

Ford County ROSC Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 28th, 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. Dave King (Carle Addiction Recovery Center – Community Outreach)
4. Kami Garrison (Chestnut Health Systems, Statewide ROSC Region 3)
5. Tim Nuss (Ford County Board)
6. Betty Kay Benningfield (Ford County Public Health Department)
7. Melissa Watson (Birth to Five)
8. . John Schneider (Livingston County ROSC/RESTORE Min)
9. 11. Sandra Beecher (Gateway)
10. 13. Lynn Mathews (CRCC)
11. 14. Tia Schum (Piatt County ROSC)
12. 15. Mark Ecker (Ford County Health Department)
13. 16. LaSienna Burton (Champaign Public Health Department)
14. 17. Jennifer Harrison (Ford County Probation/Court Services)
15. 18. Lauren Erickson – (Chestnut Health Systems, Community Outreach & Training Specialist)
16. 19. Glenn Miller (Ford County Public Health Dept)
17. 20. Hannah Austman (GROW)
18. 21. Brittany Fry (Clove Alliance)
19. 22. Elizabeth West (Ford County Public Health Department)
20. 23. Melissa Johnson (Life CIL)

AGENDA:

- Welcome & Introductions
- GROW Mobile Unit- Hannah Austman
- Upcoming Community Training
- Alcohol Awareness Month
- Upcoming events/updates

RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT GROW MOBILE UNIT (HANNAH AUSTMAN, MOBILE MEDICAL UNIT COORDINATOR)

Services Provided

- Primarily focused on substance use disorder (SUD) services
- No medication on board at intake; medication services available once established as an OTP
- Additional services include:
 - Urine drug screens
 - COVID, flu, and other basic screenings
- Walk-in clinic model
 - First come, first served basis

Mobile Unit Details

- 35' specialty vehicle designed specifically for these services
- Includes:
 - 2 full exam rooms
 - Lobby/waiting area
 - Bathroom

Launch Date & Service Area

- **Start of services:** June 4, 2026
- Coverage area:
 - Vermillion County
 - Iroquois County
 - Livingston County
 - Ford County
- Initial rollout includes one day per month in Pontiac and Watseka

Resource Sharing & Outreach

- Unit will carry educational and support resources
- Community partners can share flyers/brochures for distribution
 - Contact: Hannah Austman
 - Email: Hannah_austman@gibsonhospital.org

Monthly Schedule

- **Pontiac (Dollar General):** 1st & 3rd Thursdays
- **Watsaka (Steak 'n Shake):** 2nd Tuesday
- **Hours:** 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Collaboration Opportunities

- Open to partnerships and awareness events related to the mobile unit
- For collaboration or coordination, reach out to Hannah directly
 - Hannah_austman@gibsonhospital.org

GROUP DISCUSSION – UPCOMING COMMUNITY WIDE TRAINING JUNE 16TH

- **Speaker:** Adrienne DeSutter, Ag Mental Health Specialist
 - Rural mental health speaker and consultant, Illinois farm wife, and motivational speaker
 - Founder of *Sow Hope, Grow Hope*
 - Will present on rural community health, including the connection between mental health and substance use
 - Known for being engaging and creating an inclusive, welcoming environment
- **Time:** 4:00 – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** Kruse Center, Gibson City, IL

Question #1: Who are we trying to reach/who would benefit from this training?

- Illinois Farm Bureau
- FFA – out of high school in Gibson
- Farming Community

Question #2: How do we reach them? Where or through who should we be sharing this to reach the community?

- Ford County Chronical
- Email schools to send out to parents
- Facebook community boards
- Chambana Moms' event calendar
- United Way
- Churches – put in bulletins
- Push for all council members to send out their individual contacts/email threads
- Promote the training at the Ford County Fair
- UIUC Extension
- Ford County Board Meeting

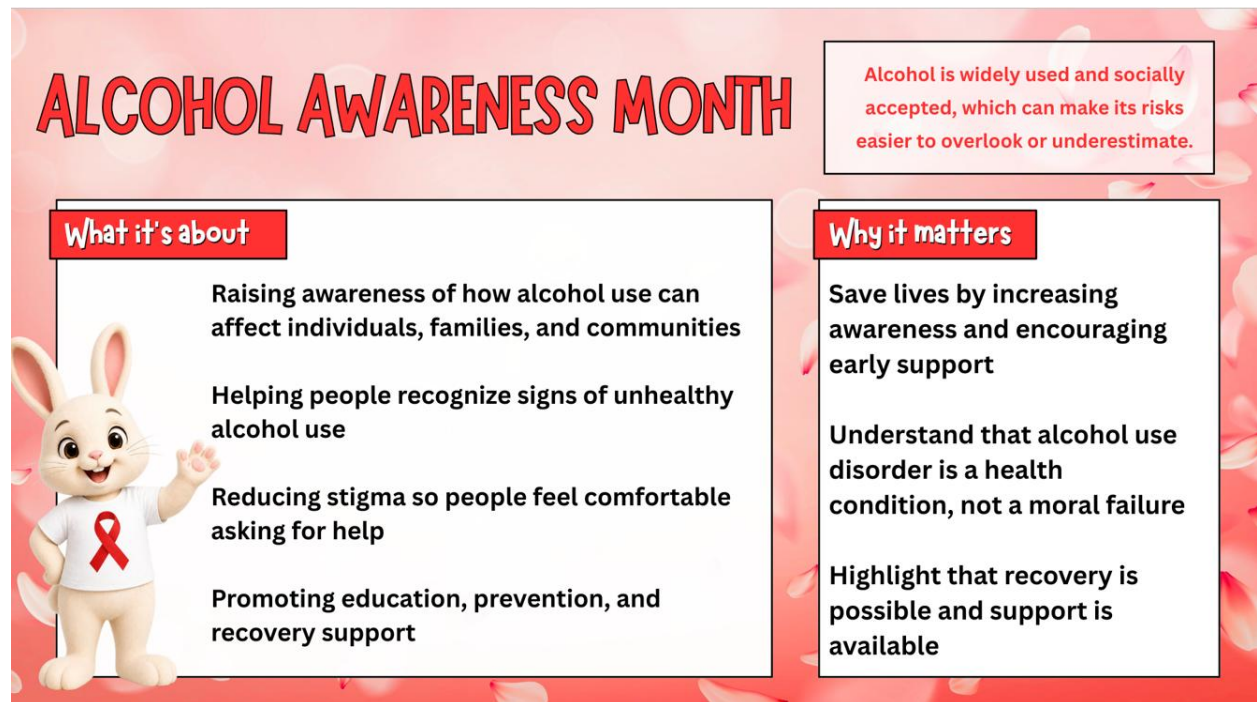
Question #3: What might stop people from coming and are there barriers we can work around?

