

# **Ford County ROSC Council Meeting Minutes**

***Tuesday, December 30th, 2025, at 8:30 AM (via Zoom)***

**Definition of ROSC:** A Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) is a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to experience recovery and improved health, wellness and quality of life for those with or at risk of substance use and/or co-occurring conditions. The central focus of a ROSC is to create an infrastructure, or “systems of care”, with the resources to effectively address the full range of substance use and/or co-occurring disorders within communities.

**Our Mission:** Bring the community together to build a recovery support system to improve health, wellness and quality of life, through education, stigma reduction, and access to resources.

## **Attendance:**

1. Frankie Ward (Chestnut Health Systems, Recovery Specialist)
2. Kari Knapp (Chestnut Health Systems - Associate of Community Health)
3. Barbara Brumleve (Ford County ROSC - McLean County ROSC, Chestnut)
4. Dave King (Carle Addiction Recovery Center – Community Outreach)
5. Megan Ramirez (GAH -Consortium Coordinator – Grants Administration)
6. Kami Garrison (Chestnut Health Systems, Statewide ROSC Region 3)
7. Tim Nuss (Ford County Board)
8. Betty Kay Benningfield (Ford County Public Health Department)
9. Lynn Matthews (CRCC)
10. Brycen McFadden (Oxford House)
11. Melissa Watson (Birth to Five)

## **Agenda:**

- **Welcome & Introductions**
- **ROSC Spotlight: Megan Ramirez – GAH, Consortium Coordinator, Grants Administration**
- **Community Survey Results**
- **FY26 Strategic Plan**
- **Agency Updates**

Barb Brumleve welcomed everyone to the December Ford ROSC Council meeting asking everyone to introduce themselves. Frankie Ward then started the meeting by introducing our ROSC Spotlight, Megan Ramirez. Megan is the Consortium Coordinator at Gibson Area Hospital.

### **Introducing the Medication Assisted Recovery Mobile Unit:**

- Provide services for individuals seeking treatment and/or abatement options
- Streamlining supportive services
- During Year 1 no medications will be dispensed or carried on the unit
- Two secured locations (scheduling alternative weeks):
  - Livingston County
  - Iroquois County
  - Additional 1-2 more by end of year 1
- Mobile Unit will be officially announced in January – Please spread the word!

### **FY26 Community Survey Update:**

- 168 responses that explored stigma, service access and awareness. The results were used to guide strategic planning. The community told us that stigma around substance use disorder remains a barrier. Many are unsure what MAR is or where to access and there were mixed perceptions of harm reduction strategies and limited awareness of where resources are available.
  - People with a mental illness deserve respect: 93.4% Agree
  - People who use drugs deserve respect: 74.4%
  - There is a stigma (negative judgement or shame) in my community about people who have a substance use disorder: 83.9%
  - Harm reduction services like Narcan® and syringe service programs reduce the risks of drug use: 44% agree with 26.7% neutral
  - It is difficult to find harm reduction services like Narcan® and syringe service programs in my community: 27.2% agree and 40.1% neutral
  - It is difficult to find health care providers who offer Medication Assisted Recovery – MAR in my community: 58.2% neutral and 29.7% agree
  - Medication Assisted Recovery – MAR is an effective treatment for substance use disorders: 57.2% agree and 36% neutral

### **FY26 Strategic Plan:**

- **3 – Year Strategic Direction**
  - **Goal 1:** By June 30, 2028, implement three distinct initiatives that increase community awareness of and access to MAR services.
  - **Goal 2:** By June 30, 2028, Ford ROSC will expand harm-reduction access by identifying, securing and sustaining at least 8 new community locations where residents can obtain Narcan®, working in partnership with local agencies and organizations.
  - **Goal 3:** By June 30, 2028, expand the Ford ROSC Reframing Recovery Campaign across Ford County by conducting at least 8 community trainings, distributing 200 Reframing Recovery Boxes, and increasing community engagement by 10% to raise awareness and understanding of substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health.
- **Year - 1 Focus**

- **Medication Assisted Recovery (MAR):** By June 2026, Ford ROSC will expand one new initiative aimed at increasing awareness of accessibility to Medication Assisted Recovery (MAR) services.
- **Harm Reduction Access:** By June 2026, Ford ROSC will increase access to and awareness of harm reduction resources across Ford County through collaborative partnerships, using three separate distribution channels to reach justice-impacted, community, and sector-specific audiences.
- **Reframing Recovery & Stigma Reduction:** By June 2026, reach at least 2 new community sectors with the Ford ROSC Reframing Recovery (RR) Campaign by distributing RR boxes and educational materials to increase awareness and decrease stigma of substance use disorder and mental health.

### **FY26 Goal #1 Medication Assisted Recovery**

#### **Progress to Date:**

- Reestablished partnership with Ford County Jail and HMA
- Held meeting to review current MAR services in jail
- Identified gaps in MAR awareness
- Began development of MAR educational materials

#### **FY26 Objectives:**

- Assemble and distribute MAR resource bags in the jail
- Provide MAR education through in-cell and tablet-based materials
- Host or promote at least one MAR-focused training
- Continue monthly coordination with Jail and HMA
- Use MAR as the first focus for the next round of Reframing Recovery boxes

### **FY26 Goal #2 Harm Reduction**

#### **Progress to Date:**

- Partnered with Public Health to expand harm reduction efforts
- Supported installation of the first public Narcan® box in Ford County
- Co-Hosted a community Narcan® training
- Distributed harm reduction kits to local businesses and agencies (Reframing Recovery Boxes)

#### **FY26 Objectives:**

- Identify and secure additional community Narcan® box locations with FCPHD
- Expand harm reduction distribution through jail and community settings
- Provide ongoing harm reduction education and outreach
- Increase awareness of where and how to access harm reduction resources

### **FY26 Goal #3 Stigma Reduction**

#### **Progress to Date:**

- Distributed 50 Reframing Recovery boxes across the community

- Launched and promoted a Reframing Recovery campaign video
- Created a virtual pledge wall to encourage community engagement
- Shared Reframing Recovery messaging through social media

**FY26 Objectives:**

- Expand Reframing Recovery into new community sectors
- Distribute additional Reframing Recovery boxes
- Align campaign messaging with MAR and harm reduction education
- Host or promote training tied to Reframing Recovery Themes
- Continue stigma-reduction messaging through media and outreach

**RESET Team Update: Next meeting Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9am via Zoom**

- Potential locations for NARCAN Boxes – please contact us with ideas!
- Reframing Recovery PR Boxes – 2<sup>nd</sup> Round focusing on EMT and faith-based sector
- Resource Bags for jail – Looking for items to fill bags (socks, journals, etc)

**Agency Updates:**

- Melissa with Birth to Five has 200 copies of Resource Guides to disperse. Lynn from CRCC asked Melissa to drop some copies off and Megan will take some for-village meetings.
- CRCC has hired 2 additional therapists, and they are expanding pretrial services and court related services.
- Megan from GAH shared that the GAH intraweb has a “message” box that can be used to promote information.
- Betty Kay from FCPHD shared that the Narcan vending machine at the laundromat is seeing usage. Betty Kay refilled 3 dozen boxes of Narcan® in one month.

## CONNECTION IS KEY!!!

We look forward to seeing you at the next ROSC council meeting, **via Zoom, Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.**

As always, please reach out if you have any questions, ideas for collaborations, etc.

## Contact

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## Social Media



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