

Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery

Calendar Year 2024
Annual Report



Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery (SCSOAR)

C. Jamie Edwards, MA, M.Ed, LCAS, CCS, CPS – Director

Purpose

The Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery Serves Surry County Organizations and Residents Seeking Health and Wellness Improvement, Self-Direction, and Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Change and Recovery.

Values

Ensuring Rigorous Ethical Standards and Expertise, the Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery Respects the Dignity and Welfare of All People, Promotes Self Determination and Honors Our Community - While Acting with Humility, Passion, Unity, Servanthood and Gratitude.

Vision

The Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery Empowers Surry County Organizations and Residents through Partnerships Advancing Community Health and Safety.

Staff

C. Jame Edwards, MA, M.Ed, LCAS, CCS, CPS - Director

Steve Lawson, MPA – Assistant Director

Charlotte Reeves, MA, CPSS – Prevention and Administrative Services Manager

Rebecca Dursee, MSN – Ride the Road to Recovery Coordinator

Emily Venable-Schiff – Recovery to Work Advisor

Ingle Armstrong-Sloop, MA, LCMHC, LCAS – SUD and Clinical Services Consultant

Teresa O'Dell - Ride The Road to Recovery Driver

Courtney Edwards - Ride The Road to Recovery Driver

Lori Murphy - Ride The Road to Recovery Driver

Introduction to SCOSAR

The Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery (SCOSAR), an arm of Surry County Government implemented the following Substance Use Prevention and Intervention Strategies for Calendar Year 2024:

- Strategic Planning/Community Assessment and Planning
- Employment Services
- Early Intervention and Substance Use Prevention Services
- Recovery Support Services to include Transportation and Accountability and Recovery Court (ARC) Funding
- Post Overdose Response Team Activities (PORT)

Strategic planning activities use formal assessment and evaluation models based on the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) and Results Based Accountability (RBA) methodology. Collaborative strategic planning activities address opioid misuse, addiction, overdose, and related issues, including staff and community support.

Employment-related services offer workforce development opportunities to people in treatment or recovery such as job training, job skills, job placement, interview coaching, resume review, professional attire, and relevant short term in demand training courses.

Early Intervention and Substance Use Prevention Services include programs, services, and training designed to encourage early identification and intervention for children or adolescents who may be struggling with problematic use of drugs or mental health conditions. Training programs target parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health or human services professionals, or others in contact with children or adolescents. Prevention focused Community Based Activities and Environmental Prevention efforts include a concentration on Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma Informed Practices. Medication Lock Boxes, Drug Deactivation Kits, and Naloxone Kits were distributed to those in need.

Recovery support services deliver expanded activities within the realm of transportation. Transportation is provided for community clients seeking treatment, medical and recovery services who have no other means or modes of transportation. A pilot transportation program started in late 2024 with the goal of providing transportation from the recoveree's residence to employment location during a time limited duration. In addition, funding was provided to the Surry County Superior and District Court Judges Office to support an Accountability and Recovery Court Coordinator Staff Position late in 2024 with Accountability and Recovery Court expected to begin in Spring 2025.

The Post Overdose Response Team provides support that connects persons who have experienced non-fatal drug overdoses to addiction treatment, recovery support, primary healthcare, or other services or supports they need to improve their health or well-being. A team of peer support specialist with lived experience is paired with the Surry County Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Team from the Surry County Emergency Medical Services. On October 1, 2024 SCSOAR Peer Support Specialist Positions were transferred to Surry

EMS to create a seamless community and co-responder model that better fits the need of our community and based on best practice.

In Summary, the Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery expects to focus our work in coming years on the following initiatives:

- Increased focus on research, data and evaluation frameworks to ensure programming based on evidenced based processes to focus on client and population level change.
- Increased accessibility of treatment supports and services, court and employment access via door-to-door transportation services.
- Increased employability skills, job placement rates and long-term retention of prospective/current or future employees suffering from addiction or in recovery.
- Implementation of prevention focused programming via community-based activities, youth prevention education, environmental and early intervention models to increase community protective factors and decrease risk factors related to substance use.
- Renewed focus on supporting law enforcement, the courts and the criminal justice system in unique needs of the substance use population and their associated criminogenic factors.
- Increased the accessibility of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) using a Post Overdose Reponses Team Model with field MAT induction to include clinical behavioral health supports.

