

Date: Monday, August 3rd, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Location: Zoom

Facilitator: Skylar Miller, Coles County ROSC Council Coordinator

Attendees:

In-person:

Skylar Miller (Coles County ROSC Council Coordinator), **Taylor Jones** (Coles County ROSC Council Recovery Navigator), **Haley Lovins** (Effingham County ROSC Council Coordinator), **Gary Stephens** (Wingman Ministries), **Annie Barber** (CALL Coordinator & Recovery Ally), **Julia Clark** (BRIDGE Caseworker), **Samantha Hicks** (BRIDGE Program Manager)

Zoom:

Toni Randall (Region 4 Statewide ROSC Technical Assistant), **Andy Brandenburg** (Community Outreach and Recovery Support Coordinator), **Carlee Parks** (SAIL), **Kristin Davis** (Region 4 Substance Use Prevention Integration Coordinator), **LaSienna Burton** (CUPHD Prevention Specialist), **Lisa Cook** (AHP Senior Program Manager), **Amber Clark** (Veterans Affairs), **Amy Evans** (Hour House BRIDGE Program CPRS/Doula), **Olivia Jenkins** (Hour House Prevention), **Nancy Phillips** (Illinois Family Resource Center), **Liz Pearson** (Prevail), **Abby Behrens** (Prevent Child Abuse Illinois), **Mariah** (HOPE Domestic Violence Educator), **Tammi Clancy** (Hour House Women's Extended Services), **Lottie Todd** (Kit and Cradle Doula Services), **Michelle Hibbard** (Rosecrance), **Carrie McKinzie** (Gateway)

Welcome & Introductions

Skylar welcomed attendees. During introductions, Skylar got everyone warmed up with the ice breaker question which was: What kind of events have you attended or heard of for Overdose Awareness Day?

Spotlight Speaker

Samantha Hicks- BRIDGE Program Manager

The BRIDGE Program is a new initiative serving pregnant women, women with dependent children, and women who are working toward reunification with their children. The program serves 32 counties throughout South Central and Southern Illinois.

To be eligible for BRIDGE, participants must be pregnant, postpartum, or working toward reunification with their children. Participants do not have to be actively using substances and do not have to be currently enrolled in Hour House services to participate. Insurance status is also not a barrier to receiving services.

The Hour House has partnered with SIRAC (Southern Illinois Resource and Advocacy Center) to provide services throughout the region. The program includes Certified Peer Recovery Specialists (CPRS), doulas, case managers, and outreach workers located throughout the service area.

CPRS staff will receive additional training as doulas and Certified Lactation Counselors, allowing them to provide specialized support and advocacy for mothers throughout their recovery, pregnancy, labor and delivery, and postpartum journeys. The goal is to ensure that mothers have consistent, supportive advocates who understand both recovery and the unique needs of pregnancy and motherhood.

The BRIDGE Program is also available to teenagers and can serve mothers at any stage of pregnancy or postpartum.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Samantha Hicks at 217-663-0823 or samanthah@hourhousererecovery.org.

Many council members shared connections and suggestions with Samantha.

Gary suggested different woman's shelters and resources.

Michelle shared that Rosecrance can take pregnant women who are in active withdrawals, unless they are withdrawing from alcohol or benzodiazepines, if that is the case then they would be redirected to a hospital.

Updates

Recovery Navigator, Taylor Jones, let everyone know that recovery education groups for the month of August will still take place on Mondays and Tuesdays but in September they will be moved to Mondays and Thursdays and will be moving locations also! Taylor will share flyers as soon as she has them approved.

Skylar gave a brief overview of committee meetings last month.

At the transportation committee meeting, we prepped and reviewed the agenda for our training event. Unfortunately, no one attended this training, so at our next committee meeting we will discuss other options for better attendance.

At the housing committee meeting we worked with Samantha with Coles County Regional Planning and we talked about creating educational materials to break stigma in our community.

Events

Transportation & Housing Committee Meeting

The next committee meetings will take place at the Mattoon Public library from 12:00 to 1:00pm on August 10th, 2026 in the Kinzel room.

Free Laundry Day

The next Free Laundry Day will take place on August 6th from 9:00am to 12:00pm in Mattoon at 320 Lakeland Boulevard.

Candlelight Vigil

August 27th, 2026 at 6:00pm to 7:30pm at Crossroads Community Church in Charleston with purple light bulb pick up for Light Up Purple directly following.

Annie Barber confirmed that there will be an informational walk on October 10th from 4pm to 7pm at the Linder Sports Complex in Charleston. Her committee is waiting to finalize a few details before creating a flyer but they are very excited to hold this event. Annie is the coordinator for a new organization named CALL. CALL stands for

Community Advancing Light & Life. This initiative is here to help reduce the market for drugs in Charleston, IL and surrounding areas!

Next Steps & Closing

Skylar mentioned that their next meeting falls on the Labor Day. The committee decided to have their next meeting on Tuesday, September 1st on Zoom ONLY at Noon.

She thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

Contact emails:

Coles County ROSC Council Coordinator

Skylar Miller- skylark@hourhouserecovery.org

Coles County ROSC Council Recovery Navigator

Taylor Jones- taylorj@hourhouserecovery.org

ROSC Council Program Supervisor

Jenna Hays- jennah@hourhouserecovery.org

Where to find past meeting minutes: <https://www.govst.edu/ROSC-GSU/ROSCC>

Coles County ROSC Council Facebook Page:



Next Coles County ROSC Council Meeting**

Date: TUESDAY, September 1st, 2026

Time: 12:00pm to 1:00pm

Where: ZOOM ONLY