



NCCR Council

Lead Agency: PEER Services

Friday March 20, 2026

10am-11am

Zoom Meeting Information

<https://zoom.us/j/93838929203?pwd=aLuFQ1PUpLTz8Za9JzwudY6l6Ry1CR.1>

Meeting ID: 93838929203 & Password: 920920

Meeting Minutes (65 min)

Attendees

Affiliation

Rosalina Barrera-Colon	PEER Services, ROSC Coordinator
Deona Williams	PEER Services, RSS
Kenneth Bell	Chestnut, TA
Erika Olandese	PEER, Community Programs Manager
Lauren Warsaw	Impact
Ashley Ford	Hamdard Health Alliance
Natalie Larson	PEER, KEY Coalition Coordinator
Johanna Garsenstein	Erie Health, Community Engagement Coordinator
Elizabeth Theilen	Nicasa Behavioral Health
Jennifer Larson	Nicasa Behavioral Health

Topic: Are You Really Winning?

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was opened by Rosalina Barrera-Colon the ROSC program Coordinator. Rosalina Welcomed Ashley Ford from Hamdard Health Alliance for joining their first ROSC Council meeting. Rosalina went over the agenda for the meeting. The icebreaker question was What is one thing you can contribute to a conversation about stigma reduction? Rosalina introduced ROSC's March Presenter Elizabeth Theilen. Deona Williams the ROSC RSS completed the presentation with great information.

Presenter

Elizabeth Theilen a Licensed Professional Counselor and Certified Gambling Counselor from Nicasa Behavioral Health Services. Elizabeth discussed the understanding of gambling, the effects it has on the brain and body. Elizabeth also shared that some medications that are used for substance use disorders and mental health conditions such as naltrexone, antidepressants, and mood stabilizers can help reduce gambling urges. Elizabeth shed light on stigmatized ads and sitcoms. Elizabeth shared different gambling games that pop upon cell phones and couldn't stress enough how gambling is right at our finger tips and disguised as candy, fruit, gems and etc.

Nicasa represents the following sectors

- Substance Use/Gambling Disorder prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery
- Mental Health education and counseling
- Parenting, family services
- in-school prevention
- Teen Court/restorative justice

Elizabeth extended her expertise to any organization that is interested in having her present. You may contact Elizabeth or Jennifer at the information below.

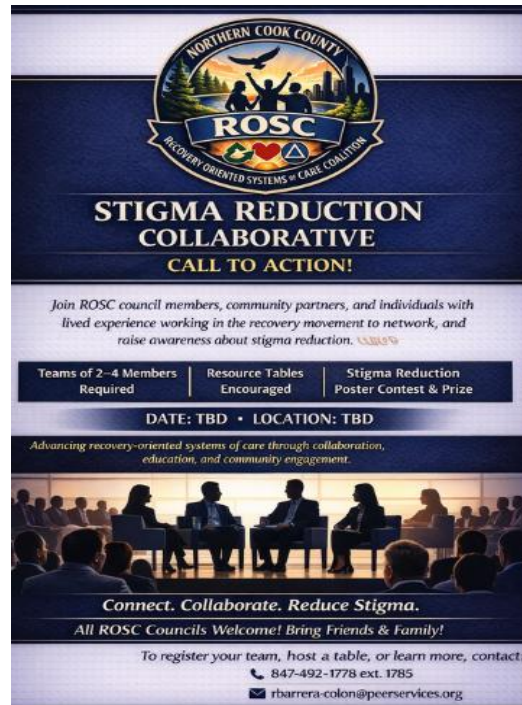
Nicasa Behavioral Health Services
Elizabeth Thielen or Jennifer Larson
gambling@nicasa.org

847-546-6450 (prompt 4 to schedule appointment for gambling services; prompt 8 to ask questions about gambling services.

Discussion

Deona Williams our ROSC RSS canvassed what is stigma and why it matters to bring awareness to the community. Deona went over the March National Themes Supporting Recovery and presented the Stigma Reduction Collaborative event ROSC is putting together and would like the ROSC council to participate in this event and volunteer with suggestions and expertise on location, date, etc.

THERE IS NO COST ASSOCIATED WITH THIS EVENT!!



How ROSC Partners Can Support

Recommend Panelists







Individuals with lived experience, professionals who can speak on the impact of stigma and the importance of recovery support.

- **Bring to Share Resources related to recovery**
- **Help in promoting the event**
- **Attend and Participate 2-4 ppl**
- **Offer Event Support (Location, date, refreshments, etc)**

Recovery News for March

March National Themes Supporting Recovery (ROSC)

Ask Canva

 Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month	Disability & Human Services	Promotes inclusion and equal access to recovery supports.
 Problem Gambling Awareness Month	Behavioral Health	Highlights behavioral addiction and pathways to recovery.
 Brain Injury Awareness Month	Healthcare	Emphasizes brain health in recovery and long-term healing.
 National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week	Education & Prevention	Uses education to prevent substance misuse and reduce stigma.
 Social Work Month	Workforce & Social Services	Supports individuals and families navigating recovery systems.
 Self-Harm Awareness Month	Behavioral Health	Focuses on mental health and early intervention.

Recovery is strengthened when multiple sectors work together to support the whole person.

Resources

prin.uthscsa.edu/proof-and-progress-webinar

- **April** - Investigating Opportunities and Barriers in Peer Support Career Development and Compensation
- **May** - Supporting the Supporters: Evaluating Health and Wellbeing in the Peer Workforce

KEY Coalition Presents Navigating Peer influence: Practical strategies for supporting youth webinar


Wednesday, March 25 @ 11:00 AM Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/4rUB79V>



YPRC YOUTH PREVENTION RESOURCE CENTER

Navigating Peer Influence: Practical Strategies for Supporting Youth Webinar

Presented by:


 **KEY** KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERS YOUTH

Erin Tegge - Leader of PEER Services' Prevention Program
Natalie Larson - Coalition Coordinator at PEER Services for the Knowledge Empowers Youth (KEY) Coalition

Register Today

March 25, 2024
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Use Webinar Event



<https://bit.ly/4rUB79V>

WE WILL SEE YOU THERE!

Northern Cook County ROSC

Recovery Oriented Systems of Care Coalition

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

Friday, April 17, 2026

10:00 AM

Join the Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93838929203?pwd=aLuFQ1PUpLTz8Za9JzwudY6l6Ry1CR.1>

Meeting ID 938 3892 9203 Password 920920

Together We Build Recovery-Ready Communities

Your voice, presence, and partnership matter.



Supporting Recovery • Strengthening Community • Inspiring Hope

We look forward to seeing you there!

