Will County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (WCSAPC)
Monthly Meeting Agenda – IN PERSON AND ZOOM
July 28, 2026 – 9:30AM
Approved: August 25, 2026

Members Present
In-Person: Tim Ackermann (10), Aishwarya Balakrishna (10), Yolanda Barnes (12), Caitlin Daly (10), Connie Dewall (10), Paula Ekstrom (12), Courtney Garfield (7), Matisha Green (12), Brittany Gruver (7), Chuck Mascolino (7), Bonnie McPhillips (7), Brook Melvin (10), Liaquath Mohiuddin (10), Sam Ortega-Hughes (10), Courtney Sanfilippo (10), Leanne Smith (12), Sheree Stilwell (8), Jackie VanOvermeiren (2), Jeremy Zdzinicki (7)

Zoom: Crystal Allen (12), Diana Belicke (10), Dominica Dybas (12), Celeste Fonteca (12), Conrad Hardeman (12), Rep. Natalie Manley Office (11), Bill McCarty (5), Angelia Robinson (12), Allison Thomas (12)

I. Call to Order/Welcome- Meeting called to order at 9:40AM. Huge thanks to Montrose Behavioral Health for providing refreshments for today's meeting!

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Introductions (Name & Organization)
Welcome to any first-time attendees

Member Awards

July member appreciation awards were given to the following individuals:

- Jackie VanOvermeiren-"Champion Award" for dedication to the HIPS trailer and taking role in parent sector to connect the Coalition with Eastern Will County parents and youth
- Kayla DeCant-"Connector Award" for connecting the Coalition with Lewis University and assisting with hosting the Coalition event in October

- Tim Ackermann- “Catalyst Award” for his efforts in completing quit kit initiative

Presentation from Caitlin Daly – MAPP : Caitlin Daly provided a thorough and informative presentation regarding the MAPP Collaborative initiative and how it works to identify areas of need and service gaps in Will County in order to better serve Will County residents

IV. Reports:

a. **Treasurer** - Loren Yaksich - Financial Report
    a. Reported by Courtney Garfield- no expenses this month, remaining balance is $21,750. Motion to approve by Caitlin Daly, 2nd by Connie DeWall
b. **Secretary** – Kayla DeCant - Approval of June minutes
    a. Motion to approve by Bonnie McPhillips, 2nd by Yolanda Barnes

V. WCSAPC Requirements:

a. **DFC Grant Report** – Courtney Garfield
    i. DFC grant report is due at the end of September
    ii. End of grant period is approaching at the end of September and Coalition will be entering into year 9 of the grant cycle
b. **708 Mental Health Board Grant Report**– Courtney Garfield
    i. Submitted quarter one report
    ii. Paula Eckstrom and Troy Green attended CADCA mid-year and will present about their experiences and what they learned from the conference at the next Coalition meeting

VI. Old Business

a. Deflection Grant Update
    i. The Deflection grant was renewed for year three!
    ii. Alexciana Castaneda has resigned to pursue educational goals, everyone wishes her well
    iii. Will be looking for new candidate to fill this position, stay tuned!
b. Advocacy Update- Aishwarya Balakrishna
    i. IPN met with the staff at Dick Durbin’s office to discuss the importance of DFC funding and encourage reauthorization of DFC funding
    ii. Also encouraged to revisit bill/issue that had previously passed the House but did not make it through the Senate to extend DFC funding for years 10-15

VII. New Business

a. Coalition Event – October 7th at Lewis University
    i. Courtney discussed Coalition event that will be taking place on October 7th at Lewis University for youth and college students and will feature Tony Huffman, who is a motivational speaker and retired BMX athlete who has been sober since 2007 after serving a prison sentence for drugs
    ii. There should be space for resource tables and volunteers from the Coalition to assist will be needed!

