

STSROC Program Year Report 2020-2021

Stop the Stigma ROC is an organization that seeks to promote suicide prevention and raise awareness about mental health, specifically in youth (ages 10-25). Stop the Stigma ROC began in 2016 and were invited to become a program of the Ecumenical Ministries of Perinton in 2017. Stop the Stigma ROC (STSROC) has filed a Certificate of Assumed Name (DBA) with NYS to allow EMP exclusive, legal use of the name in Monroe County. We have further developed processes to acknowledge donations and to handle our finances responsibly. We developed a Code of Conduct in 2019 and further defined board roles. We have submitted all necessary reports and sought necessary permissions. STSROC has an advisory board made up of youth and adults.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic STSROC did not proceed with plans to hold our 5th Annual Stop the Stigma Awareness Concert or the Chase Marshall Memorial Fashion Show. We also suspended all in-person board meetings. We did try to hold board meetings on Zoom but due to the chaos of all trying to find their way, both at work and in school, we met very few times from March 2020-May 2021. It was best for our board member's mental health to dial back.

We did manage, with the gracious help from our community to host the 4th Annual Jordyn Keeley Art & Writing Competition. Faircraft Brauhaus agreed to provide the space for the event. Their location was large enough for us to feel very comfortable that we could physically distance and follow all current COVID protocols. The event was held on April 19 & 20, 2021. We had approximately 8 entries with an additional 14 or so coming from the Office of Mental Health Promotion at URM. We had an FHS jazz ensemble for the event. It was a great event, especially after the Winter of 2020-21!

The programs offered from July 2020-June 2021 were:

- April 19-20, 2021 – Jordyn Keeley Memorial Art & Writing Competition – held at Faircraft Brauhaus – many thank to Mattias West and his partners!

Our July 2021 to present programs include:

- Summer 2021 – We held two outdoor dining events. One was for the STSROC Board only. The second one was held to welcome 4 new STSROC volunteers!
- URM Donation Shopping – A portion of our 2019 STSROC Awareness Concert proceeds were promised to the Adolescent Mental Health In-Patient program. We had raised a little over \$2000 for this cause. In the Fall of 2019 we hosted a staff member from that facility at one of our board meetings, to learn more about the program and their needs. We began to plan for the purchase of the goods requested in the Spring of 2020. We were working around the planning for that year's Art & Writing Competition, held in March. Needless to say we were not able to shop as planned. We revisited the program's needs by contacting the staff again and in August 2021 were finally able to shop! We supplied trial size toiletries, games, books, art supplies, composition notebooks for journaling along with comfortable sweatpants and sweatshirts. To date

we have spent \$1849. Once everyone has adjusted to school schedules (and depending on COVID status) we plan to deliver the purchases to the URM. We have additional books that we are purchasing that will begin to create an updated library for the balance of the funds committed to this effort.

- STSROC plans to have a Scarecrow in the Fairport Perinton Merchants Association's (FPMA) Scarecrow Festival this month.
- STSROC plans to occupy the FPMA booth at the Fairport Farmer's Market on September 25, 2021. With permission from the EMP Board we are going to solicit prizes for people to win at our booth, by means of a spinning wheel. No funds or purchases will be required to participate.
- Church of the Assumption Past Dinner – STSROC Board and volunteers will help to staff this event.

We are in the process of establishing a new board. COVID-19 did not provide the ability to do our normal outreach to bring new youth aboard. We currently have the following board members:

Eva O'Neil – Youth Executive Director – Victor High School

Pam Renfro – Adult Executive Director

Sam Deitz – Youth Board Member – Fairport High School

Lisa Silver – Adult Board Member

Susan Reed – Adult Board Member

Lori Bobbo – Adult Board Member

Our current process for inviting youth board members is to have them participate in a couple of our events first. We then offer an invitation based on the volunteer's interest and the board's approval. In the past some volunteers have remained volunteers during their engagement with STSROC. We are in the process of assigning someone to the role of treasurer. Marie Kamp resigned from the board as her children are no longer of high school age. She has been removed from all STSROC bank accounts.