



HLM RECOVERY 180

Meeting Title: Grundy County ROSC Council Meeting

Date: March 24, 2026

Location: Virtual

Facilitator: Neesha Stringfellow

Attendees In-Person: Danielle Heffernan (Serenity House); Diana Belicke (Rosecrance Behavioral Health); Ben Rudolph (ROSC Region 2 technical assist.); Ginni Demko (Chestnut Health Systems); Crystal Torres (NAMI Will-Grundy); Sarah Gonsch (Guardian Angel Sexual Assault Department); Cristyna Ramirez (ECS Therapy); Gabriel Garcia; Isaac Robinson; Janet Khovaja (Arukah Institute of Healing); Julie Turpen (Arukah Institute of Healing); Morgan Kremer; Natalie DiRienzo (Guardian Angel Sexual Assault Department); Shawn Marconi (Will-Grundy Medical Center); Yolanda Livingston; Danielle Bonds; Neesha Stringfellow (HLM); Tarcia Leak (HLM); Magdalena Campos (HLM); Celeste Fonseca (HLM)

Status Report on items pending from last meeting: N/A

Who	Task	Status

12:30pm - 1:30pm

Welcome & Presentation by Sarah Gonsch, BS
Sexual Assault Advocate
Guardian Angel Community Services

Overview/Notes:

- The HLM Recovery Grundy County Council Meeting focused on the Tri County ROSC's efforts to link people to services, with a particular emphasis on mental health and substance use disorder challenges. Gabriel Garcia highlighted behavioral health services, including telehealth and bilingual counseling. Danielle Heffernan discussed the

Community Outreach and Recovery Support (CORS) grant, covering eight counties. Ginni Demko-Chestnut announced upcoming events like National Drug Take Back and Hope Fest. Sarah Gonsch detailed Guardian Angel's programs, including sexual assault counseling and advocacy, and the importance of the 40-hour sexual assault training. The meeting concluded with a Q&A session.

- **Welcome and Introduction:** Neesha Stringfellow welcomes attendees to the R.O.S.C. Council Meeting, emphasizing the role of the Tri County R.O.S.C. in linking people to services. Magdalena Campos opens the meeting with a prayer, asking for unity and collaboration. Neesha asks new attendees to introduce themselves and share their organizations. Janet Khouaja and Julie Turpen from Aruka Institute of Healing introduce themselves.
- **Updates from Will Grundy Medical Center:** Magdalena shares an update from Shawn Marconi, Director of Will Grundy Medical Center, about the challenges faced due to the closing of the behavioral health unit. Gabriel Garcia, LCSW, introduces himself and explains the behavioral health services available, including telehealth and bilingual counseling. Also, mentions the challenges of transportation and the availability of telehealth as a feasible option.
- **Introduction of Community Outreach and Recovery Support (CORS):** Danielle Heffernan explains the role of CORS in providing direct peer services, including support groups and employment coaching. Mentions the counties covered by CORS and the upcoming collaboration with Crossroads Counseling. Neesha emphasizes the importance of peer support and encourages attendees to reach out to Danielle for more information.
- **Updates from Health Systems with Chestnut:** Ginni Demko from Chestnut discusses the upcoming National Drug Take Back event and the distribution of Narcan. She mentions the involvement of the Channahon Police Department and the efforts to reach out to veterinarian clinics and talks about the National Prevention Week and the planning for Hope Fest, a new event scheduled for the end of July.
- **Updates from Rosecrance Behavioral Health:** Diana Belicke announces a professional workshop on suicide prevention, scheduled for April 2. The workshop will cover questions, persuade, and refer suicide prevention, and will be presented by Tracy Mazarana and Liz Minor. She provides details about the workshop schedule and registration process.
- **Introduction of Sarah Gonsch and Guardian Angel Community Services:** Celeste Fonseca introduces Sarah Gonsch, highlighting her background in criminal justice and social work. Sarah provides an overview of Guardian Angel's six programs, including groundwork, domestic violence, foster care, and partner abuse intervention. She explains the role of the sexual assault service center and the importance of believing survivors.
- **Roles and Services of Guardian Angel:** Sarah details the roles of counselors, advocates, and the prevention team in providing services to survivors of sexual assault. Counselors offer sex-positive, survivor-centered counseling, while advocates provide medical and legal support. The prevention team conducts Erin's Law presentations and other community outreach activities.

- ***Crisis Intervention and Prevention Strategies:*** Sarah explains the six steps of crisis intervention, emphasizing the importance of re-empowering and re-connecting survivors. The prevention team conducts Erin's Law presentations and other community outreach activities. Sarah highlights the importance of awareness promotion and the upcoming events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- ***Q&A and Additional Information:*** Neesha asks Sarah about housing for sexual assault victims, and Sarah explains the limited availability of transitional housing. Magdalena Campos inquires about the frequency of the 40-hour sexual assault training, and Sarah provides details about the recent updates. Sarah mentions the importance of community organizations taking the 40-hour training for better understanding and support of survivors.
- ***Closing Remarks and Future Plans:*** Neesha Stringfellow thanks everyone for their participation and contributions. She emphasizes the importance of networking and collaboration in the recovery community. The meeting concludes with plans for future events and updates from other organizations. Neesha encourages everyone to stay connected and continue supporting the recovery efforts in the community.