community /Faith
- Daniel Hutchison- CHS Director of Community Health
- Deb Beckman- CHS statewide ROSC
- Dustin Percy- Oxford House
- Johanna Gonzalez- DBHR
- Jason Farley-NAMI
- Jen Nagel Fischer-Porch Light Collective SAP
- Jennifer Schultz- Centerstone
- Kara Wardein- CHS
- Kathy Kehrer- CHS/CCE
- Kristen Anderson- CHS-Community Outreach
- Mark Knott- CHS-MERC Madison County ROSC
- Mike Luther- CHS- OEND/DOPP
- Monique Brunious- CHS Bond/Clinton County ROSC's
- Patrick Small- HSHS
- Tawana Howard -St. Clair Cnty Health Dept
- Teresa Cornelius – HSHS
- Tisha Lancaster- DCFS
- Tracy Dones-CHS
- T.L.White- Community
- Violette Book-CHS OEND

## Business

Meeting was opened with introductions for new and reoccurring members of the council

Meeting members were able to go over upcoming events taking place this weekend and in the upcoming weeks

Jason Farley spoke on the NAMI walk Sept 20 at moody park in Fairview Hgts see flyer for more details

Mark Knott spoke on the Rockin4Recovery event on Sept 20 at Bethalto Park see flyer for more details

Also mentioned were the Unity Fest at LeClair Park in Edwardsville on Sept 27, the Metro East Pride event and the HSHS Health Fair in Oct 29 at St. Josephs Hospital more details to come on said events

The attending council was presented with the new survey questions we will be distributing shortly and asked council to start looking where we can distribute the survey to gain the valuable information needed for the community and state moving forward with services.

We discussed sub-committee groups for accomplishing goals set.

*Stigma Sub Committee-* Kathy K, Dustin P, Mike L, Jennifer S

*Awareness & Access to Behavioral Health Sub-Committee- Kara W*

*Unhoused population & Community awareness of services-* Porchlight Collective, Mike

**Here are some links and the flyers will be attached for upcoming events**

Link for pride event

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E45A8AC2DA5F4C61-58724810-metro#/>

At the Edwardsville Library there are monthly Stigma conversations along with Narcan demonstrations which will continue to be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, check the library Facebook page schedule. A link to the Facebook back can be found on their website:

[Home](#) | [Edwardsville Public Library](#)

**MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting**

**Oct 16<sup>th</sup> 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.