

**Minutes of the
Winnebago County Mental Health Advisory Committee
Friday, January 10, 2014 @ 7:30 a.m.
Rosecrance, 1021 N. Mulford, Rockford, IL**

Present: Angie Goral, Donny Parham, Carol Klint, Richard Kunnert, Matthew Toohey

Absent: Phil Eaton

Others Present: Harlan Johnson, Deb Lischwe, Brad Benedict, and Mike Bacon

The meeting began at approximately 7:30 a.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members introduced themselves for the benefit of Deb Lischwe from Health Systems Research (HSR).

REVIEW OF December 11, 2013 MINUTES:

Mr. Bacon requested any suggested changes to the meeting notes from the December 11 meeting. There were no suggested changes. A motion by Carol Klint and seconded by Donny Parham to accept the minutes as presented with all members voting aye.

COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT (components and estimated costs):

Deborah Lischwe was present to facilitate a discussion of various work elements to carry out the work necessary to put together for the MHAC and the County Board a community behavioral health needs assessment that includes a review of the most recent data on health trends pertaining to behavioral health concerns. These issues would cover mental illnesses, substance abuse and information on developmental delay and would extract information from the 2010 Community Health Needs Assessment. This would include focus group and key informant interview information as well as information from the community survey. It was the opinion of those present that this may be inadequate in that the questions that were explored in both the focus groups and key information interviews did not include specific inquiries to behavioral health matters, thus a remaining need to supplement the 2010 community needs assessment data with a more up to date evaluation.

It was the feeling of the MHAC members that this work should be contracted for through Health Systems Research at UICOM. HSR has considerable experience in such work and has done similar projects for a number of other communities throughout northern Illinois and as far south as Peoria in recent years. One of the benefits of using Health Systems Research would be to carry out a comparison between Winnebago County needs and Peoria County needs. There was further discussion on this with Mr. Bacon agreeing to reach out to Peoria County to seek their interest in such comparative work. Further, Mr. Bacon agreed to approach Winnebago County with the funding needs request to support the conduct of this work and report back at the next meeting.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUMMIT FOLLOWUP

Mr. Kunnert shared with MHAC that their continues to be meetings of an ad hoc group assembling the recommendations that flowed from the Summit held this past fall. Judy Barnard is working with Michelle Rock, Dave Peterson, Dick Kunnert and others to compile the recommendations from that work. Mr. Kunnert shared further that there may be interest in MHAC being one of the primary follow up organizations to implement the recommendations from this Summit. There was interest on the part of the members to seek more information from Michelle Rock or Mr. Peterson. An effort will be made to have one or both present at the next meeting for further discussion.

REPORTS COMMITTEES / COMMISSIONS

Harlan Johnson reported on the Transform Rockford initiative and his work with that organization to facilitate numerous meetings. There was further recognition of Mr. Johnson's Op Ed pieces in RR Star. Brad Benedict also commented about the ongoing work of the Community Affairs Committee of the Rockford Board of Realtors and their interest in supporting the cause of mental health funding in the community.

OTHER MATTERS:

Mr. Bacon raised a concerned of the open position we have on the MHAC. A number of names were discussed for possible Committee involvement. After further discussion, it was a general consensus of the group that we ought to reach out to Dr. Charles Smith for consideration in replacing Dr. Marilyn Griffin following her recent resignation (moving to Chicago area).

NEXT MEETING:

There was a reminder of the next meeting, Wednesday, February 12, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other items of business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Maichle Bacon (Winnebago Count Health Department)

Approved by the Mental Health Advisory Committee: February 12, 2014
DATE