SCOSAR 2024 Accomplishments by Program

Strategic Planning

The foundation of all program activities is effective Strategic Planning. Strategic Planning activities included assessment and evaluation work supporting Employment Services, Early Intervention and Prevention Services, Recovery Support Services and Post Overdose Response Team Activities.

Community Assessment and Planning Activities (part of Strategic Planning) were based on the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) and resulted in the delivery of evidenced based services and programming to the citizens of Surry County. The implementation of the selected evidenced informed strategies directly resulted in active services provided to the citizens of Surry County and leveraged external funding from the North Carolina Opioid Settlement Fund, Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The results of our comprehensive multiyear assessment were reviewed during the Surry County Opioid Settlement Annual Meeting in July 2024. SCOSAR and its partners published Surry County's Strategic Plan for a Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) and begin full



implementation during the program year.

The Surry County Plan based on over two years of research and planning centered on the development of a ROSC to include: healthcare access and availability, employment that supports retention and competitive salaries, housing, transportation and education including educational pathways. Program implementation activities and data analysis indicated the need for formal outcomes planning – resulting in the adoption of Results Based Accountability (RBA) with conversations occurring in Spring 2024, training being provided to staff and partners in late Fall 2024 with full implementation expected in Calendar Year 2025. These services, delivered by county staff and community partners, include the valued voices of those with lived experience and our community.

Strategic Planning Success Story

The Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery (SCOSAR) and the Piedmont Triad Workforce Development Board (PTRWDB) Received two Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) INSPIRE Grants to develop the recovery to work ecosystem in Surry County. PTRWDB and SCOSAR conducted a 12-month research-based needs assessment and planning process that addressed the National Academy of Medicine’s continuum of care for substance use response efforts (prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery). The needs assessment process included the collection of local survey and interview data and review of national, state, and local quantitative data that were used to better identify, prioritize, and connect evidence-based practices to interventions that are likely to positively affect the substance use epidemic in Surry County using the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) planning model.

The INSPIRE grants address the seven priorities of the INSPIRE Initiative that relate to workforce re-entry and economic impacts that included enhancing the following recovery assets: training and job placement, community linkages, educational supports, workplace recovery toolbox materials, community participation, enhancements of the county’s needs assessment process and alignment of data to the North Carolina Opioid Dashboard 2.0.

The goal of the project was to encourage the community to build a complete Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC). A ROSC is a coordinated network of community-based services and supports that is person-centered and builds on the strengths and resiliencies of individuals, families, and communities to achieve abstinence and improved health, wellness, and quality of life for those with or at risk of alcohol and drug problems.

Recovery Support Services (Transportation and Accountability and Recovery Court)

The purpose of the Surry County Substance Abuse Recovery Transportation Program - popularly referred to as “Ride the Road to Recovery” (RRR) is to provide no-cost non-emergency transportation service for Surry County residents seeking connection to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery services who lack access to personal, private, or public transportation. RRR will transport clients meeting this criterion to substance use disorder treatment providers, court appearances, probation meetings, Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings, Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) meetings, and scheduled non-emergency medical appointments. RRR operates Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM excluding County holidays.

Transportation services for eligible clients is available throughout Surry County. RRR is a “Demand Response” service that provides “door-to-door” pickup and delivery transportation. RRR vehicles do not follow a fixed route and travel throughout Surry County in accordance with the client’s specific requests. Routes for RRR vehicle operators are designed two business days before the scheduled pickup by RRR staff to match the limited number of RRR vehicles and operators. Therefore, clients are required to make reservations for services at least two business days prior to actual service date to provide RRR staff sufficient time to match client’s requests with available transportation assets.

RRR Services are an integral part of the Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery (SCOSAR). SCOSAR clients from the Post Overdose Response Teams as well as Recovery to Work Program, in addition to community agencies and substance use service providers all benefit.

SCSOAR is also proud to provide funding for the Surry County Accountability and Recovery Court (ARC) administered by the Superior and District Court Judge’s Office under this strategy. It is expected the first Accountability and Recovery Court Session will be held during Spring 2025.

Recovery Support Services Success Story

This Success Story supports the Recovery Support Services Strategy with efforts to implement the SCOSAR Ride the Road to Recovery Transportation Program. The Ride the Road to Recovery Transportation Coordinator shared the following perspectives in relation our program.

