

EDGAR COUNTY ROSC MEETING MINUTES

October 21st, 2025

5:15 PM

Paris Hospital Conference Room D and on Zoom

Attendees: Nicki Hanks, Doug Cochran, Vicki Dick, Lisa Foster, Scott Foster, Michelle Creech, Lori Carroll, Janice Watson, Amanda Thompson, Marlyn Frey, Norm Wilson, Kyra Graham, Emilie Glass

Spotlight Agency/ Emilie Glass-Riveros Senior research Specialist/ Center for Research on women

Emilie Glass from the University of Illinois Chicago presented her research project focused on substance use disorder among pregnant and parenting individuals—a population often overlooked in terms of funding and resources. The study, funded by the Pritzker Foundation, seeks to gather insights from both service providers and individuals with lived experience to better understand their needs and improve available support systems. Emilie explained that the research will involve private interviews conducted via Zoom or telephone, with participants receiving digital gift cards as compensation for their time. The data collected will be used to inform policy changes and strengthen community resources.

During the discussion, Emilie encouraged attendees to assist in distributing flyers for the initiative and offered to send them by email. A participant in the conference room expressed interest in sharing the flyers with home visitors and the Council. Emilie also clarified that participants for the study should be individuals who experienced substance use during pregnancy or while parenting. Before concluding her presentation, she invited any additional questions from attendees.

ROSC Council Holiday Schedule

Nicki stated that with the upcoming holidays approaching, the ROSC Council meetings are scheduled for November 25th and December 23rd. The Council agreed that both dates were acceptable. It was also decided that the December Council meeting will serve as a holiday party.

Subcommittee Updates

Nicki provided updates regarding the subcommittees. She stated that some adjustments will be made to improve effectiveness and align with current goals. The Second Chance Employment

Subcommittee will transition to in-person meetings to better complete action steps, and Nicki is currently waiting on a few members to confirm meeting dates and times.

The Resource Awareness Subcommittee will be discontinued, as it no longer aligns with the Council's current objectives. Additionally, Nikki announced plans to establish a new subcommittee focused on expanding harm reduction access and education within the community. She thanked everyone for their patience and understanding as these transitions take place.

Community Outreach / Trainings

Nicki and Jessica have begun assembling resource folders containing information about local services to distribute to area churches and businesses, with the goal of providing easily accessible support for individuals in need. Council members were encouraged to email any flyers or materials they would like included in these folders.

During the discussion, members shared ideas for future trainings to be offered in Edgar County, including substance use disorder awareness and mental health education. A suggestion was made to host these trainings in a community "lunch and learn" format to encourage participation. Additionally, the group noted the continued popularity and importance of active shooter training, particularly focusing on survivability techniques.

Printed copies of the **Community Resource Guide** were made available on the table for anyone interested in obtaining one. Appreciation was expressed to everyone who contributed to the development of the guide, including those who assisted with editing and compiling the resource list. Their efforts were acknowledged as an important part of ensuring accurate and comprehensive information for the community.

Agency Updates

ECPHD

No Update

Neighborhood Watch (Scott Foster)

Scott announced that the Neighborhood Watch Facebook page is still growing

HRC

Michelle announced that the "Behind the Mask Bingo Extravaganza" will take place on Thursday, October 30th, at Sassafras Ridge, located at 11897 U.S. Highway 40 in Marshall. She shared that doors will open at 5:30 p.m., inviting attendees to come out and participate in the event.

CARE Coalition

CARE and ROSC have partnered together in recognition of **Red Ribbon Week** to provide small giveaways for each child in the participating schools. As part of the initiative, a **t-shirt design contest** is also being held at each school to encourage student creativity and engagement in

promoting a drug-free lifestyle. Each school will have **first, second, and third place winners**, and the winning students will receive a t-shirt as their prize. This partnership serves as a fun and educational way to raise awareness about substance use prevention among youth in the community.

Soup Kitchen (Vicki Dick/ Sue Sheeran)

The Soup Kitchen announced that it will be hosting a **Chicken Noodle Dinner Donation Fundraiser** on **Saturday, October 25, 2025**, from **4:00 PM to 7:00 PM** at the **Paris Church of God**, located at **602 E. Wood Street, Paris, IL**. All proceeds from the event will go toward supporting the Soup Kitchen's efforts to provide meals and assistance to those in need within the community. Attendees are encouraged to come enjoy a warm meal and make a donation to help sustain this vital local resource.

RU Recovery (Rick Cook)

No update

Celebrate Recovery (Janice Watson)

No Update

Homelessness Initiative (Nate Alexander)

Door Way to Hope will be hosting a **Community Outreach Night** on **Thursday, November 7th**, from **3:00 PM to 5:00 PM** in the parking lot of the **First Christian Church in Paris**. During the event, they will be providing **hats, gloves, health and hygiene items**, and a **light meal** to individuals in need. This outreach effort is designed to offer support and essential items to community members while fostering compassion and connection within the local area.

Birth to 5

The Shiloh Partnership in Parenting program has several upcoming events. On **Tuesday, October 28th**, there will be a **Group Connection** at **10 AM** at the Lake Charleston Play Area featuring **"Den Animals"** presented by EIU Professor **Dr. Elizabeth Peterson**. On **Wednesday, November 12th**, families are invited to **Shiloh Family Reading Night**, themed **"Reading Under the Stars,"** beginning at **5:30 PM**. The following day, **Thursday, November 13th**, the **PIP Mom's Mingle** event will focus on **"Gratitude"** and will take place at **6 PM** at the PIP Office in Newman, IL (childcare will be available). Lastly, on **Wednesday, November 19th**, there will be another **Group Connection** at **9:30 AM** at Hometown Grounds in Tuscola, IL, with the theme **"Thankful Tots."**

Next Meeting: November 25th, 2025, at Paris Hospital Conference Room A and on Zoom.