



KANE COUNTY RECOVERY ORIENTED SYSTEM OF CARE (ROSC) MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 2026

Time: 3:00pm to 4:00pm

Location: Recovery Centers of America, St. Charles, Illinois

Meeting Format: Hybrid (In-Person and Virtual)

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Annette Villarreal, Kane County ROSC Coordinator, called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees. She expressed gratitude to Recovery Centers of America (RCA) for hosting the meeting at their St. Charles campus.

Jarrett Burton, Kane County ROSC Co-Host, extended a welcome to all participants.

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OVERDOSE AWARENESS MONTH

Annette Villarreal acknowledged that August is Overdose Awareness Month, a time to remember lives lost and renew commitment to prevention, treatment, and recovery. She reminded attendees that every person lost was someone's family member, friend, or neighbor.

A moment of silence was observed to honor those lost, their loved ones, and all individuals still fighting for recovery.

III. OVERVIEW OF ROSC

Annette Villarreal provided an overview of the Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) for first-time attendees.



- **Definition:** ROSC is not a single program or agency but a coordinated network connecting treatment providers, peer supporters, housing services, employment programs, legal aid, and individuals with lived experience.
- **Purpose:** To ensure individuals seeking help receive a warm handoff to appropriate services rather than being redirected repeatedly.
- **Structure:** Kane County ROSC is one of many across Illinois. Monthly meetings are held to share updates, break down silos, and ensure systems work effectively for real people.
- **Participation:** All attendees, whether representing organizations or community members, are part of the network. Every voice matters.

IV. ATTENDANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

All attendees were invited to introduce themselves, stating their name, organizational affiliation, and expectations for the meeting.

In-Person Attendees

Name	Organization/Title
Annette Villarreal	Kane County ROSC Coordinator
Jarrett Burton	Kane County ROSC Co-Host; Person in Long-Term Recovery
Penny Stark	Recovery Centers of America; Senior Outreach Manager; Person in Long-Term Recovery
Mark B	Recovery Centers of America; Enterprise Role
Karen Nick Albert	Recovery Centers of America; Chief Executive Officer, St. Charles
Sharon Cabrera	Kane County Health Department; Substance Use Prevention Specialist
Tony Garcia	Kane County Health Department; Information and Referral Specialist
Becky Madden	Naomi's House; Community Outreach Manager
Emily Smith	Naomi's House; Intake and Outreach Specialist



Virtual Attendees

Name	Organization/Title
Andrea Marx	Association for Individual Development (AID); Mobile Crisis Response Team; CRSS Lead; Person in Long-Term Recovery
Danielle Hefernon	Serenity House Counseling Services; CORES Coordinator; Person in Long-Term Recovery
Becky Janes	Rosecrance
Kelly Glover	Ecker Center; Substance Use and Co-Occurring Services Supervisor
Ben Rudoph	Region 2 Technical Assistant

V. PRESENTATION: RECOVERY CENTERS OF AMERICA

Annette Villarreal conducted a question-and-answer session with Penny, Senior Outreach Manager at Recovery Centers of America (RCA).

Organizational Overview

- Penny described her role as Senior Outreach Manager, coordinating community engagement efforts. She is a person in long-term recovery with lived experience across all aspects of the addiction disease.

Levels of Care at RCA St. Charles

- Medical Detoxification
- Residential Treatment
- Recovery Home (\$30 per day for room and board, including meals)
- Outpatient Services (St. Charles and Rolling Meadows locations):
 - Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)
 - Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP)
 - General Outpatient
 - Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

Population Served

- Men and women, ages 18 and older
- RCA does not serve minors but connects individuals to appropriate resources



Recovery Home Program

- Length of stay typically ranges from one to three months
- Program is more structured than some community-based recovery homes
- Residents do not have vehicles and participate in outpatient programming, evening recovery meetings, life skills training, and employment search assistance
- Individuals requiring fewer restrictions may transition to other housing options

Pathways to Recovery

- RCA educates patients on multiple recovery pathways, including 12-step programs, SMART Recovery, and Celebrate Recovery
- Friday night speaker meetings and Wednesday night alumni meetings are offered (78 attendees at the most recent alumni meeting)
- Alumni network is active and interested in service projects

Barriers to Treatment

- Limited availability of beds for individuals who are unfunded or Medicaid-eligible
- Illinois faces an annual shortage of approximately 19,000 Medicaid beds
- Families in crisis often lack knowledge of navigating the treatment system
- RCA is classified as an Institution for Mental Diseases (IMD) by the State of Illinois and is not currently eligible for Medicaid funding despite a federal waiver
- RCA has received Medicaid certification for outpatient services and is working toward contracting
- Telehealth services are available throughout Illinois

