

**Minutes of the
Winnebago County Mental Health Advisory Committee
Wednesday, August 8, 2012 @ 7:30 a.m.
Rosecrance, 1021 N. Mulford, Boardroom**

Present: Philip Eaton, Angie Goral, Carol Klint, Dr. Marilyn Griffin, Richard Kunnert, and Matthew Toohey

Absent: Donny Parham

Others Present: Marshall Newhouse (Boone County Board), Ken Grzybowski (Boone County Board) and Mike Bacon

MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2012

The meeting began at approximately 7:35 a.m. Matthew Toohey moved and Carol Klint seconded to accept the minutes as presented with all member voting aye.

REGION 2 WEST CRISIS SYSTEM

Mr. Eaton provided a PowerPoint slide presentation on the proposed system of care that would be hopefully be funded by the State should Singer close. The triage center itself is proposed to operate from 4 to 8 PM and is designed to divert a substantial proportion of service demand (i.e. 75 to 80%) currently being provided by local emergency rooms and law enforcement. There was additional discussion in terms of the distribution of the current needs by facility and the plans to expand inpatient beds both through the triage facility and at the health systems.

Dr. Griffin shared her experience in Pittsburgh where a similar system of care was utilized and she commended Rosecrance on the proposed design, indicating that from her experience, such a system actually works well for patient care.

Mr. Kunnert provided background information on the gradual reduction of funding at Singer Zone Center since 1995 and the even more dramatic decreases in recent years. This only reinforces the need for the triage and crisis system alternative that has been proposed by Rosecrance to serve the nine county northwest Illinois area. There was additional discussion around providing letters of support for the Rosecrance alternative care system proposal. There were a number of questions of from Mr. Newhouse and Mr. Grzybowski on the proposed triage and crisis system of care, with Winnebago County MHAC members responding.

DEVELOPING WORKSCOPE

There was discussion on evaluating the local health data on behavioral health, including substance abuse / addiction service and developmental disability service needs. Committee members raised the issue of need for behavioral health indicators and Mr. Bacon was requested to identify such indicators for the next Committee meeting,

assemble behavioral healthy data and develop a proposed outline for a report to the Winnebago County Board.

Committee members felt it was important to be able to identify where we are currently in our system capacity and care network in this community with recommendations for what is needed. It was reinforced that it would be helpful to also have information from the Sheriff's Department and their experience in this area as well.

REPORTS FROM OTHER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEES

Both Mr. Grzybowski and Mr. Newhouse provided an overview of Boone County's recently formed Mental Health Advisory Committee which was designated to be the Human Services Committee of the Boone County Board, working with Ms. Frank from the Health Department. There was agreement to exchange minutes of our meetings going forward and where possible, to work closely on priorities.

OTHER MATTERS: None

There was a reminder that the next meeting on September 12.

ADJOURNMENT

There was a motion by Angie Goral and seconded by Dick Kunnert to adjourn the meeting with all members voting aye, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, J. Maichle Bacon

Approved by the Mental Health Advisory Committee October 10, 2012
DATE