

MCRSP LIFELINE

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FAMILY RECOVERY DAY

On September 21, 2024, the KC Coalition hosted Family Recovery Day at Concourse Park in Kansas City. The event featured 38 vendors, including municipal courts, treatment centers, and MCRSP. Despite the rain, over 400 attendees participated in the event which included games, bounce houses, and notably, Bluey made a special appearance.

Participants heard inspiring recovery stories, learned about local resources,

and enjoyed a DJ and live music.

MCRSP's executive director, Brendon Steenbergen, and housing director, Andy Thomas, were also present, hosting a booth to represent the organization and to connect with attendees. Their participation highlighted MCRSP's commitment to supporting recovery efforts in the community and building relationships with those seeking help on their recovery journey and information.

MBHC CONFERENCE

The Missouri Behavioral Health Conference took place from September 12 to September 13, 2024, attracting over a thousand participants eager to engage with the latest mental health resources and solutions. Featuring more than 50 vendors, including MCRSP, the conference provided valuable information on various mental health issues, from prevention strategies to treatment options. Attendees had the opportunity to hear from renowned speakers who shared insights on critical topics in behavioral health, with the final presentation given by Jodi Sweetin from *Fuller House*.

The MBHC Conference provided a valuable opportunity for networking and collaboration among professionals dedicated to improving mental health services across the state. MCRSP's participation underscored our commitment to raising awareness and supporting recovery initiatives within the community.



ST. LOUIS RECOVERY FEST

On September 14, 2024, the Recovery Coalition of Greater St. Louis held its annual Recovery Fest at Forest Park in St. Louis, MO. The event drew approximately 100 participants who were greeted with free food, lively music, and engaging entertainment. The event featured several vendors representing local programs. Among these was the availability of NARCAN, highlighting the importance of overdose prevention.

The day included a lineup of impactful speakers, including Dr. Marsha Hawkins of CAFÉ, and Brendon Steenbergen, the executive director of MCRSP. Participants also had the opportunity to listen to inspirational stories of recovery shared by individuals who have triumphed over addiction.

Overall, the Recovery Fest was a vital platform for building connections, raising awareness, and celebrating the strength of the Greater St. Louis recovery community.



RECOVERY JAMBOREE

On Saturday, September 28, 2024, the fourth annual Recovery Jamboree took place at the scenic Sanctuary of Hope in Branson, Missouri. This event brought together a diverse crowd, united by a shared commitment to recovery, healing, and community support. The Jamboree was a testament to the resilience and strength of individuals and families in recovery, offering a day filled with fun, education, and connection.

The event hosted 30 vendors, each contributing unique resources and services to promote wellness and recovery. These exhibitors offered games at their booths, creating a lively and interactive atmosphere for attendees to learn about recovery resources in a fun, informal setting. With music and a bounce house for the kids, this event offered something for all ages.



Additionally, participants were provided with a complimentary lunch featuring hot dogs, baked beans, chips, and a cookie. Beyond the entertainment, the Recovery Jamboree played a vital role in challenging the stigma associated with substance use disorders, while emphasizing the significance of community support in the recovery process. The event was an undeniable success.



LETTER FROM THE E.D.

Dear MCRSP Community,

As we wrap up a busy National Recovery Month, I wanted to take a moment to update you on our activities at MCRSP. In my second month, I've visited all five regions in Missouri and met so many great people. I had the pleasure of attending St. Louis Recovery Day and Kansas City Family Recovery Day, attending the coalition meetings for the Central and Southwest regions, along with a fantastic visit to Mission Missouri in Sikeston.

Last week, Shelley Taylor, Dr. Marsha Hawkins-Hourd, and I spoke at the Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment legislative task force hearing. We outlined MCRSP's role, and delineated the difference between recovery treatment and recovery support services.

Afterward, I met with Rep. John Black, who chairs the task force and had a

great conversation about how the State of Missouri can continue to partner with the work we all do. Thank you for your continued hard work and support!

Warm regards,

Brendon
Executive Director, MCRSP



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

HAVEN RECOVERY

On September 28, 2024, the Recovery Resource Fair hosted by Haven Recovery brought together over 225 attendees for a day of support, resources, and community. Several organizations participated, offering a range of resources and kid-friendly activities to serve both individuals in recovery and their families. The event provided a welcoming and inclusive environment where attendees could connect with essential recovery services while enjoying a fun, family-friendly atmosphere.

Thanks to the mini grant funding from



the Department of Mental Health, awarded to Haven Recovery by MCRSP, the organization was able to provide and serve over 300 complimentary meals. This event not only supported the attendees' needs, but also helped to reduce the stigma associated with substance use by promoting education and awareness about recovery in the community.





On September 7, 2024, the ROC Recovery Games brought together over 30 attendees to support individuals in recovery and their families. This annual event, hosted in a safe, drug-free space, was designed to celebrate sobriety and community while providing an inclusive environment for those on their recovery journey. Thanks to funding from the Department of Mental Health, awarded to the ROC by MCRSP, the event offered a meaningful day of activities, food, and fellowship. The ROC Recovery Games support MCRSP's mission to promote recovery and reduce the stigma surrounding substance use, while providing a space for families and individuals to celebrate their journey toward living a sober life.



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