“Transportation interacts with clients in a unique way. The clients are sitting behind us, speaking to the back of our heads. Those we serve are often going through a stressful time, whether it is Court, Probation, IOP at Daymark, TASC or a full multitude of life’s problems. As drivers we often don’t know the challenges of the day that the clients face or even the outcomes of the appointments, we drive them to. Our job as Drivers is to greet the client as they enter our vehicle, then take the cue from them. Clients may be anxious, depressed, angry or be experiencing hundreds of other emotions – often at the same time. We never know what to anticipate.”

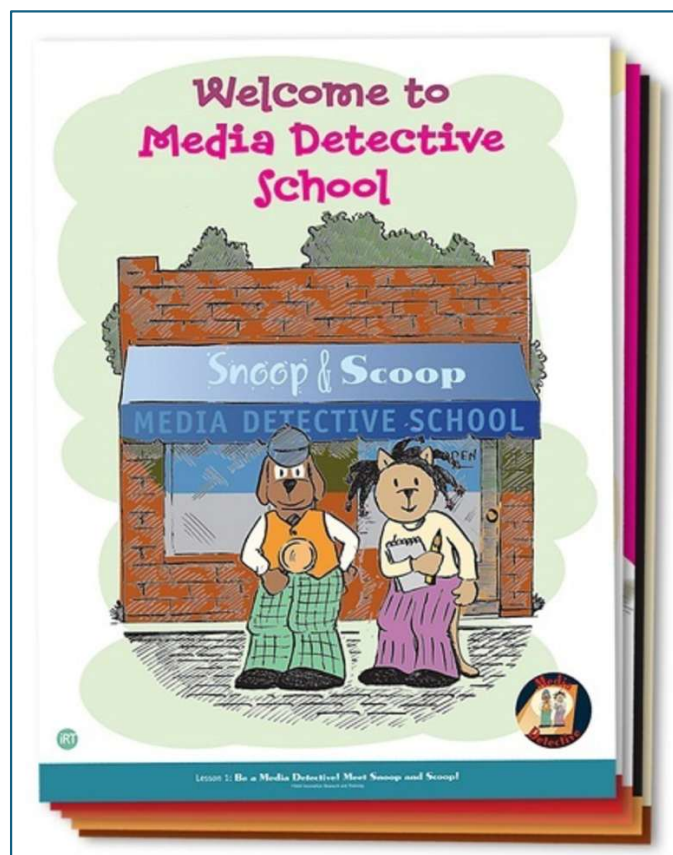
For example, one client, a male, in their 50’s rode with us to Intensive Outpatient treatment at Daymark for 13 weeks, then several weeks of relapse classes afterwards. He would reply to our greetings in the morning, otherwise no response. I usually played the radio very low. But, one morning I heard my favorite song, Alan Jackson, singing “Here in The Real World”. My client, sitting in the back seat started singing, loud, beautiful voice all the way to Daymark. After that, he started sharing his Story with us. Small steps are meaningful.”

Early Intervention and Substance Use Prevention Services

The Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery (SCOSAR) accessed Early Intervention and Prevention funding supporting programs, services and training for youth, parents, and professionals in Surry County. These efforts encourage early identification and intervention who may be struggling with substance or behavioral health issues. Early Intervention data collected from youth focused on the delivery of mental health and substance use services, perceptions of current services, levels of perceived support and patterns of physical health.



Multiple community partners, government agencies and nonprofits contributed to the delivery of Early Intervention Services. Programming efforts were focused on the delivery of intervention programming such as Catch My Breath, Media Detective, Girls Circle and Talk They Hear You – evidence-based programs delivered within the school and community setting. Another activity held was a Summer Camp for at risk youth with local community agencies that addressed risk and protective factors for participating youth and served as an excellent method to reduce and delay possible substance use.



Materials Supporting the SCOSAR Media Detective Program for Elementary and Middle School Age Students

Additional projects included faith base sector partnerships along with local parks and recreation resources to deliver curriculum based and other programming to youth in the community. These partnerships leveraged existing relationships and created new ones to ensure that youth were served by effective, and outcome based Early Intervention activities. Staff provided trainings to school, public library staff and numerous community agencies ensuring adults better understand how to reduce and delay youth substance use. Extensive work was completed with UNC-CH and Injury Free NC during the process.



