



Breaking Barriers Collectively ROSC Council

FY27 Kickoff Meeting Minutes

Region 1 | Connecting Partners • Strengthening Recovery • Building Community

Date	Friday, August 21, 2026
Time	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Format	Hybrid – In Person and Zoom
In-Person Location	Recovery Café Chicago, 6506 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60636
Facilitators	La Shaun Rickman, ROSC Supervisor Troya Mosley, ROSC Outreach Coordinator Marsha Zanders, ROSC Coordinator
Attendance	Community partners and participants attended in person and virtually. See meeting sign-in/Zoom attendance records for the official roster below.

Meeting Purpose

The FY27 kickoff brought Breaking Barriers Collectively ROSC partners together to reconnect, recognize FY26 progress, share the FY27 direction, and strengthen harm reduction, recovery support, warm handoffs, coordinated service delivery, and community collaboration. The meeting emphasized that stronger partnerships can help reduce barriers and create stronger pathways to recovery.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Troya Mosley and Marsha Zanders welcomed participants and opened the FY27 kickoff. The meeting centered on the theme that recovery is strengthened through connection, compassion, partnership, and coordinated community support.

Recovery-Oriented System of Care (ROSC) Overview

The presentation reviewed ROSC as a network of community organizations, providers, agencies, individuals, and people with lived experience working together to promote long-term recovery. The Council's role was described as strengthening local connections, building community capacity and infrastructure, reducing barriers, and helping the overall system of care work more effectively for individuals and families.

- Person-centered and whole-person recovery support
- Peer support and meaningful community connection
- Warm handoffs and coordinated referral pathways
- Access to treatment, housing, employment, healthcare, education, transportation, and recovery supports

FY27: From Framework to Community Action

The FY27 framework was presented as the guide for the Council's work. Participants were reminded that the statewide IDHS/ROSC framework establishes the priority areas, while BBC ROSC and its community partners help identify how those priorities appear locally through gaps, barriers, strengths, needs, and opportunities for collaboration.

FY27 Priority Area	Community Focus
Reducing Stigma	Promote respectful, recovery-oriented language and understanding.
Promoting Medication-Assisted Recovery (MAR) and Other Evidence-Based Practices	Increase awareness and support for evidence-based recovery options.
Promoting Harm Reduction	Support practical approaches that reduce risk, prevent overdose, and keep people connected to recovery opportunities.
Ensuring Effective Service Delivery	Strengthen coordination, referrals, warm handoffs, and access across community systems.
Prioritizing Equity	Identify and reduce barriers that affect fair access to recovery supports and services.

Community Collaboration and Partner Input

Community collaboration was emphasized as essential because recovery happens within communities, not in isolation. Partners were invited to consider the five FY27 priority areas and identify local gaps, barriers, strengths, needs, and areas where stronger collaboration could make the greatest difference. The purpose of the discussion was to capture recurring system-level themes that can inform FY27 planning rather than attempt to solve every individual issue during the meeting.

Participants were also encouraged to use the FY27 Community Priority Feedback handout/survey to identify the priority needing the greatest local attention, describe current barriers, and suggest ways their organizations or the ROSC Council could help address those needs.

Harm Reduction Spotlight: NARCAN® Overdose Prevention Training

A free NARCAN® Overdose Prevention Training was included as the meeting's harm reduction spotlight. The training focused on practical overdose-prevention knowledge and community response skills, including:

- Recognizing the signs of an opioid overdose
- Responding safely during an overdose emergency
- Administering NARCAN® (naloxone)
- Understanding harm reduction and the Illinois Good Samaritan Law
- Connecting individuals with recovery resources and supports

The training reinforced the message that saving a life creates another opportunity for recovery and that overdose prevention is an important part of a recovery-oriented community.

NARCAN® Training Recap - August 21, 2026

The free overdose-prevention training was presented as part of the FY27 Kickoff Meeting's harm reduction focus.

- Thirty-six people attended the FY27 Kickoff Meeting and NARCAN® training in person or through Zoom.
- Training addressed overdose recognition, emergency response, naloxone administration, harm reduction, the Illinois Good Samaritan Law, and connections to recovery resources.
- CEU certificates are provided in connection with the training (pending and will be sent ASAP.)
- Participants provided feedback by scanning the QR code to complete the brief ROSC Community Survey and by completing the handout survey.

