

Kates Community Initiatives ROSC Council
Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, June 30, 2026

Location: 7810 South Claremont Ave; Chicago, IL. 60620 (IN PERSON)

Time: 2:00 PM

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Erica Bledsoe (KCI) at 2:00 PM.

Attendees

- Cherone Mayes (KCI)
- Ron Bratcher (KCI)
- DeShunn Bray (KCI)
- Jahari Stamps (S.H.A.R.P. Organization)
- Erica Bledsoe (KCI)
- Aaron Saunders (Community Member)

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Ronald Bratcher

2nd: Cherone Mayes

Introduction to ROSC and Kates Community Initiative ROSC Council

A Recovery-Oriented System of Care (ROSC) Council is a collaborative group of community stakeholders—including service providers, people in recovery, family members, and local organizations—who work together to strengthen and improve recovery support services. The council focuses on building a coordinated system that promotes long-term recovery, reduces stigma, and ensures individuals have access to the resources they need, such as housing, employment, healthcare, and peer support.

Kates Community Initiative ROSC Council is a community-driven coalition that brings together partners and voices with lived experience to support individuals and families impacted by substance use and mental health challenges. The council is dedicated to creating pathways to recovery by connecting people to services, advocating for equitable resources, and fostering a supportive, recovery-friendly environment within the community.

Old Business

Community Engagement in Wrightwood/Ashburn and Stigney/Burbank

Kate's Community Initiatives ROSC Council hosted a Community Resource Fair **at** Prairie Trails Public Library in Burbank, Illinois. The event focused on connecting community members with recovery support services and employment opportunities to promote long-term wellness and self-sufficiency.

A total of seven vendors participated in the event, providing information, resources, and direct connections to services related to recovery support, workforce development, job readiness, and employment opportunities. The fair created a valuable space for community members to engage with local organizations, learn about available resources, and explore pathways toward recovery and economic stability.

The ROSC Council appreciates the participation of all vendors and attendees who contributed to the success of the event and helped strengthen community awareness of available support services.

Kate's Community Initiatives ROSC Council hosted a Community Resource Fair **at** Monument of Faith Church, 2750 South Columbus Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on June 15, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The event provided community members with access to information, resources, and services designed to support recovery, health, wellness, and overall community well-being. Attendees had the opportunity to connect with local organizations, learn about available support services, and engage with community partners dedicated to improving quality of life and strengthening recovery-oriented systems of care.

The ROSC Council appreciates the participation of community members, partner organizations, and volunteers whose involvement contributed to the success of the event and helped increase awareness of local resources and support services.

Raw Survey Data

Kates Community Initiatives ROSC Council continues to make significant progress in advancing harm reduction awareness throughout the communities it serves. Based on recent outreach and engagement efforts, harm reduction awareness has increased by 76% in the Ashburn community and by 64% in the Burbank community.

These results reflect the Council's ongoing commitment to community education, outreach, collaboration with local partners, and the promotion of evidence-based harm reduction strategies. The Council recognizes the importance of continued engagement to further expand awareness, reduce stigma, and connect community members with available resources and support services.

Open Issues:

NO OPEN ISSUES

New Business:

The Kates Community Initiatives ROSC Council discussed launching Fiscal Year 2027 with a Community Health, Wellness, and Employment Resource Fair to serve the Ashburn and Burbank communities. As part of the Council's commitment to advancing Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC), the event will bring together community stakeholders to promote health, wellness, recovery, employment, education, and access to supportive services.

The resource fair will provide residents with opportunities to connect with healthcare providers, behavioral health organizations, recovery support services, workforce development agencies, educational institutions, employers, housing resources, and other community-based organizations. The event is intended to reduce barriers to care, increase awareness of available resources, strengthen community partnerships, and promote overall wellness and recovery for individuals and families.

The Council also discussed incorporating recovery-focused educational materials, overdose prevention resources, peer recovery support, wellness screenings, and employment readiness services to ensure the event reflects the ROSC model of coordinated, person-centered care.

The Council agreed to move forward with planning the FY27 Community Health, Wellness, and Employment Resource Fair as the Council's official kick-off event for Fiscal Year 2027.

Action Items

- Select an event date (TBA) and secure a venue within the Ashburn or Burbank community.
- Invite healthcare providers, recovery organizations, behavioral health agencies, employers, educational institutions, housing providers, and other community partners.
- Develop a community outreach and marketing plan.
- Coordinate vendor registration and event logistics.
- Recruit volunteers and assign planning committee responsibilities.
- Schedule follow-up planning meetings to review progress and finalize event details.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ronald Bratcher

Second:

This meeting was adjourned by Erica Bledsoe (KCI) at 3:15 PM.

NEXT MEETING: FY27 Kickoff Meeting Friday, July 19, 2026, at 1:00 PM via Zoom.