Early Intervention and Substance Use Prevention Activity Examples

Gogh to Camp

“Gogh to Camp” Art Camp at The Children’s Center was held in July 2024. SCOSAR and The Children’s Center partnered to have 20 youth (elementary, middle, and high school) participated over four days while being involved in art activities, media literacy, and connecting with the community.

Gogh to Camp also collaborated with Reeves Community Center’s Summer Adventure Camp and had a “Kindness Rocks Day”. We traveled to Mount Airy Middle School and provided materials and art supplies so all camp kids could make kindness rocks and then hid them on the walking trails, at the Historic Courthouse, and at the Children’s Center. Fifty-nine youth and adults participated in this community outreach activity.

Surry County Schools STEMmersion program

SCOSAR, along with the Surry County Schools STEMmersion program, and Reeves Summer Adventure Camp in July 2024, held a day with youth to increase alcohol awareness. The group discussed the negative effects of alcohol on a person ranging from damaging health consequences over the long term to immediate effects on the body that cause it to be difficult, and even dangerous, to do everyday things, such as driving. A total of 45 youths and adults were involved in STEMmersion activities.

STEMmersion Externship

STEMmersion is a program through Surry County Schools. The teacher externship is designed to expose teachers to careers and work environments so that they can work with students more effectively. It is an opportunity for teachers to observe first-hand what the 21st-century workplace entails and to interact with business professionals. The program allows teachers to provide links between the skills and knowledge taught in the classroom and those being used in the workplace so that we can better prepare young people for the workplace and ready for the challenges there. SCOSAR is a proud partner site and hosted three teachers during the summer providing information about the population and

individual impact of substance use on our communities that can be directly shared with students in the classroom.

Mount Airy High School – National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week – March 2024

Mount Airy High School participated in this national awareness campaign with four days of learning about substance use in partnership with the National Institute of Drug Abuse. Mount Airy High School was strategically and demographically pinned on a national map with their daily prevention activities noted. SCOSAR served all the 9th grade health students in the 2024 Spring Semester totaling seventy-two.

Girl's Circle Early Intervention Programming – Continuous weekly meetings throughout 2024

Girl's Circle is an evidence-based structured support and skill-building group for youth ages 12-18 years, which integrates relational theory, resiliency practices, and skills building. The program is designed to increase positive connections, strengths, and competence in youth. The goals of the program are to increase resiliency, school attachment, educational expectations, confidence, and self-efficacy. A recent service project included when Twelve Oaks in Mount Airy needed donations for patients relocated from Western North Carolina due to Hurricane Helene. Girls packed hygiene bags and help gather clothes and other donations to give during this time of need. Our current group is at East Surry High School and on average three to six youth participate in the weekly activity.

Trinity Episcopal Church Youth Group – Continuous weekly meetings throughout 2024

Trinity Youth group is a partnership in which SCOSAR works to support local youth in the Mount Airy area schools including Meadowview Magnet Middle School, Gentry Middle School, and North Surry High School. We meet at Trinity Episcopal every Tuesday afterschool to have skill building groups and dinner. The church provides the lead facilitator and volunteers to help with preparing meals and transportation. The total number of youths is 15 to 20 girls and boys.

Red Ribbon Week October 2024

Red Ribbon Week is observed annually from October 23rd to 31st. Red Ribbon is based on scientific principles for substance abuse prevention. The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy as well as federal departments of education, justice, and health and human services supports the following principles that have been tested through rigorous research method.

Red Ribbon Week Total Students Reached Per Grade Level

Elementary Schools: 4,439 Students

Middle Schools: 2,403 each Students

High Schools: 3,358 each Students

Individual Contacts = 96 each through Interact Clubs.

Total Students Impacted During RRW 2024 = 10,296

SCOSAR also includes a community event during Red Ribbon Week. This year we kicked off Red Ribbon Week at Dobson's Spooktacular Community Event. Total count of youth reached at this event included over 300 and 46 adults.

Resist the Influence Fall Semester 2024

Resist the Influence is a four-day drug education class for 9th grade Health classes. The subjects covered are Mental Health, Alcohol, Marijuana, and Polysubstance Use. The goal of resist the influence is to raise awareness of the harmful effects of substance use, reinforce positive coping skills, to teach youth where to access credible information, and to strengthen refusal skills.

SCOSAR in partnership with All-Stars Prevention Coalition to hold Resist the Influence classes at Mount Airy High School, Elkin High School, Surry Central High School, East Surry High School, and North Surry High School. Students received a certificate of completion along with a Safe Sober T-Shirt. Resist the Influence Activities served 462 students.

