Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Recovery-Oriented System of Care (ROSC) Cross-Sector Collaboration

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") establishes a collaborative relationship among the undersigned partners ("Partners") participating in the local Recovery-Oriented System of Care (ROSC) to support substance misuse and mental health recovery.

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to formalize cross-sector collaboration to improve coordinated, person-centered, equitable, and recovery-oriented supports for individuals, families, and communities impacted by substance use and mental health challenges. Partners acknowledge that recovery is a long-term, non-linear process that requires collaboration across systems and sectors.

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2. Shared Vision

Partners commit to a shared vision in which people in recovery and their families:

- Are treated with dignity and respect
- Have access to multiple pathways to recovery
- Experience continuity of care and support across systems
- Are supported by coordinated, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive services

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3. Guiding Principles

Partners agree to collaborate in alignment with the following ROSC principles:

- **Person-Centered & Self-Directed**
- **Multiple Pathways to Recovery**
- **Equity, Cultural Humility, and Inclusion**
- **Lived/Living Experience as Essential Expertise**
- **Strengths-Based and Hope-Focused**
- **Trauma-Informed and Healing-Centered**
- **Harm Reduction and Safety-Oriented**
- **Shared Responsibility and Mutual Accountability**

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4. Scope of Collaboration

Collaboration under this MOU may include, but is not limited to:

- Coordinated referral pathways and warm handoffs
- Joint outreach, education, and prevention activities
- Deflection, diversion, and reentry support efforts
- Discharge planning and continuity of care
- Community engagement and stigma reduction
- Identification of system gaps and barriers

This MOU does not obligate Partners to provide services beyond their mission, capacity, or legal authority.

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5. Roles and Responsibilities

A. Role of the ROSC Coalition (Convener & Connector)

The ROSC coalition agrees to:

- Convene cross-sector partners and facilitate collaboration
- Maintain shared collaboration principles and goals
- Elevate lived/living experience in planning and decision-making
- Support coordination, learning, and system improvement

- Promote transparency and shared accountability

B. Partner Roles (General)

Each Partner agrees to:

- Participate in good faith collaboration aligned with ROSC values
- Identify a primary point of contact for coordination
- Clearly communicate roles, limitations, and referral criteria
- Support warm handoffs when appropriate
- Reduce stigma and avoid punitive or exclusionary practices

C. Sector-Specific Roles (Optional Language-incorporate into B above or remove)

Partners may include sector-specific roles such as:

- **Behavioral Health:** Clinical treatment, assessment, continuity planning
- **Healthcare/Public Health:** Screening, prevention, discharge coordination
- **Peer Recovery Support:** Engagement, navigation, re-engagement
- **Harm Reduction:** Overdose prevention, safety, low-barrier access
- **Housing:** Stability, recovery housing, tenancy supports
- **Employment/Education:** Workforce readiness, training, retention
- **Criminal Justice/Reentry:** Diversion, continuity, reentry planning
- **Youth & Family Services:** Prevention, family-centered supports

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6. Lived/Living Experience Engagement

Partners affirm that people with lived/living experience will be meaningfully engaged in:

- Planning and design
- Implementation and evaluation
- Leadership and advisory roles

When possible, lived experience contributions will be compensated and supported.

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7. Information Sharing

Partners agree to share information in a manner that:

- Supports coordination and continuity of care
- Complies with all applicable laws and regulations (e.g., HIPAA, 42 CFR Part 2)
- Respects privacy, consent, and confidentiality

This MOU does not authorize the exchange of protected information without proper consent or separate agreements.

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8. Decision-Making & Conflict Resolution

- Decisions will be guided by shared principles and consensus when possible
- Disputes will be addressed through respectful dialogue and coalition facilitation
- Partners commit to addressing conflicts in ways that maintain trust and collaboration

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9. Term, Modification, and Termination

- This MOU becomes effective on _____ and remains in effect until _____
- Any Partner may withdraw with written notice
- Modifications must be made in writing and agreed upon by all applicable parties

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10. Non-Binding Agreement

This MOU is intended as a statement of collaboration and shared intent. It does not create a legal partnership, financial obligation, or agency relationship.

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11. Signatures

By signing below, the Partners affirm their commitment to cross-sector collaboration aligned with ROSC values.

Organization: _____

Authorized Representative: _____

Email:_____ **Phone #**:_____

Address:_____

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Signature: _____

Date: _____