Participant Feedback Results

- Participants completed surveys and shared verbal reflections on the NARCAN® training.
- Participants gave the training an overall rating of **5 out of 5 stars**.
- Most respondents agreed that the training was relevant to their work and that the presenter was engaging and knowledgeable.
- Participants reported gaining useful knowledge and practical skills that they could apply in their professional or community roles.
- Most respondents indicated that the training met or exceeded their expectations.

Additional participant feedback included:

- Participants described Benneth Lee as an outstanding and highly valued presenter.
- Participants expressed appreciation for Benneth Lee experience, long-standing dedication, and contributions to the fields of mental health, wellness, recovery support, harm reduction and recidivism reduction.

Community Announcements, Networking, and Collaboration

Time was designated for community partners to share resources, upcoming events, employment or training opportunities, and other information relevant to the recovery-support network. Networking and collaboration focused on strengthening communication among partners, sharing resources, improving warm handoffs, and reducing barriers to services.

Next Steps / Follow-Up

- Use partner feedback, community input, and available data to help guide FY27 planning within the five established priority areas.
- Continue strengthening cross-sector partnerships and referral relationships.
- Identify opportunities to improve warm handoffs and coordinated service delivery.
- Continue promoting harm reduction, overdose prevention, MAR/evidence-based practices, stigma reduction, and equity.
- Encourage members to scan the QR code and complete the brief ROSC Community Survey, in addition to providing feedback through the handout survey.

Closing

Partners were thanked for their time, expertise, community service, and continued participation in Breaking Barriers Collectively ROSC Council. The closing message emphasized that community voice helps define local needs and that stronger partnerships contribute to better services, healthier communities, and stronger pathways to recovery.

Meeting Attendance

A total of 36 community partners and participants attended the FY27 Kickoff Meeting in person or through Zoom. Enter each attendee below before saving the completed minutes as a PDF.

#	Attendee Name	Organization / Agency	Attendance Type
1	Robert King	BBC Community Partner	In Person
2	Anthony Sidney	BBC Community Partner	In Person
3	Shelia Rickman	BBC Community Partner	In Person
4	David Laws	BBC Community Partner	In Person
5	Nichole Collie	BBC Community Partner	In Person
6	Willie Hall	GEO Re-entry Service	In Person
7	Adrienne M Johnson	BBC Intern	In Person
8	Marcus Diggs	BBC Community Partner	In Person
9	Kim Goodman	BBC Community Partner	In Person
10	Kevin H	BBC Community Partner	In Person
11	Saundra Falls	Justice Advisory Council (JAC)	In Person
12	Kisha Johnson	BBC Community Partner	In Person
13	Anthony Dillion	BBC Community Partner	In Person
14	Charlene Robinson	BBC Community Partner	In Person
15	Paula Burgess	BBC Community Partner	In Person
16	Krystal Martin	BBC Community Partner	In Person
17	Articia Jones	BBC Community Partner	In Person
18	Jermaine Hobson Jr	BBC Community Partner	In Person

#	Attendee Name	Organization / Agency	Attendance Type
19	Victor Pipes		In Person
20	Carlo Watkins	TASC (Treatment Alternatives For Stronger Communities)	In Person
21	Alejandro M. Lopez	TASC (Treatment Alternatives For Stronger Communities)	In Person
22	Earnest Jenkins	TASC (Treatment Alternatives For Stronger Communities)	In Person
23	Deborah Draughon	BBC RCO Staff	In Person
24	Angelina Sanchez	Recovery Café Program Coordinator	In Person
25	Paula Burgess	BBC Community Partner	In Person
26	Articia Jones	BBC Community Partner	In Person
27	Krystal Martin	BBC Community Partner	In Person
28	Benneth Lee	SOUTHSIDE HERION OPIOID TASK FORCE	In Person
29	Tiffany Webb	HAS (Healthcare Alternative Systems)	Zoom
30	DJ Foxy	BBC Community Partner	Zoom
31	Kenneth Bell	ROSC TA	Zoom
32	Talisha Johnson	BBC Community Partner	Zoom
33	Shawntale Hurst	BBC Community Partner	Zoom
34	Gia Washington	Sertoma Star Services	Zoom
35	Natia Barnett	NAMI Chicago	Zoom
36	Latasha R. Brown	Nourishing hope	Zoom
37	Johanna Gonzalez	Johanna Gonzalez ROSC Coordinator IDHS (Illinois Department of Human Services)	Zoom