SCOSAR Internship Program – Ongoing each school semester

Participation in SCOSAR's Internship Program provides individuals with the knowledge of how a healthy community operates as well as show them the many hurdles that stand in the way of building such a community. As residents of Surry County themselves, Interns are provided with a more expansive view of their community by taking part in this program. Interns play an active role in making our community healthier by engaging in community outreach and mitigating the number of residents who suffer from substance use disorder in our community.

In addition, participants accumulate an in-depth understanding of how addiction affects both an individual, family, and a community. Interns learn business etiquette and understand how to navigate general business communications. The Prevention and Early Intervention Program considers the participation of interns an essential factor for future success, as the input and viewpoints from interns is critical to shaping youth-oriented programs.

SCOSAR partners with all school systems and invites any student who meets the program requirements to apply and interview. The students work alongside staff and complete various projects throughout the semester with a final PowerPoint presentation due at the end. They can also use our office and their experiences on their resume, college applications, and job applications going forward well into their future.

Early Intervention and Substance Use Prevention Services Success Story

Leadership at SCOSAR was invited by a team at UNC-Chapel Hill to apply to participate in a pilot study called Strengthening Systems for North Carolina Children (SYNC). SYNC targets communities with elevated rates of risk factors for ACEs (driven largely by substance use), and trains interested community members to understand how systems and structures influence ACEs. More than two dozen people from concerned agencies across the county came together for these workshops. The collaboration unveiled common themes and local risk factors. Distilling the evidence and feedback provided by the group resulted in causal loop diagrams, used to highlight points of impact that could interrupt the intergenerational cycles of trauma - the precursor of ACEs.

This same SYNC Group was then invited to choose a small multidisciplinary team to engage in further training led by UNC and Injury-Free NC, called the Collaborative Learning Institute (CLI). Through CLI Training, this 3-member team engage in a lengthy process of brainstorming, prioritizing and strategic planning. In the end they prioritized to risk factors, social isolation and the lack of non-violent social problem-solving skills. To count these, a protective factor was also brought to light: increased positive childhood experiences. All these factors are aligned with the reduction and prevention of substance use with youth.

Following CLI, and instead of fighting ACEs, on February 23, 2024 the group PaCEs was born to help ensure Positive Childhood Experiences (PaCEs).

Employment Related Services (Recovery to Work/Recovery Friendly Workplace Program)



The Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery (SCOSAR) accessed Opioid Settlement Strategy Employment funding, to implement job Recovery Friendly Workplace and Recovery to Work Programming. The SCOSAR Recovery Friendly Workplace (RFW) Program supports the health, wellness and safety of local employers by providing education about substance use disorder, prevention, addiction and creating opportunities that support the journey of recovery.

The SCOSAR Recovery to Work Program prepares individuals by helping them develop valuable skills or trades needed to gain employment, begin working, and increase job retention. SCOSAR employs a Recovery Friendly Workplace Advisor who is a community advocate that works as an intermediary between the recovery community and the business community and interacts directly with individuals in recovery.

SCOSAR's Recovery Friendly Workplace programming include three phases. These activities include orientation to address business needs and interest, creation of a formal letter of intent and implementation of actual supportive services. Recovery to Work Programming is then directed to community members in need of a second chance at employment and job training.



Services include the delivery of soft skills training, resume and job application classes, job coaching, and actual job placement based on the individual's unique needs and experiences. The combination of appropriate job placement, while ensuring employers are well supported during and after initial job placement, is paramount to the success of SCOSAR Programming. Cooperative program partners include The Connecticut Center for Addiction Recovery (CCAR), Surry Community College, NCWorks - Surry, Surry County Economic Development Partnership (EDP), and the Piedmont Triad Workforce Development Board.

2024 Recovery to Work Highlights Include

- Successfully collaborated with Surry Community College to provide **23** Employable Skills Workshops.
- Implemented Recovery To Work Employment Transportation Assistance Pilot Program. This program provides time limited transportation to clients in the program with a verifiable need.
- Organized 2nd Annual Job Fair on April 25, 2024 for businesses and job seekers.
- Organized 2nd Annual Panel Discussion-Reimagining Today's Workforce (December 6, 2024).
- Assisted companies with job placements.