Transition Between Levels of Care

- Discharge planning begins upon admission
- 89–98% of patients leave with a confirmed appointment within seven days of discharge
- Family programming is integrated into services to support the entire family unit



Substance Use Trends

- Increased prevalence of methamphetamine and cocaine use, often with unexpected fentanyl contamination
- RCA is a certified overdose prevention site and provides Narcan to all patients
- Opioid use disorder appears to be decreasing in the population served
- Benzodiazepine use has increased significantly (60–70% of patients), presenting challenges for tapering

Medication-Assisted Recovery

- RCA strongly supports MAT as a treatment tool
- Medical Director Dr. Holtzford is described as progressive and approachable

VI. PRESENTATION: NAOMI'S HOUSE

Emily and Becky from Naomi's House presented services for survivors of commercial sexual exploitation.

Mission and Definition

- Naomi's House serves survivors of sex trafficking and exploitation
- Services are available to anyone who has experienced an exchange of sexual services for anything of monetary value, including rent, drugs, substances, protection, or prostitution
- This encompasses both sex trafficking (involving a third party) and commercial sexual exploitation (including survival sex)

Programs

Program	Location	Description
RESET	Kane County (Elgin)	Drop-in center; lowest barrier program; case management, therapy, community dinners, childcare, therapeutic groups, clothing closet, food pantry, shower and laundry facilities
RESIDE	DuPage County	12–18 month residential program focused on trauma rehabilitation



RISE	—	Day programming; therapeutic groups, life skills, employment coaching
------	---	---

Eligibility

- Services are free and do not require insurance or Medicaid
- Women ages 18 and older
- Trans women are eligible for drop-in centers but not residential programs

Forms of Trafficking

A survivor and staff member shared narratives illustrating various forms of trafficking:

- **Substance Abuse Trafficking:** Individual traded for sex by a drug dealer in exchange for substances
- **Survival Trafficking:** Individual felt compelled to exchange sex for housing
- **Familial Trafficking:** Individual exploited by a family member for drugs and money
- **Institutional Trafficking:** Vulnerable individuals targeted by persons in positions of authority

Outreach and Statistics

- **Outreach Methods:** Strip club outreach, street outreach (Pulaski, Cicero, Chicago), and internet outreach via Freedom Signal platform
- **Volume:** Over 1,000 ads posted weekly in a single zip code; 87,000 ads year-to-date in the 60187 area code (30-mile radius)
- **Geographic Concentration:** DuPage County has the highest number of ads and trafficking cases in Illinois
- **Reach:** Naomi's House serves 400 women annually across DuPage, Kane, and Cook counties

Needs and How to Help

- Donations for outreach bags (1,000 bags distributed annually)
- Donations for strip club and street outreach
- Volunteers (must complete volunteer training)
- Amazon wish list available through the website



- Intake line available for referrals and consultations

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Event	Date/Time	Location/Details
Overdose Awareness Day	August 31, 2026; 6:30–8:30 p.m.	RCA Campus, Addison; Contact Donna Renard; Naomi's House will have a table
Training: Family Sex Trafficking – The Hidden Ugly	August 26, 2026; 10:00–11:30 a.m.	Illinois Families Resource Center; Free registration
Partner Abuse Intervention Program	August 21, 2026	Taking Control Counseling
Serenity House Mobile Outreach	Ongoing	Donations needed: men's and women's shorts, short sleeves, toiletries, body wipes, hygiene items; winter coat drive upcoming
Social Media as Early Warning System for Emerging Drug Trends	September 16, 2026	Presented by Jarrett Burton; open to the public via Zoom
DuPage County Overdose Survey	Ongoing	Seeking individuals who have experienced overdose in the past few years; QR code available
Rise and Run for Recovery	August 30, 2026	Hastings Lake Forest Preserve, Lake Villa; Lake County Opioid Initiative

VIII. NEXT MEETING

The next Kane County ROSC meeting will be held in September 2026 at **Alfarus** (formerly Gateway Foundation) in Aurora, Illinois.



IX. ADJOURNMENT

Annette Villarreal and Jarrett Burton thanked all attendees for their participation. Special recognition was given to Recovery Centers of America for hosting the meeting and to Naomi's House for their informative presentation.

The meeting was adjourned.