- Transportation – reach out to Futures Unlimited

Question #4: How do we encourage people? What else could help motivate people to come?

- Currently have some raffles that have been donated
- CEU's – potentially work with Gateway for sponsorship
- Free food/refreshments – will need to work with
 - Casey's might donate water
 - Betty K. will share donation options too as she identifies

ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH:



ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

Alcohol is widely used and socially accepted, which can make its risks easier to overlook or underestimate.

What it's about

- Raising awareness of how alcohol use can affect individuals, families, and communities
- Helping people recognize signs of unhealthy alcohol use
- Reducing stigma so people feel comfortable asking for help
- Promoting education, prevention, and recovery support

Why it matters

- Save lives by increasing awareness and encouraging early support
- Understand that alcohol use disorder is a health condition, not a moral failure
- Highlight that recovery is possible and support is available

Question #1: Why might people not connect ROSC with alcohol?

- Alcohol is more socially acceptable than other substances
- Denial or lack of awareness that alcohol can be part of a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Heavy focus on opioids and medication-assisted recovery (MAR) funding
 - Alcohol can get overlooked
 - People may not associate MAR or recovery systems with alcohol use

Question #2: Are we clearly including alcohol in our messaging?

- Do people understand that alcohol is part of SUD?
- Are we being explicit that alcohol-related recovery is included in ROSC efforts?

Question #3: Strategies to bridge the gap

- Increase representation
 - Invite an AA counselor or member to participate in Ford ROSC
- Clarify messaging
 - Be more explicit that resources and supports include alcohol use disorder
- Share lived experiences
 - Highlight personal recovery stories specific to alcohol

Agency Updates

- Betty Kay (FCPHD) – received statistics from vending machine, advertisement is forthcoming!
 - 2nd week of May – naloxone and sharps containers in Kempton, Piper City, and the Gibson City Bowling Alley
 - 36 items have been taken out of vending machine, even at 2 AM!
 - Flyer for public health fair (see attachment)
- Lynn Matthews (CRCC) – May is Mental Health Awareness Month
 - 2nd annual art contest with submissions being due by 5/8
 - Encourage people to wear green in month of May & tag CRCC
 - Coloring pages for kiddos with mental health coping strategies- will go up in windows
 - Encouraging people to get screened for mental health on 5/15
 - Can go on Mental Health America website for screening
 - Can do anonymously
 - Received Orange Crush Grant
 - Support for domestic violence
- Melissa Johnson (Life CIL) – Annual Fundraiser Upcoming at Eastview Christian Church in Normal, IL – this Saturday, May 2nd
 - Event starts at 9 am with basketball game starting at 10 am
 - Tickets are \$5.00 – kids 5 and under are free
 - Raffles, prizes, and more!
- Tim Nuss (Ford County Board)
 - Extend open invite to board meeting 2nd Monday of each month at 6 PM in basement of Sheriff's building – any one is welcome to come share updates, etc.
- Melissa Watson (Birth to Five)
 - Listening Session on May 7th from 6-7:30 pm at Moyer District Library

REFRAMING RECOVERY UPDATES



REFRAMING RECOVERY

Updates & Reminders

Reframing Recovery Boxes:

- Faith-based groups
- Box assembly mid-May
- Deliveries late May into June

Pop-up Frame

- Need to identify potential locations

Campaign Materials

- Monthly mail blasts
- Weekly social media content

SOBER SIPS OASIS

Invited back for Summer Bash 2026

Substance-free space with drinks, lounge area, and yard games

Would need to be done through partnership



ALL AWARENESS DAY – SAVE THE DATE!

ALL AWARENESS DAY

Updates

When: Saturday, July 18th

Time: 12-3 PM

Location: North Park, Gibson City IL

Registration: Will send out w/meeting minutes



RESET TEAM NEXT MEETING/FORD ROSC NEXT MEETING/CONTACT INFO

UPDATES

RESET Team

Next Meeting:

- Friday May 1st - 9AM via Zoom

Focus:

- Recovery Month
- Reframing Recovery Campaign
- Community Training



Ford ROSC

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday May 26th - 8:30AM via Zoom

Contact Info

Frankie Ward, Community Health Specialist for Recovery Supports
fward@chestnut.org

Kari Knapp, Associate Director of Community Health
kknapp@chestnut.org

Barb Brumleve, Community Health Specialist
bdbrumleve@chestnut.org

Ford County ROSC Team
FordCoutyROSC@gmail.com

 [Ford County ROSC](#)

 [Ford-County-Recovery-a-ROSC-Community](#)

 [Ford County ROSC - YouTube](#)

CONNECTION IS KEY!

We look forward to seeing you at the next ROSC council meeting, via Zoom, on Tuesday, May 26th at 8:30am - Wear green for mental health awareness month in May!!!