

**Minutes of the
Winnebago County Mental Health Advisory Committee
Wednesday, February 13, 2013 @ 7:30 a.m.
Rosecrance, 1021 N. Mulford, Rockford, IL**

Present: Phil Eaton, Donny Parham, Angie Goral, Carol Klint, Dr. Marilyn Griffin,
Absent: Richard Kunnert, Matthew Toohey

Others Present: Ruth Fairchild, Jeremiah Ellis, Joe Capone, Mr. Harris, Mike Bacon

The meeting began at approximately 7:35 a.m. with Committee members introducing themselves to the guests at the meeting.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2013 MEETING

The minutes of the January 9, 2013 Mental Health Advisory Committee were reviewed. A motion was made by Carol Klint and seconded by Donny Parham to accept the minutes as presented with all members voting aye.

MISSION AND VISION

There was an enclosure in the meeting packet that summarized the mission, vision, and value statements of six different behavioral entities within the State of Illinois including Champaign, McHenry, Macon, DeKalb, St. Clair and Jo Daviess Counties. After additional discussion by Committee members there was a consensus that the vision and mission that had been developed and slightly modified based on prior discussions will, at least for the time being, remain as is.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATION DRAFT SLIDES

Mr. Bacon reviewed the 19 slides that comprised the current draft of the presentation proposed to be used for providing an overview of behavioral needs to the Winnebago County Board and City Council. There was additional discussion regarding the work of Mr. Harris on Dick Kunnert's behavioral health services system diagram. Unfortunately the necessary software has not been obtained to assist in converting this diagram into a dynamic model that could be used for incorporation into the presentation. It is anticipated that this diagram will be available within the next few weeks.

There was further discussion on additional data sources including drug overdose data that could be obtained from the coroner's office and perhaps from law enforcement agencies. Mr. Bacon will continue to refine this document for discussion at the March meeting.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE REFERRAL

Mr. Bacon provided an overview of correspondence received from the City of Rockford Police Department requesting assistance in addressing the top ten offenders of public drinking, panhandling and criminal trespass violations. It was clarified that from RPD experience that many of these individuals are in need of assistance with alcohol, drug,

and mental health treatment services. The top ten individuals account for 254 ordinance violations, trials, probation and a substantial volume of fines. The request was for professional assistance in developing strategies to address the complex needs of these offenders.

Committee members commented on a number of different aspects of this problem that most urban communities face. RPD will be hosting a meeting that both Rosecrance and Health Department representatives will be requested to attend. Additional information will be brought back to a future meeting of the Mental Health Advisory Committee.

HIPAA

In the meeting packet there was a letter from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to health care providers discussing recent mass shooting incidents and the applicability of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). While this rule is in part designed to protect the privacy of patient's health information, there must also be a balance to ensure that appropriate uses and foreclosures may be made where necessary for the treatment benefit of patients and the protection of the public. Under the HIPAA provisions, a provider may disclose patient information from mental health records, if necessary, to law enforcement and family member of the patient or any other person who may reasonably be able to prevent or lessen the risk of harm. Most states have laws and/or case law which address in many instances disclosure of patient information to prevent or lessen risk of harm. This information was simply shared for discussion and application where necessary.

REPORT FROM OTHER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEES

Joe Capone shared their challenges through NAMI and the need for funding and programming support for expanding the availability of various educational and group sessions. Ms. Fairchild shared some observations from her experience in working in the community for many years. This included her work with those on probation and readjusting to community life.

OTHER MATTERS: None

NEXT MEETING

There was a reminder of the next meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, J. Maichle Bacon

Approved by the Mental Health Advisory Committee: _____
DATE May 8, 2013