

**Minutes of the
Winnebago County Mental Health Advisory Committee**

Wednesday, November 13, 2013 7:30 AM

Rosecrance, 1021 N. Mulford, Rockford IL

Present: Carol Klint, Dick Kunnert, Phil Eaton and Angie Goral

Absent: Donny Parham, Matt Toohy and Dr. Marilyn Griffin (resignation, new position out of town)

Others Present: Brad Benedict, Gary Hallbeck, Dave Peterson and Andrea Tack, Harlan Johnson Mary Ann Abate, Dee Murray, Albertis Walker, Judge Joe McGraw, Mike Bacon and Phyllis Russell

Welcome/Introduction

Mr. Bacon provided a brief overview of the agenda and then introduced Juliana Barker, In Person Counselor Grant Coordinator, WCHD. Ms. Barker provided an overview of the In-person Counselor/Navigator responsibilities associated with a grant received to provide support to a partnership of 10 agencies in Winnebago County for outreach, education and enrollment assistance to obtain health insurance coverage (Get Covered Illinois).

Presentation:

Ms. Barker began her presentation by reviewing a handout that included a list of partner agencies in Winnebago County, with the backside of that same handout including questions and answers to common inquiries. Ms. Barker provided an overview of the key components of the Affordable Care Act. These components included a summary of the essential benefits that are required to be part of every plan for coverage, important dates and the two different channels for becoming enrolled, either on Medicaid or the Health Insurance Marketplace. Ms. Barker also reviewed the various demographic characteristics of those eligible for coverage in the County. Further there was a summarization of staffing being supported by the IPC grant and their training. Additional resources were also discussed and contact information for any further clarification.

Minutes of October 9 meeting:

The minutes of the October 9 meeting were moved for acceptance by Phil Eaton and seconded by Carol Klint, all members voted aye.

Phyllis Russell, Executive Director (ACMHAI):

Ms. Russell provided an overview of the key behavior health system components in the State and the patchwork system that exist for such services. There was also a review of the changes being brought about by the ACA, including the necessity of essential benefits covering behavior health services and the parity that should evolve from the pending rulemaking process. There was additional discussion on the various funding options to support behavior health services at the local level and the importance of that funding stream being in place, in that it represents the only flexible funding to align resources with local needs.

There was considerable discussion around funding options that included a review of the local history in pursuit of a 708 referendum. This discussion included the review of the options other than a referendum. Members had questions, suggested ideas and the current organizational support for a local effort of this sort (e.g. LWV, Community Affairs Committee of Brd. of Realtors, RHC Behavioral Health Workgroup, etc. in addition to MHAC). MHAC members shared that they are moving towards the development of a needs summary to be shared with the County Board along with recommendations on the greatest needs and estimated cost to adequately address those needs.

Community Behavioral Health Needs Assessment:

Mr. Bacon and Ms. Klint provided an overview of a discussion they had recently with Mr. Jim Powers, Health Systems Research on the elements of a typical assessment. Components of such a summary were reviewed with an effort to obtain estimated costs for next month's meeting (i.e. HSR).

Mr. Benedict and Mr. Johnson shared their complements and interest in building on the recently held Behavioral Health Summit hosted by Michelle Rock, Center of Excellence at UIC and the Winnebago Co. Criminal Justice System.

Other Business:

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15am.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Maichle Bacon (Winnebago County Health Department)

Approved by the Mental Health Advisory Committee: Wednesday, December 11, 2013