ROSC Meeting Minutes –Ogle/Dekalb
Date: September 16th, 2026
Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

Attendees:

- Kimberly Heffernan: HOPE of Ogle County
- Penny Stark: Recovery Centers of America
- Gerald Lott: Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery
- Jackie Maura: Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery
- Alex Disz: Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery
- Jake Albers: Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery
- Ben Rudolph: ROSC region 2 technical assistant
- Emily Anaya: Rochelle Area Community Foundation
- Jenna Borg- RSAC
- Marta Jarka: NW Medicine
- Jennifer Simmons: NW Medicine
- Diana Belicke: Rosecrance

Jake: Opening and Introductions

- Went over definition and goals of ROSC
- FY26 Community Needs Survey link

DISCUSSION

Gerald went over August events and data, mentioned trouble with finding and keeping Dekalb Peer Coach, asked for any referrals or resources for a candidate. Mentioned everything else is growing- Cledys house numbers are steadily increasing, Legacy full, events are also growing.

Marta mentioned reaching out to the drug court for a list of graduates as potential candidates for the role, suggesting to connect to Mike.

Jake thanked Emily for her help in planning the viewing of Generation Hope for the Rochelle area, talked about feedback and the growing support for Recovery High School.

Emily thanked Jake and the community for support.

Jake started reviewing the 2025 survey, questions 11-20.

Gerald asked if we need to add or change any submission boxes for #13

- Add ‘lodging for pets’ as a barrier
- Changing the way the question is asked to gather more information
- Add ‘housing’
- Add Mental Health/Access to healthcare

Kim suggested making question #14 multiple choice

Marta suggested adding ‘found out at prior event’ as a submission for question #16

- Geraled asked if we need this question still
- Consus agreed to keep question

Kim suggested changing question #16 to focus on which social media platform is being utilized most to find out about community events, and use that to gauge new ways to market on social media since the data suggests that's where the main traffic comes from.

Jennifer reports NW survey is live at this time, discussed ways to present the questions, stated she will attempt to gain access to her survey questions/data.

Megan suggested to add what organizations is the community most familiar with

Gerald asked the group if it was felt that questions #11 and #17 are too similar and worth changing

Alex suggested adding ‘Virtual Groups’ as an option for #18

- Jenna also suggested adding childcare as a barrier for not attending more community groups

Jackie asked if question #19 should be worded differently

Gerald asked the group if we should throw away question 20 and now center it on the community's reception towards the Recovery High School since that empty space is now claimed as that.

- Group agreed

Jaked ended the discussion

What can ROSC do for you?

Naomi- more NA speakers/groups in general

Megan- list emailed

DeAnna- continue asks in the best ways to utilize funding that is available

Diana- asked for continued referrals for the resilience and veterans program at Rosecrance

Erika- has free stickers for recovery month

Jenna- reminding community for free counseling services for sexual abuse survivors

Kim- nothing at this time

Marta- drug take back day at several locations for NW medicine, shared news about new hospital case manager who will be a great resource for liaison for patients needing treatment.

Ben's Final Thoughts

Meeting Closed by Jake Albers

Minutes prepared by: Jackie Maura