- Provision of client support and case management services to clients to ensure successful job retention while also providing support to employers on common challenges RTW Clients face.
- Wayne-Sanderson Farms was awarded the 2024 Recovery to Work Employer of the year.

Expected 2025 Program Activities

- Begin Basic Employable Skills Workshop in Detention Center and connect eligible detainees to employment upon release.
- Identify planning and implementation needs to develop a Pilot Justice-Involved Apprenticeship Program for implementation in 2026.
- Hosting specific seminars for Surry County businesses, government and non-profits that increases their knowledge and ability to employ citizens in recovery.
- The Program Business Advisor will complete the national 120-hour Career Development Facilitator (CDF) Training to better support the career, educational and vocational needs of clients.

Recovery to Work Success Story

A former client shared their experience with the Recovery to Work Program:

“The Recovery Work Program is a vital necessity for this community. While in my addiction I did not know of these resources. When I came out of jail and addiction, I became familiar with them. This program has been extremely helpful to me. When I got convicted and became a felon it created a lot of barriers. I got connected with program staff who have wonderful and been my safe haven.

They believed in me and got me back into college and are great listeners who provides the best advice. Surry Community College has helped me with all the quarks that I have had getting back into college and answering all my questions. Every time I call them, they always help me in some type of way. If it was not for the Recovery to Work Program, I would not have made it this far. I have been sober for 2 years and 4 months. I have a full-time Job, I am a full-time student, I have attained my peer support specialist certification, and I am working to become a recovery coach.

This program has definitely helped me cross some barriers that I could not have on my own. But more than that the people that work for this program give you hope and stability. They work hard to help anyone and everyone achieve.”

Program Strategy: Post Overdose Response Team

Surry County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and the Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery are committed to addressing overdoses and reducing social and health disparities by proving that substance use disorder is a condition that medical professionals can and should treat like any other life-threatening condition. EMS and the Intervention Team, which is staffed with Certified Peer Support Specialist (CPSS) with lived experience, constitute the Surry County Post Overdose Response Team (PORT). This team provides access to care with a high level of wrap-around services focusing on the immediate need for access to medication for addiction treatment and community-based navigation for ongoing care in the community. The Surry County Post Overdose Response Team assist and provides care to individuals who do not have insurance, may not have phones, and may be homeless, with the goal of decreasing barriers to treatment and recovery by bringing lifesaving interventions.

The Post Overdose Response Team includes field-based Medication Assisted Treatment Bridge Services, linkages to MAT Services after the seven-day period to the Surry County Health and Nutrition Center (SC H&NC), and then subsequent connection to other longer term MAT providers. During this time CPSS engages with the patient from the initial paramedicine contact in the field, during all transitions to long term MAT providers and provide supportive services such as connection to clinical and psychological counseling, housing, employment, and other needed recovery services. The collaborative effort, in such an innovative community focused concept, can reduce the social harm associated with opioid use in our community.

Post Overdose Response Team Success Story

This Success Story is relevant to PORT Activities and subsequent Recovery Support provided by the team.

“From the time I decided I was positive I needed a change in my life I have had amazing support and guidance. Starting with the Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery (PORT), who not only guided me every step of the way to detox but didn’t just leave me there. Going into recovery when substance abuse and criminal behavior is all you’ve known was and can be a very scary thing. I grew up thinking that everyone would abandon me for the first mistake I made but with the PORT Team this wasn’t true. In the beginning it was overwhelming because I had lost my license and car to due to my active addiction, so I really stressed about transportation, but with the assistance of SCOSAR I was also introduced to Ride the Road to Recovery who guaranteed transportation. I was introduced to a program called Recovery to Work. Through this program all my worries went away very quickly when it came to my background and what jobs I could and couldn’t get, they guided me through applications based off what type of work I would like to do and even help me set up a resume which I had never done before. Within just a short few days program staff had me an interview at Renfro in Mount Airy and the position was even full time which I was really excited about.”

PORT Strategy Programming Note – Peer Support Specialist/Intervention Team Staff moved to the Surry County Emergency Medical Services on October 1, 2024. This transition allowed for the creation of a Co-Responder Model based on PORT Team Best Practices.

Challenges

There are no panaceas to the substance use epidemic. However, the magnitude and severity of the crisis exacerbate the urgency for solutions. Regrettably, the pursuit of a single solution diverts attention and encourages individuals and communities to often believe there are sole remedies for alcohol and drug-related issues.

