SI SUPRT Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2026 noon-1:00 p.m. via Zoom
Hamilton/White County

In Attendance:

Chris Dennis, EHD
Danielle Camp, EHD
Sharron Orrick, EHD
Misty Eftink, EHD
Holly Kotner, EHD
Theresa Oxford, EHD
Jerrie Baxley-Brown, EHD
Brandy Scates,White County Public Defenders Office
Drew Donelson, EHD
Mike Tyson, SIRAC
Kimberly Scott-Pilkington, EHD
Haley Smith, EHD
Kiesha Fromm, EHD
Misty Smith, EHD
Elizabeth Cook, EHD
Bev Holland, Region 5

Standing Coalition Business:

- Minutes from the August meeting were approved unanimously with a motion made by Holly Kotner. Drew Donelson seconded the motion.

New and Standing Coalition Reports:

- Chris Dennis (EHD) reported that the First Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg was recognized with the "Community Partner Award" at the recently held SICHC meeting. Their "Loads of Love" outreach has been extremely beneficial to our community.

- Mike Tyson (SIRAC) spoke on the upcoming "Walk for Recovery" to be held on September 26th in Carmi. This is an annual event that started in Mt. Vernon, IL. He reported that the largest attended location was in Marion, IL in 2023 with approximately 200 people in attendance. This event is held to celebrate those in long-term recovery. There is a dinner planned including BBQ, there will be vendors available, speakers, naloxone to be distributed, and lots of fellowship. Additionally, there will be hot dogs provided to kids in attendance and there will be a bounce house for them to enjoy. This

event is family-focused and everyone is welcome to attend. A flyer was shared with the council and it was asked that members share it, as well. Flyers have also been on display at Angie's Wash & Fold in Carmi. Haley volunteered to reach out to local media sources.

- Brandi Scates (White County Public Defenders Office) spoke on her position with the court house and her focus on helping those navigate the system. Her primary focus is bridging the gap between those in need and the court system. Assistance includes seeking treatment, mental health, obtaining their GED, navigating DCFS, acquiring their drivers license, and any other avenue they may need assistance with. She added that it is her goal to help those in need feel more comfortable taking the steps necessary to "re-enter" society. This position with the Public Defenders office is implemented nationwide, with a reported 15 advocates in Illinois.

- Drew Donelson (EHD) gave the following numbers for the month of August.
    - 2,260 Naloxone kits distributed
    - 877 people trained in the use of Naloxone
    - 145 fentanyl test strips distributed

- Drew added that 821 kits were distributed during the DuQuion State Fair. This number is substantially lower than previous years, the extreme heat during the fair likely played a part in lower attendance.

- Kiesha Fromm (EHD) informed the council that there will be a Recovery Event held in Hamilton County on October 10th. There will be resources available, as well as speakers, a band, food, give-aways, a mobile clinic, and peer recovery support available. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

- Chris Dennis (EHD) spoke briefly on the Substance Use Strategic Planning meeting. They will discuss top health priorities for our community members. It is their hope to gain council members with success stories and to get them involved in community outreach. It would be beneficial for those in our area to become aware of what the SI SUPRT council does and to gain community partners. Reducing the stigma of naloxone will remain a major goal of the councils. It was suggested that Chris (and others) produce a video to be shared on social media to boost awareness of the council's work and goals.

- Chris added that there is a free laundry event to be held in McLeansboro. The Wash Room will host the event on September 22 from 2-4. Additionally, the council was reminded of the upcoming "Recovery Picnic" to be held at Karel Park in Eldorado on September 24th at 5:30.

- Motion was made by Holly Kotner to adjourn this meeting, with Drew Donelson seconding the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is set forWednesday October 21st at noon via Zoom.