

# MCRSP LIFELINE

4th Edition  
Volume 7



August 2024



## OVERDOSE AWARENESS EVENT

MCRSP held a booth at Recovery Lighthouse's 4th annual Overdose Awareness Day event on August 31, 2024, at the Pettis County Courthouse Lawn in Sedalia. The event featured several key speakers: Christine Smith, Director of Prevention and Crisis Services at the Department of Mental Health, who discussed 988 and other crisis services; Missouri Representative Brad Pollitt, who provided an update on legislative actions in Jefferson City to

address the opioid epidemic; and Pettis County Sheriff Brad Anders, who explained the application of the Good Samaritan Law within his department.

Additionally, Courtnee Chartier, MPS, MRSS, conducted a Narcan training and demonstration, equipping attendees with crucial skills to effectively respond to opioid overdoses. This event successfully combined informative presentations with practical training to enhance community knowledge and preparedness.

## NARR TRAINING MODULES

MCRSP's new Executive Director, Brendan Steenbergen, has been actively engaging with the regional coalitions to strengthen our network and collaborative efforts. Recently, on August 13th, Brendan visited the ARCA Respite House in St. Louis, where he met with Jordan Hampton, the Director of Housing for ARCA. This visit is part of his ongoing efforts to connect with key partners and gain a deeper understanding of the diverse needs in our community. By making these rounds, Brendan is ensuring that our organization remains closely aligned with the local coalitions, in order to most effectively address the challenges faced by our regional partners. Brendan's dedication to developing these connections is crucial for advancing our mission and improving our programs and services.



## MINI-GRANTS

The Missouri Coalition of Recovery Support Providers receives \$30,000 annually from the Missouri Department of Mental Health to help community organizations host local events that raise awareness about substance use, break stigma, and connect individuals to essential resources. This year, our mini grant funding is being allocated rapidly—over half of our total \$30,000 has already been awarded. We encourage organizations to apply soon to take advantage of the remaining funds.



## MINI GRANT AWARDS



On August 31, 2024, Fresh Start hosted their "Together We Can!" Family Fun Day Event in observance of Overdose Awareness Day. This free event brought together local residents, the recovery community, and families from Callaway County to celebrate hope and resilience while addressing the issues of addiction and stigma. The event was designed to create an inclusive and supportive environment, offering a variety of activities and resources related to bringing awareness to drug usage and overdoses.

Thanks to \$1,000 in funding from the Department of Mental Health, awarded to Fresh Start by MCRSP, the event was able to offer a variety of free amenities and resources to attendees. Throughout the day, attendees were treated to free meals, giveaways, and educational booths from community partner agencies. These booths

provided valuable information and resources on addiction recovery and support services, helping to bridge gaps in knowledge and connect individuals with the tools they need to pursue their recovery journeys.

The success of the event highlighted Fresh Start's ongoing commitment to creating positive change and providing meaningful support for individuals and families affected by substance use. The event not only showcased the organization's ongoing efforts to address the challenges of addiction but also illustrated the broader impact of community involvement in the recovery process. Overall, the Family Fun Day Event served as a powerful reminder of the strength found in community and the vital role that collective efforts play in supporting recovery and combating stigma.

## MCRSP CONTACT INFORMATION

### Brendon Steenbergen

Executive Director

Missouri Coalition of Recovery Support Providers

 573.999.6263  [brendon.steenbergen@mcrsp.org](mailto:brendon.steenbergen@mcrsp.org)

 [www.mcrsp.org](http://www.mcrsp.org)

### Christa Kiesling

Director of Administration and Outreach

Missouri Coalition of Recovery Support Providers




 573.680.4476  [christa@mcrsp.org](mailto:christa@mcrsp.org)



### Wm. Andy Thomas, MA., CCJP, MARS

Housing Director

Missouri Coalition of Recovery Support Providers

 573.489.6325  573.761.1087  573.761.1089

 1305 Southwest Blvd, Suite D  
Jefferson City, MO 65109

### Brendan Pasley

Assistant Housing Director

Missouri Coalition of Recovery Support Providers

 228.328.5582  [brendan@mcrsp.org](mailto:brendan@mcrsp.org)

