

Lake County ROSC Council

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026

Time: 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting

Facilitator: Amanda Douglas, CPRS – ROSC Council Coordinator

Meeting Topic:

Lake County ROSC Strategic Realignment

What is ROSC?

A Recovery Oriented System 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 “system of care,” with the resources necessary to effectively address the full range of substance use and/or co-occurring disorders within communities.

Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of this meeting was to begin moving the Lake County ROSC Council from understanding the system to taking intentional action to strengthen coordination across services.

The meeting introduced the first Continuity of Care breakout sessions focused on strengthening collaboration across systems that impact recovery.

The meeting emphasized:

- Strengthening cross-system collaboration
- Identifying who is currently involved in key recovery systems
- Identifying partners missing from the conversation
- Exploring strategies to expand participation and coordination

Opening Remarks

Amanda Douglas opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

New members and those attending the Lake County ROSC meeting for the first time were invited to introduce themselves.

Amanda shared the Lake County ROSC Strategic Plan, developed to address needs identified in the Lake County ROSC Community Needs Survey. Key themes from the survey include:

- Difficulty navigating services
- Access barriers to treatment and recovery supports
- Equity gaps across communities
- Housing and transportation challenges
- Limited youth prevention resources and safe spaces

Continuity of Care Breakout Sessions

This meeting introduced the first breakout working session for the Lake County ROSC Continuity of Care Teams.

Participants were given the opportunity to select between two focus areas:

Warm Handoff Continuity of Care Team

Focused on improving transitions between hospitals, treatment providers, crisis response systems, and community recovery supports.

Reentry / Justice Impacted Families Continuity of Care Team

Focused on improving recovery support coordination for individuals returning from incarceration or justice system involvement.

These breakout discussions were designed to help strengthen system alignment, collaboration, and access to services across Lake County.

Purpose of Breakout Discussions

The goal of the breakout sessions was to assess current system representation and identify priority partners needed to strengthen:

- Continuity of Care
- Warm Handoff coordination
- Reentry coordination
- Overall ROSC system alignment

Participants were encouraged to focus on system-level thinking, identifying gaps in representation and strategies to strengthen collaboration.

Reentry / Justice Impacted Families Breakout

Introductions

Participants introduced themselves, their organizations, and the sectors they represent.

Participants included:

- Ashley Watson – County Administration, Grant Management
- Ryan Dillon – TASC, Specialized Case Management
- Camryn Arroyo – Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office, Diversion
- Alex Seidman – Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office, Deflection
- Sharon Huiett – NIRCO, Gambling Addiction Services
- Liz Thompson – Recovery Corps, Peer System Coordination
- Alyssa Johnson – Community Trust Coordinator, HR / Community Development
- Johanna Gonzalez
- Magdalena Campos – Will/Kankakee ROSC, Harm Reduction
- Deona Williams
- Barbara Young – NIRCO Data Coordinator
- Marie Hall – NIRCO
- Cherrie Sargent – NIRCO
- Marial Adams – Community Lasts
- Jocelyn – Adrian’s Purpose Sober Living (Residential – Male)

Participants were reminded to think **system-wide rather than agency-specific**.

Question 1 – Who is currently at the table?

Participants identified several partners currently involved in justice-related recovery coordination:

- Deflection programs
- Diversion programs
- Surrounding ROSC councils
- Specialized case management
- Sober living organizations
- Gambling addiction services
- Faith-based organizations
- Peer support organizations
- Probation
- Law enforcement social workers
- Inpatient treatment / health department
- Recovery community organizations

- Restorative justice programs

Question 2 – Who is missing?

Participants identified sectors that should be more involved in strengthening the system:

- OMNI (juvenile voice)
- Probation
- Additional inpatient providers
- Law enforcement
- Medication Assisted Recovery Treatment providers
- Housing partners (Oxford House, sober living)
- Education partners (Community College, GED programs)
- Workforce development
- Basic needs providers
- Legal representation partners
- PADS
- Salvation Army

Question 3 – How do we engage them?

Participants discussed strategies to strengthen engagement, including:

- Personal invitations to organizations
- Leadership outreach
- Data sharing to highlight system gaps
- Demonstrating the value of collaboration
- Removing barriers to participation
- Leveraging existing relationships with community partners

Participants emphasized the importance of ensuring that partners understand the role and purpose of the ROSC Council.

Warm Handoff Continuity of Care Breakout

The Warm Handoff Continuity of Care Team focused on strengthening coordination at key transition points where individuals may be at increased risk of falling through system gaps.

Warm handoffs occur when individuals transition between systems such as hospitals, treatment providers, crisis response, justice involvement, and community recovery support services.

Participants discussed how improving these transitions can strengthen continuity of care, access to recovery supports, and navigation of services across Lake County.

Participants were encouraged to think system-wide rather than agency-specific, identifying partners currently engaged in warm handoff processes and sectors that should be more intentionally involved.

Question 1 – Who is currently at the table?

Participants identified several partners currently involved in warm handoff processes, including:

- Lake Behavioral Health Hospital
- Peer support organizations and recovery coaches
- Residential recovery services
- Lake County Health Department

These partners currently play an important role in supporting individuals transitioning from treatment, hospital settings, or crisis response into community-based recovery supports.

Question 2 – Who is missing?

Participants identified several sectors that should be more intentionally involved in strengthening Warm Handoff coordination:

- School systems
- Faith-based organizations
- Law enforcement
- First responders

Participants noted that these sectors often serve as early points of contact for individuals experiencing substance use or behavioral health challenges, making their involvement critical in strengthening coordinated transitions into recovery support services.

Question 3 – How do we engage them?

Participants discussed several strategies to increase engagement and strengthen collaboration across systems, including:

- Personally, inviting faith-based and community organizations to participate in ROSC Council meetings
- Expanding outreach to community organizations and underrepresented sectors
- Engaging funders and system leaders to highlight service gaps and encourage cross-sector collaboration
- Inviting elected officials to better understand system needs and support solutions
- Increasing awareness of the ROSC Council and its role in strengthening recovery-oriented systems of care

Participants emphasized the importance of demonstrating the **value of participation and collaboration** so potential partners understand how their involvement contributes to improving outcomes across the recovery system.

Additional Recommendation

Alyssa Johnson suggested inviting potential stakeholders to attend ROSC Council meetings and providing a one-page overview of the ROSC Council with invitations to attend.

Participants agreed that a simple ROSC one-pager explaining the purpose of the council and meeting goals could help potential partners better understand the value of participation and encourage broader engagement.

Key Takeaways

- Strong interest in expanding cross-system collaboration
- Recognition that several sectors need stronger representation
- The need for intentional outreach to bring additional partners to the table
- Continued development of Warm Handoff and Reentry Continuity of Care teams

This meeting marked the first breakout working session for these teams as Lake County ROSC continues strengthening system coordination.

Next Steps

- Continue developing the Warm Handoff and Reentry Continuity of Care teams
- Identify and invite additional partners
- Develop outreach materials for potential stakeholders
- Continue strengthening collaboration across systems through future ROSC Council meetings

Amanda then introduced LC ROSC's Connect app. It will help keep us connected in addition to our ROSC meetings. She shared the navigation process, adding that it will be a great selling point to those we are reaching out to join the ROSC Council.

Members were asked to share their upcoming events.

The meeting was concluded.

Next meeting date: Thursday, March 26, 2026.