

Recovery Coalition of Greater St. Louis

Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2024

Mission: To continually improve access to quality prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support services and programs for the Greater St. Louis Region.

Jordan Hampton called to order the regular meeting of the Recovery Coalition of Greater St. Louis at 11:00 am on 1/09/24. This meeting was hybrid.

Kimberly Rodriguez took roll and the following persons were present: Jordan Hampton, Maggie Burke, Christa Harmon, Andy with Recovet, Andy Thomas, Bishop Bracely, Kathie Thomas-Dietz, Tonya Hankins, Gracie Ledezma, Nick Zykan, Darcy Glidewell, Kenajo Bell, Todd Colley, Brett Buttry, Shawna Kindred, Jamal Preuitt, Rosie Seiler, and Aux Boad.

Bishop Bracely opened with prayer.

November meeting minutes were read. Maggie motioned to approve (with the addition of her name as present during the Nov meeting). Rosie second the motion. None opposed. November Meeting minutes were approved with a revision to add Maggie's name. December meeting minutes were read. Tonya motioned to approve, Nick second the motion. December meeting minutes were approved as read.

Old Business:

December Recovery Conference went well, thank you to all who attended.

New Business

Jordan reported 2024 Membership dues are due by March 31st of \$120. If agreed upon, dues would be raised to \$150 in 2025. Maggie reminded the group that by Joining RCGSTL, you automatically are a member of MCRSP, which gives you access to Relias as well.

*Vote was taken to increase membership dues to \$150 in 2025, majority agreed.

New and emerging resources:

Gracie reported she will get in touch with Avitol, the women spoken about in the November meeting to connect her with others that need the resource. She is able to give rides to appts, etc.

Alex said there is availability in the Respite program at Arca. There are immediate openings for women, there are 7 beds for women, 7 beds for men. Alex said providers can call his cell directly: 314-443-1590 (please don't share with clients, etc). For general use: Respite intake line 314-678-3205. They have an assessment checklist, he said there are pretty minimal requirements to get in.

Tonya reported MCRSP has launched or will very soon, the survey mentioned in November meeting with the Fletcher Group to conduct a Recovery Housing survey to collect data on financial need and resources. A survey will be going out to Recovery Housing providers through email soon to assess

need and have data to back it up. This data is important for lobbying, funding, etc. and they want every provider to respond if possible.

Jordan reported Recovery Day at the Capitol is March 5th, March 4th will be the Central Conference. Christa reported they are working on the central conference now. The dates on all the 2024 conferences are not set in stone, those dates will be coming soon. Next MCRSP board meeting is on the 12th so details we be solidified at that time.

Jordan reported Tonya has the website launched for RCGSTL! Go to RCGSTL.org. Tonya said one of the things we want to do is tighten the email list to current contacts. She wants to link the website to payment for membership dues, hub for info, link to MCRSP, events, testimonials, organization highlights, advocacy page, and more.

Jordan said we have made a great deal of progress over the past year, we have a logo, website, had a great recovery fest and conference and more.

Board elections:

New secretary, Tonya Hankins. She has already created a website and is getting the coalition organized and we are so grateful for her gifts and all the work she puts in.

New co-chair, Kim Rodriguez. Thank you to Bishop who has served in this position and for all he has done for the coalition and community.

Jordan reported they need a couple of peer reviewers for accreditation. Great opportunity for house leaders for those who have been around and know the process. Send Andy Thomas an email saying you're interested, and he will send you an application. Andy.thomas@mcrsp.org

<u>Treasurer report:</u> Jordan reported not much has changed with finances, sent out 2 invoices. He will have an exact count next meeting. \$750 (Michael King) \$200 (Brunch December)

Jordan reported while we have internal/external groups, we want the goals of MCRSP to trickle down to RCGSTL. We need to be intentional about getting clear goals from MCRSP and taking those goals and breaking them down into what we can do and getting some action items.

Lobby Priorities This Year

1. 10M from Opioid Settlement Funds

Announcements- ARCA has new office at Delwood and West Florissant, 10148 W Florissant Ave. It is on the left side of the Community Center. There are employment opportunities there as well.

Kathie is sending out an email regarding Hope Creates. There is so much that can be created together in 2024 to empower our sober St. Louis Community. Please call her if you are interested in having your residents participate in a future Community Creation Event. She would love to talk with you about Hope Creates, Kathie Thomas: 314-494-2557.

Next Step is an organization that provides tuition assistance for those in recovery to go back to school. Applications are open, deadline is April 1st. Visit thenextstepstl.org phone# 314-378-9515 Darcy Glidewell.

Next Meeting- February 13, 2024
Bishop closed in prayer.
Jordan adjourned -minutes recorded by Kim Rodriguez