

Meeting Minutes: Initial Kane County ROSS (Recovery-Oriented System of Care) Meeting

Date: September 25, 2024

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Kane County Health Department & Virtual (via Zoom)

Facilitators: Jarrett Burton (DuPage ROSC Coordinator), Annette Villarreal (Kane County ROSC Coordinator)

Call to Order & Welcome

Facilitators Jarrett Burton and Annette Vallo welcomed attendees in person and via Zoom.

Thanks were given to the Kane County Health Department for hosting.

The meeting was framed as a time to build and come together as a community.

2. Roll Call & Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves, stating their name, organization, role, and often sharing their connection to recovery (professional, lived experience, or family/friend). A show of hands confirmed that a significant majority of the room identified with having "lived experience."

In-Person Attendees (Partial List):

- Cari Frankovich (Good Templar Park/Serenity House)
- Courtney Duran (Kane County Health Dept.)
- Sarah Mendoza (Kane County Health Dept.)
- Tony Garcia (Kane County Health Dept.)
- Rachel Mlnac (Kane County Health Dept.)
- Kim Peterson (Kane County Health Dept.)
- Michelle Meyer (Kane County Health Dept.)
- Brianna (Oxford House)
- Matilda Faria (Healthcare Alternative Systems, HCS)
- Jim Murphy (Serenity House, person in long-term recovery)
- Donna Renard (Serenity House)

- Lauren Ogle (Mercy Medical Center)
- Megan Redmond (Suicide Prevention Services)
- Adam Paulie (Community Member)
- Cheryl Crier (Urban Apothecary, person in long-term recovery)
- Sharon Cabrera (Kane County Health Dept.)
- Mark Matthews (Greater Family Health)
- Danny Sorbis (Serenity House)
- Tina Kori (Kane County Health Department)

Virtual Attendees (Partial List):

- Walter Sanders (Serenity House)
- David Morazz (Elgin Community College)
- Sarah Grenen (OMNI Services)
- Andrea Hosko Marks (Association for Individual Development - AID)
- Deb Beckman (Statewide ROSC Team)
- Donna Foil (Serenity House)
- Dr. Steve Holt (DuPage County Health Dept.)
- Joe Bastián (Live4Lali)
- Delilla Alegría (Inc. Mental Health Alliance)
- Camille Cleveland (Live4Lali)
- Danielle (Serenity House)

3. Special Guest Introductions

Sharon Cabrera – Kane County health department

Ben Rudolph: Region 2 Technical Assistant for ROSC. He introduced his role as support, outreach, and encouragement for the council and emphasized the importance of the work.

Joanna Gonzalez: ROSC Coordinator for the IL Department of Human Services (IDHS/DBHR). She expressed excitement for the new Kane County ROSC, explained her statewide oversight role, and positioned herself as a cheerleader for the councils.

4. Overview of ROSS, Lead Agency, and DuPage Successes

What is ROSC? Explained as a collaborative framework designed to "connect the dots" and coordinate care, breaking down silos in the substance use and mental health fields.

Lead Agency: Serenity House is the grant holder and lead agency for Kane County ROSC.

DuPage ROSC Examples: Jarrett shared successes from the DuPage ROSS to illustrate potential:

- Harm Reduction: Installation of Narcan boxes and a 24/7 vending machine.
- Stigma Reduction: Media campaigns featuring people in recovery on gas pumps and billboards.
- Referral Help: Creation of a rapid response -WhatsApp group for treatment access.
- Community Education: Trainings on harm reduction, de-escalation, and emerging substances.
- Sober Fun Events: Turkey Bowl flag football, roller skating, talent shows.

5. Kane County Initiatives & Partnerships

Sharon Cabrera (Kane County Health Dept.) outlined local initiatives:

- Naloxone distribution, training, and plans for vending machines in public spaces like train stations.
- Gun lock and safe distribution through the Reimagine Public Safety Act.
- Firearm Restraining Order (FRO) trainings in collaboration with FSA.
- Courtney Duran (Kane County Health Dept.) presented Behavioral Health 360, a free, self-help website with assessments, resources, and wellness topics for the community.

6. Kane County ROSS: The Path Forward

Community Needs Assessment: Annette announced an upcoming survey to gauge public opinion on recovery issues, harm reduction, and stigma. The data will guide the ROSS's future projects.

Call for a Subcommittee: Volunteers are sought to help distribute and collect the needs assessment surveys.

Sober Fun & Youth Prevention: Discussed the need for and interest in creating more sober social events, with a specific focus on engaging youth.

Meeting Schedule & Location: The council will meet monthly. Attendees were asked for feedback on the best day/time. Organizations were invited to host future meetings.

7. Open Forum & Community Input

Mark Matthews promoted upcoming sober events (Turkey Bowl, Silver Skate).

Sharon Cabrera mentioned a new initiative to survey vape shops in Kane County to understand the availability of emerging substances and offered to collaborate.

Cheryl Crie raised the issue of needing better resources and support for seniors struggling with substance use, particularly related to pain medication.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with thanks to all participants and the host.

The next meeting details will be posted on the Kane County Health Department's calendar and Facebook page.

Action Items & Key Decisions

Next Steps / Deadline

Distribute Needs Assessment -Annette Villarreal, Jarrett Burton- Finalize and launch the survey by early October. Keep it open until December.

Form Needs Assessment Subcommittee -All interested members - Contact Annette or Jarrett to volunteer for the survey distribution subcommittee.

Schedule Future Meetings- Annette Villarreal, Jarrett Burton, gather feedback from attendees on preferred meeting days/times. Solicit organizations to host.

Collaborate on Vape Shop Survey- Sharon Cabrera (KCHD), Jarrett Burton -Connect to discuss collaboration on data collection from vape shops regarding emerging substances.

Explore Senior-Specific Resources- Kane County ROSC - add to future agenda; begin gathering and cataloging resources for seniors.

Promote Sober Events- Mark Matthews, ROSC members - Share flyers for the Sober Turkey Bowl and other events through the ROSC network.