

N8V Good Life ROSC Council – Official Meeting Minutes

N8V Good Life Indigenous Recovery Council

Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025

Time: 4:00–5:00 PM (via Zoom)

Lead Agency: Trickster Cultural Center

Funding Source: Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) / SUPR – ROSC

1. Call to Order

The N8V Good Life ROSC Council meeting was called to order by Sherrine Peyton. The meeting opened in a good way with a prayer led by Gabriel Ayala.

2. Attendance

Present:

- Gabriel Ayala – Cultural Advisor
- Sarina Kijh Golán Deyol – Indigenous Healing Practitioner
- Krupa Patel – Artist
- Joanna Quargnali-Linsley – Behavioral & Community Health / Northwest CASA
- Charlie Parker – Health Sector
- Michael Myers – Faith-Based Sector, Kingdom Ministries
- Gina Roxas – Executive Director, Trickster Cultural Center
- Sherrine Peyton – Grant Manager
- Melissa Shoemaker – Media Specialist
- Kenneth Bell – Illinois ROSC Technical Assistance Provider

3. Agenda Review and Approval

The agenda was reviewed and approved as presented. Agenda items included:

1. Opening in a Good Way
2. Introductions
3. ROSC Updates: Assessment Results and Strategic Planning
4. Indigenous Recovery Support Services and Announcements
5. Closing Prayer

4. ROSC Program Updates

Council members discussed hotline promotion and community response needs. A recent community incident was noted as an event that often increases hotline utilization, reinforcing the importance of continued outreach and visibility. Northwest CASA will bring materials to the upcoming community event.

5. Vision, Mission, and Language Decisions

The Council reviewed and affirmed its guiding statements:

- **Vision:** Living the Good Life.
- **Mission:** Supporting healing through Indigenous sharing.

Council members agreed that language should remain culturally grounded while remaining adaptive over time. Consensus was reached to use the term “**cultural sharing**” in public-facing materials rather than “**ceremony**” in order to respect intertribal differences, avoid misinterpretation, and reduce potential cultural or political harm. Internally, culturally specific language may be used when appropriate.

6. Healing Framework and Grant Alignment

The ROSC planning framework—assessment, capacity building, planning, implementation, and evaluation—was reviewed. Council members confirmed alignment with Indigenous wisdom, including mental, emotional, physical, spiritual dimensions, and the teachings of the grandfathers and grandmothers. Technical assistance confirmed that adapting language to be culturally appropriate is aligned with IDHS/SUPR expectations. It was noted that this is the State of Illinois’ first Indigenous ROSC.

7. Resource Guide and Documentation

The Indigenous Recovery Support Services Resource Guide was reviewed. The guide includes treatment services, peer recovery support, harm reduction services, housing, healthcare, legal services, community assets, and powwow listings. The guide will be updated on an ongoing basis and shared through the ROSC webpage. The long-term goal is to convert the existing Excel spreadsheet into a digital flipbook housed on the Trickster Cultural Center and CPYD Coalition websites.

8. Community Survey Results

Key findings from the community survey (N = 128) were reviewed:

- Persistent stigma toward people who use drugs
- Limited awareness of Medication-Assisted Recovery (MAR)
- Limited understanding of harm reduction strategies
- Strong interest in Indigenous cultural healing practices

It was noted that some Indigenous respondents were unsure whether MAR includes traditional medicines. Survey findings will inform strategic planning and goal development.

9. Strategic Planning and Next Steps

The Council will finalize two to three SMART goals aligned with assessment findings. An extension will be requested to allow for full Council review and input. Feedback may be submitted via email to info@tricksterculturalcenter.org and sherrinep@tricksterculturalcenter.org.

10. Announcements

Council members shared information regarding upcoming community events, cultural programming, recovery meetings, and educational opportunities scheduled between December and March.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned with a closing prayer. The next ROSC Council meeting is scheduled for **January 21, 2026**, and will be held in a hybrid format at the regularly scheduled time of **4:00 – 5:00 p.m.**, with a thirty-minute dinner break prior to the CPYD Coalition meeting at **5:30 p.m.**

These minutes are submitted in compliance with IDHS/SUPR ROSC reporting requirements and are maintained as part of the official ROSC grant record.