

Douglas County ROSC Council Meeting Notes

Date: July 22, 2026 **Time:** 10:00-11:00 AM

Location: Virtual via Zoom and In-Person at the Douglas County Annex, 209 East Van Allen, Tuscola, IL

Douglas County ROSC Council Meeting Attendees:

Online: **Matthew Hales**- Newman Library, **Jason Rudolph**-Public Health Champaign-Urbana, **Christine Pierce**-Carle Outreach, **Michelle Hibbard**-Rosecrance, **Toni Randall**- Statewide ROSC Region 4 TA, **Camille Gordon**-HOPE East Central Illinois, **Carrie McKinzie**-Gateway Foundation, **Kayla Riggs**-Director Pretrial Success Program, **Misty Robinson**-CORS Program with the Hour House, **Jennifer West**-Prevention with the Hour House, **Allison Wessels**-CU RACES, **Amber Clark**-VA Services

In Person: **Lyndsey Reedy**- Douglas County ROSC Council Coordinator, **Kandis Mills**- Douglas County ROSC Council Recovery Navigator, **Rob Wentz**-Community Member, **Megan Janes**-BASE Program with Hour House, **Mandi Gilliland**-ERBA and Salvation Army Tuscola, **Jason Pantier**- Douglas County Probation

Guest speaker: Kimberly Cullen, Director, East Central Chapter Safe Families For Children

The mission is keeping families together. The goal is to keep children out of DCFS care and to build support for the family. Kimberly explained that Safe Families is a Christian non-profit organization that is a nation-wide, and even world-wide, that was started over 20 years ago. They do receive 50% of their funding from DCFS the other half they fund raise and rely on donations. They also rely on volunteers and host families. Those families and volunteers are fingerprinted and provided training. They are always looking for more host families.

Anyone can make a referral to the organization. The host families are actually able to be short term powers of attorneys. They are able to do things like make sure the child gets medical care and can register them for school. They parents must consent to everything. They are still responsible for their children.

Please keep in mind this is a program that could be used if a parent would like to enter treatment.

To reach Kimberly with any questions or for more information: kcullen@safefamilies.net

Updates related to Priority Projects- Transitional Housing, MAR/Harm Reduction, Drug Court

- Update for transitional housing –There are four people at PJ's Place now. The next **Transitional Housing Meeting** is **August 12th** starting at 10 am location will be PJ's Place in Tuscola.
- The next meeting of the Recovery Court Team is July 28th at 10:30am located at the Douglas County Courthouse. Douglas County was awarded the ICIJA ARI grant!!

Opioid Settlement Funds

- Fentanyl test kits are available at our free Narcan (Naloxone) sites. The gas gift cards, Dial a Ride tokens, cell phones/phone cards, and recovery books continue to be distributed.
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STYLE Group (Strength Through Your Lived Experience)

The group is open to anyone for support, encouragement, and to help plan community activities. People may be or have been impacted by different lived experiences so please feel free to come to this group. All are welcome! **Next STYLE meeting** is on **August 18th** at 6 pm location TBD.

Navigator Community Group

- Community education group will be **Thursdays at Home Town Grounds Coffee & Events in Tuscola from Noon-1:00 pm in person** or zoom option is available. All are welcome!
- Kandis also shared that getting people connected to MAR (Medication Assisted Recovery) in the jail continues to be a successful.

Upcoming Douglas County ROSC Council hosted or partnered events

- **Free Laundry** event in Arcola is happening July 31st from 4pm -6pm or until funds are out.
- **Wave Goodbye to Summer** event on August 3rd at Eberhardt Park in Arthur from 2-5pm.
- **Tuscola Fire Department Open House** August 13th 2-4pm.
- **Vigil for Overdose Awareness** August 31st at the Courthouse in Tuscola starting at 7:30 pm. We are looking for anyone willing to speak at the Vigil. Please get in contact with Lyndsey for this opportunity.

Open discussion

The council members did have some discussion on recent overdoses.

Christine let the council know that if someone is detoxing and goes to Carle Hospital in Urbana they can ask for the SUN (Substance Use Navigator) Team. This will help them bypass the ER staff and get in contact with help for their specific needs.

Carrie McKinzie shared with us that Gateway Foundation is changing their name and logo but that those are the only changes. They will still be providing the same services. She also said that if any of us have trouble getting someone a bed we are welcome to contact her and she will help get the person in. Carrie's number is 217-280-3148.

Allison said at RACES they are excited for the start of their grant new year.

Megan shared about upcoming events with the Douglas County BASE program. When they have a flyer, we will share it on our ROSC Facebook.

Amber let us know there is a new VA Clinic in Champaign now open.

Michelle said that the behavioral health urgent care services for mental health and or substance use at Rosecrance in Champaign is off to a good start and they continue to look for funding to extend the hours of operation.

Next Council Meeting: August 26th 2026 starting at 10 am located at 209 E Van Allen Tuscola and on Zoom.