



Better Together Support Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: November 26, 2025

PRESENT: NAME & ROLE		SECTOR
Rhonda Wilson, HCA Support Chair, NAMI-SW		Community Organization
Meghan Markotay, Red Bud Regional Hospital, Director of Marketing		Health
Chris Blechle, Randolph Co. Housing Authority, Executive Director		Government
Chris Fulton, AgeSmart		Community Organization
Amy Craig, ComWell, Prevention Coordinator		Staff
Sharon Frederking, ComWell Consultant		Staff
Sandy Prange, ComWell Value-Based Care Coordinator		Staff
ITEM	DISCUSSION	TIMELINE & RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)
Welcome		
Old Business	Rhonda shared that Drug Take Back Day went well	
Review of BT Goals	The group discussed Better Together's top 5 priorities and agreed to keep them the same	
Upcoming Events	Dec. 2 nd Jingle & Mingle 4:30-6:30 pm Coulterville Community Center	Amy, Brittany & Sandy are overseeing this event
Food Pantries	<p>Tilden-Rhonda: Rhonda has been attending monthly</p> <p>Steeleville: Sandy: Sandy is now attending monthly. Edda hopes to have someone from her team back there asap.</p> <p>Westminster Sparta: Jennifer: Jennifer will attend once a month</p> <p>Chester: Rhonda: Rhonda attends the monthly mobile market & they had 148 today</p> <p>Addieville-Sharon/Priscilla Self: pending update from Sharon if they were there in November</p>	<p>Volunteers are welcome at any of the pantries</p> <p>We can share any agency's resources</p> <p>Please reach out to Sandy if you need additional resources</p>
Randolph Co. Resource Guides	2026-27 Randolph County Resource: Mariah lead & Sandy assisting. Updates gathered Dec./Jan. with a targeted distribution of Spring 2026	Each agency will be responsible for reviewing their listing & sending any updates to Sandy

<p>Homelessness</p>	<p>Rhonda advised Greg can donate hand sanitizer & chapstick for Homeless Care Kits. She thought 708 Board would be okay with using some of the remaining \$1270 on this; we will wait to see what donations come in first.</p> <p>Sandy shared that the annual homeless Point in Time (PIT) count date for SI is Jan. 27th. We will have 30 days to gather information on individuals who were homeless on that day. IL-520 PIT count does include both Randolph & Washington counties.</p> <p>Amy is looking for ways to address homelessness in WC; Rhonda suggested possible community awareness event.</p>	<p>Rhonda will request Thrivent grant to purchase homeless bags.</p> <p>Looking for volunteers to help with PIT count</p> <p>Sandy will reach out to Tina Charron</p>
<p>Law Enforcement</p>	<p>Amy provided update from DEC meeting on 11/24. Several individuals from Red Bud were present and they have a good informal Handle with Care plan that is going well. Agency names were filled into the flowchart. A new SRO will be starting for RB in January. Next targeted communities will be Steeleville & Washington Co.</p>	<p>Amy will work to set up WC community meeting.</p> <p>Rhonda will work to set up Steeleville community meeting.</p>
<p>Recovery</p>	<p>\$1270 remaining for recovery work.</p> <p>ComWell has hired a ROSC Coordinator but we do not know a start date at this time.</p>	
<p>Seniors</p>	<p>Red Bud Senior Link continues to share monthly activities for Seniors living in or near Red Bud.</p> <p>Meghan shared information on upcoming free holiday-themed Senior breakfast @ RBRH on 12/10 from 8-9:15 am</p> <p>Chris Fulton shared information on “Dementia Friendly America” program. This is a way communities can show support for individuals experiencing dementia and their caregivers. AgeSmart rep can provide training for community to become Dementia Friendly or a Dementia Champion. Include multiple sectors and identify all services & resources. See steps in next box. Website: DFamerica.org</p> <p>*include hospitals, assisted living/nursing homes, senior centers, police, banks, grocers, etc.</p>	<p>Sandy will reach out to Brett @ Steeleville & Kevin @ Sparta senior sites to share information.</p> <p>Dementia Friendly America – possible HCA quarterly event. Will revisit after first of the year: Steps: 1) identify community; 2) identify sectors to target; 3) identify services & resources; 4) complete application with letters of support; and 5) schedule training.</p> <p>Sandy will add to HCA agenda & Chris will forward BT meeting invite to April Houseman</p>

Washington County	<p>Amy & Sharon advised that the WC Pastor Appreciation breakfast on 11/10 went well. There was a smaller turnout but there were good conversations and resource sharing.</p> <p>WC Better Together is planning to host a resource table at the upcoming rivalry basketball game in January</p>	
Narcan	Susan has asked Barb to have counselors check if schools have current (non-expired) Narcan.	Sandy will follow up with Barb
Wellness	Sandy advised that Constantine has sent out a meeting invitation for the Randolph County All Health Coalition for 1/14 @ 2:30 @ RCHD	
Cultural	The Spanish version of the RC Resource Guide is at the printer and should be available soon. A digital copy is available now on ComWell's website.	
Transportation	No new information on transportation	
Randolph Co. Health Dept. Emergency Response Team	The next ERT meeting is 1/20 @ 4 @ Chester library.	RC Emergency Response Team is still seeking volunteers
Other Updates	<p>Dennis has resigned with his last day being 1/2/2026 – he would like to continue to attend HCA Exec meetings</p> <p>Susan has resigned with her last day being 12/12/2025</p> <p>Amy advised upcoming new year is both scary & exciting.</p> <p>Rhonda is working with Christopher Hines from the IL Coalition for Community Services who is looking for connections in Steeleville.</p> <p>Jason Farley is the interim director for NAMI-SWI NAMI has several groups available both in person & virtually</p> <p>Chris B. discussed government reopening still has SNAP confusion and work requirement goes into effect on Dec. 1st. Food pantry need has increased in Chester. He agreed that a Dementia program would be good.</p>	

HCA Executive Committee Meeting	IN PERSON , Monday, January 5, 2026 from 8:00-9:45 @ Pistol City Restaurant in Coulterville Everyone is welcome!	
Next Combined Support & Recovery Meeting	Wednesday, 1/28 @ 3:00 via Zoom	

MISSION: Increase awareness and education to enhance physical and mental well-being through community partnerships. The principal mission is the reduction of substance use, with a primary focus on reducing youth substance use.

VISION: Create a healthy environment where our community can thrive and flourish.