

**NOTES of the
Winnebago County Mental Health Advisory Committee
Wednesday, April 10, 2013 @ 7:30 a.m.
Rosecrance, 1021 N. Mulford, Rockford, IL**

Present: Carol Klint, Donny Parham, Richard Kunnert

Absent: Phil Eaton, Angie Goral, Dr. Marilyn Griffin, Matthew Toohey

Others Present: Bob Walberg (Boone County Board Chairman) and Mike Schultz (Boone County Board member) and Mike Bacon

The meeting of the Mental Health Advisory Committee did not have a quorum for its April meeting. No votes were able to be taken.

WELCOME / INTRODUCTION

Committee Advisory members introduced themselves to Mr. Walberg and Mr. Schultz from the Boone County Board and extended a warm welcome and appreciation for their participation in the meeting. Mr. Bacon apologized for not having a quorum at today's meeting, but we will proceed with normal discussion in accordance with the advertised agenda, although no votes will be taken.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2013 MEETING

The minutes of the February 13, 2013 meeting were not voted on for lack of a quorum.

MINUTES OF March 13, 2013 MEETING

The minutes of the March 13, 2013 meeting were not voted on for lack of a quorum.

DRAFT SLIDES

There was a discussion of the revised slide set included on the overview of behavioral health concerns in the Winnebago County area. It was suggested by Committee members present that the focus should strongly be on improving access to services and continuity of community safety by maintaining the existing service structure, safety net and expanding in service areas that have inadequate or nonexistent capacity to meet current and expected future community needs.

Mr. Kunnert indicated that he had an appointment with a representative at the Winnebago County jail facilities for the purpose of picture taking that could aid in improving the educational slide series. It was hoped that both a photo of emergency department intervention as well as in jail type photos could be obtained. More to come.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE WORKGROUP

This workgroup was developed at the request of Chief Epperson (RPD) to address the community impact from the most frequent offenders in 2012. There was an extended discussion on this topic and how best to address the needs of this group of offenders. Judy Box-Brown and Mike Bacon are in the process of identifying the best date for this

meeting, hopefully sometime in the next couple of weeks (Note: the meeting was actually held on Thursday, April 25).

COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS 2013 OVERVIEW

Mr. Bacon reviewed a document that was part of the packet that summarized Winnebago County health rankings findings. There were a number of questions and suggestions with Boone County members adding their own thoughts to the discussion on particularly ways to support behavioral health services at the community level. It was a productive discussion that indicated a clear recognition that there needs to be a way to identify dedicated funding to support these vital community level services. An example of the need is the request from the RPD to address the frequent offender concerns.

REPORT FROM OTHER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEES

There were no other community members present at the meeting to report on behavioral health activities. Carol Klint did share the Longwood wellness example as a mechanism to provide community level support for activities that had been focused on serving a vulnerable population in the Longwood / State Street area. Committee members appreciated the overview of the progress being made in that setting. Further this effort reminds the Committee of the importance of maintaining a focused effort at a level intense enough to make a difference in those lives. There was additional discussion about strategic planning and the possibility of doing a bi-county planning initiative in partnership with the Boone County Behavioral Health Advisory Committee.

REMINDER OF NEXT MEETING

A reminder of the next meeting, May 8, was announced. Members in attendance were thanked and their thoughtful comments much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Maichle Bacon, Public Health Director