

**Minutes of the
Winnebago County Mental Health Advisory Committee
Wednesday, October 10, 2012 @ 7:30 a.m.
Rosecrance, 1021 N. Mulford, Boardroom**

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

Absent: Matthew Toohey (excused)

Others Present: Joe Capone and Mike Bacon

MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2012

The meeting began at approximately 7:35 a.m. with Dick Kunnert moving to accept the minutes as presented and Carol Klint seconded, with all members voting aye.

REGION 2 WEST CRISIS SYSTEM DEVELOPEMNT / FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION

Mr. Eaton provided an overview of proposed Rosecrance Ware Center Triage facility to be located at the 526 West State Street location. Rosecrance has been able to negotiate a contractual amount (with IDHS, DMH) to support these intervention services that are actually due to be up and operating by the end of the month (October 2012). The Center is being designed to serve individuals in psychiatric crisis that could be brought to the Center by first responders, police and prearranged from community health facilities (e.g. hospital emergency rooms, etc.). The Center would serve to assess and determine the appropriate level of care and linkage to necessary services.

This overview was followed by discussion, with Mr. Eaton providing responses to the many questions involved in developing the triage center. Mr. Eaton and Rosecrance were commended for their leadership in developing an alternative to the established closure of Singer Zone Center.

Mr. Parham shared information from the sheriff's department on the transport of apparently mental ill patients. From 2007 to the present, 709 patients have been transported to local emergency rooms. This is from the unincorporated areas of Winnebago County. A breakout of hours that these patients presented for services indicated the first half of the day represented the peak demand period. There was an interest in obtaining similar information from the City of Rockford. Mr. Bacon will attempt to obtain that information.

DEVELOPING WORK SCOPE

There was an extended discussion about the opportunity and effort to pull together a report for the community based on the initial year's work of the Committee. There was discussion of the theme perhaps focusing on "community safety". This would identify what current service capacity there is (i.e. what keeps us healthy, followed by what is

left to address, followed by what is needed to support a local system of care). A great deal of information is available in the way of background needs from the recently completed Healthy Community Study. Additionally there is work being done by the Rockford Health Council Workgroup on behavioral and mental health issues that could be helpful.

There was additional discussion about the importance of individual stories and that sharing those stories of what represents a health crisis. Emphasis on such stories can reinforce the importance of developing trusting relationships and maintaining dignity and respect for everyone.

Dr. Griffin indicated that there may be a possibility of a medical student that could have an interest in this subject area and willing to develop a project around existing MHAC needs on this project. More discussion next time.

REPORT FROM OTHER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEES

There was additional discussion about the work of the League of Women Voters and NAMI.

OTHER MATTERS: None

NEXT MEETING

There was a reminder that the next meeting on Wednesday, November 14

ADJOURNMENT

There was a motion by Donny Parham and seconded by Carol Klint to adjourn the meeting with all members voting aye, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted, J. Maichle Bacon

Approved by the Mental Health Advisory Committee: November 14, 2012
DATE