To effectively address addiction, community substance use and its associated issues, our community must respond from diverse perspectives and collaborate to implement effective solutions and identify those in need. The challenge we face is how to ensure that individuals receive the support and care they require while simultaneously addressing population-level issues and mitigating the effects of substance use on our entire county, state, and nation.

The challenges mentioned above are why a Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) approach is necessary. The Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care model is a framework for providing services and supports that promote recovery from mental health and substance use disorders. It emphasizes person-centered approaches, building on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to achieve long-term recovery and well-being. A ROSC acknowledges the challenging nature of our work and focuses on a comprehensive approach that is:

- Person-centered and Self-Directed. ROSC focuses on the individual's goals and preferences, empowering them to take control of their recovery journey.
- A Strengths-Based Approach that acknowledges the individual's strengths and resilience, leveraging them to overcome challenges and promote recovery.
- Community Integration as a focus with aims to integrate individuals into their communities, fostering connections and support networks.
- Encouraging of Long-Term Support and recognizes that recovery is a lifelong process, providing ongoing support to maintain well-being and prevent relapse.
- Inclusive of Holistic Approaches that address the individual's physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs, promoting a comprehensive approach to recovery.
- Placing a Emphasis on Recovery with a model that centers on the concept of recovery, viewing it as a journey of healing, growth, and self-discovery.

Goals

While utilizing the Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) Model, the Surry County Office of Substance Abuse Recovery is concentrating on the following long-term goals:

- Improved Outcomes: Research indicates that ROSC can lead to enhanced outcomes for individuals with mental health and substance use disorders, including elevated recovery rates and diminished recidivism.
- Enhanced Engagement: Individuals are more inclined to participate in treatment and support services when they feel empowered and have a sense of control over their recovery trajectory.

- **Reduced Stigma:** ROSC assists in mitigating the stigma associated with mental health and substance use disorders by cultivating a supportive and understanding environment.
- **Strengthened Community Capacity:** By empowering individuals and communities, ROSC fortifies the capacity of communities to provide support for those with mental health and substance use disorders.

Expected SCOSAR Short Outcomes for Calendar Year 2025

Short Term Outcome #1 – Completion of Needs Assessment to Support Opioid Settlement Options A & B

Objective #1 - Engage in a collaborative strategic assessment and planning process.

Objective #2 - Draft a report and recommendations for submission to the community and county administration providing strategies for implementation thru 2028.

Short Term Outcome #2 – Implement a complete Results Based Accountability (RBA) Self-Study and design evaluation frameworks for all SCOSAR Programs by the end of 2025

Objective #1 – Use RBA to answer how much are we doing? (process data)

Objective #2 – Use RBA to answer how well are we doing it? (quality measure)

Objective #3 – Use RBA to answer is anyone better off? (outcome measure)

Expected SCOSAR Long Term Outcome

Long Term Outcome #1 – Population Level Change via the Delivery of Services (Expected State Opioid Settlement Outcome)

Objective #1 – Reduce drug overdose deaths by 2038.

Objective #2 – Reduce illicit drug overdose deaths by 2038.

Objective #3 – Reduce drug overdose emergency department visits by 2038.

SCOSAR Program Data Summary for Calendar Year 2024

Recovery to Work/Recovery Friendly Workplace Program

Number of Memorandum of
Agreements with Business

56

Number of Clients Served in Soft
Skills Training 50

Clients Referred to Employers

66

Clients who Obtained Employment

29

Ride the Road Transportation Program

Number of Transportation Request
Submitted

1,751

Number of Unique Individuals Served

286

Total Number of Miles Driven in
Surry County

62,349

Intervention Team/PORT Jan-October 2024

Number of Referrals

419

Number of Unique Individuals Served

336

Connected to Treatment

90

Connected to Medication Assisted
Treatment (MAT)