****Will only do subcommittee and sector reporting this month if time allows.**

VIII. Subcommittee/Action Team Reports

a. **Alcohol** – Brittany Gruver
    i. Next alcohol subcommittee meeting is on August 25th at 9AM
    ii. Courtney and Brittany are working with Brent to create giveaways that focus on preventing social hosting, will present at next alcohol subcommittee meeting
b. **Smoking/Vaping** – Tim Ackermann
    i. Committee met this past Friday
    ii. Quit kits are ready
    iii. Going to complete media scan to observe how nicotine products are marketed to youth
c. **Opioid-** Connie Dewall
    i. PSA is completed and will be airing soon in September
    ii. Will be making new goals for committee at next meeting
d. **Social Media** – Courtney Garfield
    i. Facebook: 3.1k views, 889 viewers, 137 content interactions, 4 link clicks, 81 visits, 5 new followers
    ii. Instagram:1.8 k views, 87-reach, 28 content interactions, 0 link clicks, 8 visits, 3 new followers
e. **Care Team Updates** – Courtney Garfield
    i. Jackie VanOvermeiren reported that the HIPS trailer has been attending many back to school events, discussed recent event at Steger School District in which teachers were reporting that 4th and 5th graders have been vaping
f. **Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) Update** – Dr. William McCarty
    i. No updates

IX. Sector Reports & Sharing: ** Sector reports were skipped due to time constraints, agencies were given opportunities to make individua announcements**

a. **Business in the Community:** Brian Delli
b. **Civic Volunteer Groups:** United Way
c. **College or University:** Kayla DeCant/Lewis University
d. **Faith-Based, Religious or Fraternal Organizations:** Sheree Stilwell
e. **Healthcare Professionals:** Rosecrance
f. **Law Enforcement Agency:** Lockport PD
g. **Media:** Diane DeVries
h. **Organizations Focusing in Substance Abuse:** Tim Cramer
i. **Parents:** Jackie VanOvermeiren
j. **Schools:** Homer Glen District 33C
k. **State or Local Government Agencies:** Kathleen Burke
l. **Youth:** Amy Flores/Give Back
m. **Youth Servicing Organizations:** OPEN

Note: Please limit any individual sector reporting to 10 minutes.

X. Announcements/Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 10:33AM

- **Cornerstone Services:** Angelia Robinson reported that the location at 800 Black Rd is offering first come, first serve drug and alcohol evaluations, including urine screen, for 18+ with Medicaid insurance only, on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, can call 815-207-6040 to complete a screening
- **Rosecrance:** Erica Antonucci is the new director of eating disorder treatment at Rosecrance
    - Erica is offering a one hour CEU on 8/18 from 9-10AM
    - Offering virtual eating disorder IOP for adults
    - Allison Thomas will be shifting roles to a new position in the Indiana area, Diana has been newly assigned to Coalition area and will be attending Coalition meetings moving forward. Welcome Diana!
- **Sheree Stilwell:** Troy School District will be having an online resource fair, contact Mr. Peterson at Troy School District to provide updates about your agency and resources
- **Jackie VanOvermeiren:** Peotone will be hosting their second National Night Out- HIPS trailer will be there
- **Gateway Foundation:** Hosting a BBQ at the Aurora location on 7/31

- **Connie Dewall:** Your Light Still Shines will be hosted on 8/27 at Lincoln Way West and will include the HIPS trailer, resources tables, and a presentation about Kratom
- **Paula Ekstrom- Wilmington Coalition:** Share Fest will be hosted in Wilmington on August 1st at 9AM at Wilmington High School, if anyone is interested in being a vendor, you must arrive at 730AM. Share Fest offers free haircuts, clothing, bikes, food and will have over 30 vendors.
- **Montrose Behavioral Health:** hosting a back to school drive for children in the community if you know children in need or want to make a donation!
- **Deputy Chief Jeremy Zdzinicki:** Will County Sheriff's Office CSI division is able to attend community events to offer fingerprinting for kids, email for more information!

XI. **Next Main Meeting:** August 25, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. IN Person/VIA ZOOM
Next Alcohol Meeting: August 25, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. IN Person/VIA ZOOM
Next Smoking/Vaping Meeting: August 21, 2026 at 10:00 am VIA ZOOM
Next Opioid Meeting: September 22, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. IN Person/VIA ZOOM

Meeting adjourned at 10:33AM

Drug-Free Communities Definition of a Coalition:

A community-based formal arrangement for cooperation and collaboration among groups or sectors of a community in which each group retains its identity, but all agree to work together toward a common goal of building a safe, healthy, and drug-free community.