



## MERC Meeting Summary

April 16, 2026

### **Council Members in Attendance:**

Angella Holloway-St. Clair County ROSC  
Alex Scheinder-HSHS  
Bev Holland- CHS IDHS Region 5 TA  
Cheyney Evan-CHS/Director of Outreach and Education  
Cora Hughes- United Congregation of Metro East  
Dustin Percy- Oxford House  
Dusty Hanner- Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND)  
Elyse Schoen-Macoupin/Montgomery County ROSC  
Jaci S- AMARE Recovery Support Coordinator  
Jason Farley- NAMI Executive Director Southwest IL  
Jen Nagel-Fischer- Porchlight Collective SAP  
Joe Jackson- St. Clair County 708 Mental Health Board  
Kathy Kehrer- Center for Community Engagement (CCE)  
Kristen Anderson-CHS  
Lindsey McCoy-Family Connections Coordinator/AMARE  
Lindsey Minor-St. Francis Way Clinic  
Madelin Hayes- Substance Use Prevention (SUPS)  
Mark Knott-ROSC Coordinator, Madison County  
Mike Luther-OEND/DOPP  
Morgan Hempen-SUPS  
Patrick Small-HSHS  
Teresa Cornelius-HSHS  
Tracy Dones- Faith and Recovery Collaborative  
Violette Book- OEND

### **Updates/Discussion Items:**

- MERC is taking its resource guide and turning it into a link and QR code to put on business cards and our Facebook page.
  - Once complete, please feel free to share with the community.

- There will also be a print version available that combines resources for Bond, Clinton, Madison and St. Clair counties.
- Discussion on where resource guides (both virtual and print) should be distributed in the community. Ideas included: local food pantries, churches, libraries, meeting places for NA/AA/SMART Recovery groups, etc.
  - If you have additional ideas or need/want resource guides, please reach out to Mark.

**Workgroup updates:**

- Attendance at workgroup meetings has been low (thanks so much to those who have attended!). If you have volunteered in the past to participate in one of the workgroups, please contact Mark/Katie to confirm you're still able to participate or if things have changed and you're no longer available.
- New members are needed. Please reach out to Mark/Katie if you would like to join a work group.
- Stigma Reduction Workgroup
- Awareness and Access to Services/Recovery Support Workgroup
- Education and Access to Harm Reduction Workgroup

**Announcements/upcoming events:**

Please see all attached flyers for the upcoming events

**MERC Upcoming Zoom Meeting**

**May 21st, 2026, at 9am/ Target group meeting TBD we will send a zoom link the day before the meeting.**

**Metro East Recovery Council (MERC) Vision:**

A community system that nurtures and supports individuals and families seeking or maintaining recovery for themselves or a loved one.

**Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) Mission:**

Collaborating to build and empower communities of recovery.