67

Early Intervention and Substance Use Prevention Services

Number of Youth Served

11,216

Number Reached via Social Media
Campaigns

40,606

Number of Prevention and Outreach
Activities

107

SCOSAR Photo Samples/Media



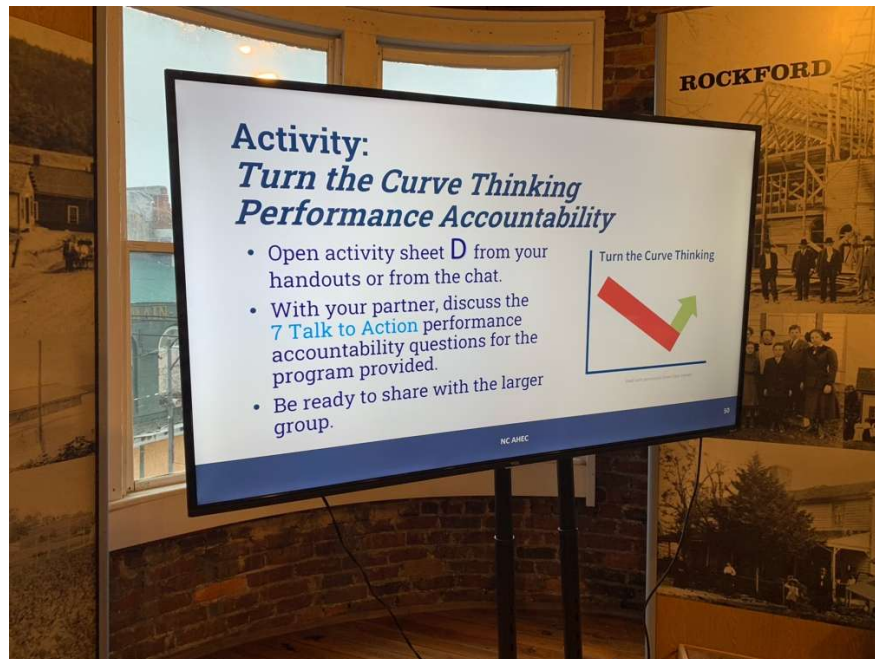
An Example of SCOSAR Informational Kiosk



Photo from the shared Fall 2024 SCOSAR-Surry EMS Public Information Event



Photo from the SCOSAR Results Based Accountability Training held in Fall 2024 for Staff and Community Partners



Staff and Community Partners learn about SCOSAR's goal to embed Results Based Accountability (RBA) into daily program activities



SCOSAR and The Children's Center partners for "Gogh to Camp" where student participate in multiple art activities designed to increase protective factors and reduce risk factors associated with behavioral health and substance use



SCOSAR, The Children's Center, and Reeves Community Center partnered to have a Kindness Rocks Day, where the kids can connect with each other while painting rocks and coming up with kind messages to share with others



Mount Airy Middle School Alcohol Awareness Lesson and Activity



Two of our STEMmersion Externship participants working with us at The Shepherd's House Seeds of Hope Camp where we served over 100 youth from foster care and families with addiction



National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week at Mount Airy High School – Polysubstance Use Day



Trinity Episcopal Church Provided a Thanksgiving meal for all the youth along with having small group about why we are thankful. Also sent all kids home with everything to make a family Thanksgiving meal



Meadowview Middle School Red Ribbon Week presentation with guest Special Agent Brittany Smith from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). She talked to the students and gave them a lesson on the dangers of drugs and what it is like to work for the DEA. Then let the students ask questions



Special guest Congresswoman Virginia Foxx talks to Mount Airy Middle School students during Red Ribbon Week along with the Drug Enforcement Administration's Special Agent Cameron Miller



Red Ribbon Activities at Elkin Middle School



Mount Airy Middle School Students raising their hands to answer Jeopardy Questions about the presentation



Pilot Mountain Middle School students lined up to ask Special Agent Cameron Miller questions after his Red Ribbon presentation



SCOSAR and All-Stars Prevention Coalition at the Spooktacular Red Ribbon Week kickoff event giving Halloween goodies and Red Ribbon merchandise out to the youth and their families



Resist the Influence Polysubstance Day where the student is deciding if he can tell the difference between real prescription meds or fake “Fentapills”



Results Based Accountability (RBA) training for all SCOSAR Employees and Interns. The training was facilitated by North Carolina AHEC



Career Fair participation at East Surry High School



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The first ever Recovery Coach Academy Cohort was held in Mount Airy during the past summer as part of Recovery to Work efforts to increase the local skills of local citizens and professionals



The Recovery Friendly Workplace Program along with the Surry County NC Works Branch and Piedmont Triad Workforce Development Board held a Lunch and Learn Session with the Yadkin Valley Chamber of Commerce



The second annual Employer Panel Session Discussion was held during December 2024 at the Surry County Service Center