

SI SUPRT Meeting Minutes
Hamilton/White County
November 19, 2025
12:00 via Zoom

In Attendance:

Chris Dennis, EHD
Danielle Camp, EHD
Mark Elliott, Wayne Co. Health Department
Kindra York, EHD
Adrienne Baker, TASC
Haley Smith, EHD
Kat Southard, EHD
Jerrie Baxley-Brown, EHD
Callie Buchanan, Comprehensive Connection
Tara Gordon, Hamilton County Memorial Hospital
Bev Holland, Region 5

Standing Coalition Business:

- Minutes from the October meeting were approved unanimously with a motion made by Kindra York. Kat Southard seconded the motion.

New and Standing Coalition Reports:

- Jerrie Baxley-Brown (EHD) advised the council that an event is scheduled for December 19th in Carmi. Martha's Mark will host this inaugural event, and has begun collecting food for distribution. This group was started by women and is a non-profit organization that is now accepting non-perishable food items, as well as monetary donations. A list of food items being accepted will be shared with the council. Drop off locations are as follows
 - Gray's Anatomy, Norris City
 - Southern Illinois Title, Carmi
 - Wonder Market, Norris City
 - WRUL Radio Station, Carmi
- Kindra York (EHD) updated us on the success of a recently held laundry event in McLeansboro. She reported approximately 100 loads of laundry were done, at no charge

to those in attendance. It is her hope that these events can be scheduled throughout 2026 and she and Chris Dennis plan to work on scheduling as funding is made available.

- Kindra added that Ten Mile Church, located in McLeansboro, distributes food from their location. Additionally, the WADI office does food giveaways weekly. She will share a flyer with the council. Lastly, she informed the council that Jacob's Well now has utilities.
- Chris Dennis (EHD) spoke on the subject of the council's strategic plan. He was able to highlight several areas of focus:
 - MAT misconceptions. Where do people go to seek MAT in our service areas? Fairfield Hospital (Wayne County) provides MAT, but there are no known providers in Hamilton County. This is an issue that needs to be examined. Tara Gordon (Hamilton Co. Memorial Hospital) offered to discuss this with the hospital's Clinic Director.
 - Youth Program Expansion. Haley informed the council that "We Love White County" sponsors an Arrows Program that provides after school programs, mentoring, and youth focused activities. We would like to see more youth focused programs be created in 2026.
 - Anti-Stigma Campaign. This is something we will continue to focus on yearly. It was suggested that we draw attention to the use of MAT's in our community. Social media would be a good avenue to help reduce the stigma in our service area.
 - Medical Detox. This continues to be an issue. Is this an insurance issue, financially challenged, or a staffing issue?
 - Oxford House. This, too, is an ongoing challenge and goal. Conversations will continue to be had in regards to providing an Oxford House in Saline County, but will serve surrounding counties.
 - Recovery-friendly landlords. Is this still a focus of need? With the "Clean Slate Initiative" this may change the ease of those in recovery being provided with suitable housing.
 - Jacob's Well. This new recovery home will be added to the Strategic Plan and will be utilized by many in our service county.
- Chris added that he will be updating the meeting list and it will be shared on the SI SUPRT Facebook page. Also, recovery meetings (dates and times) will be shared.

- Tara Gordon (Hamilton County Memorial Hospital) announced an upcoming Opioid Coalition meeting is scheduled for January 20th at 9:00 in the hospital board room. Chris Dennis and Kindra York (EHD) plan to be in attendance.
- Motion was made by Kindra York to adjourn this meeting, with Adrienne Baker seconding the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is set for December 17th at 11:00 via Zoom.

please note the change in time as EHD is hosting an agency Christmas party