



# Mental Health Board Needs Assessment Committee Minutes

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 8:00pm  
Activity Room

- I. **Call to Order/Welcome** – Trustee Lauren Saternus called the meeting to order at 8:00pm. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- II. **Roll Call** - Members present: Bob Ogilvie, Kathy Reed, Trustee Lauren Saternus, Gina Raza, Ken Haycock, Joanmarie Wermes, MaryAnn Ogilvie. Others present: None
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Bob motioned to approve the minutes of 3/14/23. Kathy seconded the motion. Minutes were approved with no changes by voice vote.
- IV. **Public Comments** - None
- V. **Old Business** –
  - A. Review of collected data:
    - i. Bob reported that he and MaryAnn met with the three social workers, Kristen Jordan, Sarah Hipp and Linda Young, at the Schaumburg Police Dept. (SPD) today. Kristen provided the 2022 Annual Report for the Police Social Service Unit. She also provided the names of the heads of social work departments in the other Township villages. SPD collaborates with several surrounding police departments in serving their respective residents. SPD just purchased a van for their new Mobile Mental Health Crisis Unit. SPD is in the process of interviewing for a mental health professional to provide services on this unit, which will be dispatched to situations where a mental health crisis is occurring. All SPD officers are Crisis Intervention trained (CIT). Kristen stated that SPD will apply for Mental Health Board (MHB) funds when the application process opens. She said that other villages in Schaumburg Township are in great need of more funding, namely Streamwood and Rolling Meadows. Sarah suggested that the MHB seek needs assessment data by going to places frequented by low socioeconomic individuals, those of various ethnicities and other groups that might not have access to readily available information. SPD looks forward to collaborating on the needs assessment as able.
    - ii. Bob met with Dr. Donna Woods of Perakis, Resis, Woods and Associates, a large psychiatric practice in Schaumburg. She is agreeable to provide data and/or answer surveys for the needs assessment.
    - iii. MaryAnn reported that she reached out to the agencies that the Township funds and requested responses to several questions about their services. Two agencies provided responses and two other agencies said they would be sending their responses by the end of this week. Both agencies that responded, Clearbrook and Resources for Community Living, provide residential and day service programs for those with developmental disabilities. Their expressed needs are: reliable transportation, funding to



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- iv. pay staff higher wages to recruit good workers and reduce turnover, access to affordable mental health providers, especially those that accept Medicaid, adequate housing and employment.
- v. MaryAnn gave a summary of the NIU *Conducting a Needs Assessment* webinar that she took last week. The summary includes sources of available needs assessment data at national, state and local levels, ways to collect more data and locations where members could go to obtain residents' opinions and survey responses.
- vi. Lauren obtained information from School Districts 54 and 211 and the Kasper before and after school program. Her summary was distributed prior to this meeting. Highlights include: 0.6%-1.7% students are homeless; increase in food insecurity and financial hardship; 9%-20.8% are English language learners; 18.1%-19.9% of students are chronically absent. St. Hubert's School provides counseling to its students. The High School District 211 Superintendent wants to meet with MHB members to provide more data for the needs assessment. Information from the 2022 Cook County Coroner's report for Schaumburg Township highlights: 14 suicide deaths of which 86% were male with an average age of 44 years old. There were 25 substance-related deaths of which 76% were male with an average age of 44 years old. Thirteen of the deaths were opioid-related.
- vii. Gina reached out to several organizations and is awaiting their responses. Organizations include Mental Health America, Give an Hour and Smart Recovery. Gina will reach out the Hoffman Estates Veterans Administration Clinic to request information to assist with the needs assessment.
- viii. Kathy attempted to contact the 4 hospitals in the Township, Ascension St. Alexius, Ascension Alexian Brothers, Northwest Community Healthcare and Streamwood Behavioral Hospital. It is challenging to obtain hospital data due to proprietary restrictions. Kathy asked members for ideas on how to obtain this data. It was suggested that Kathy send the online-available hospital report to members.

## VI. New Business –

- A. Lauren explained that the MHB must make sure that it considers the whole picture of needs for those with substance abuse disorders, developmental disabilities and mental health disorders. It is important that the MHB not simply react to crises. Members agreed.
- B. In order to gather data from residents and various groups of stakeholders, it was decided that developing a survey is needed. Guidance from the NIU webinar on



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Conducting a Needs Assessment was offered by MaryAnn who took this course. It must be user-friendly; e.g. written at 5<sup>th</sup> grade level, have a limited number of questions, be unbiased, have a logical order, have clear instructions and be easy to understand and answer. Suggestions of questions are available on Bloomingdale Township's and DHS's needs assessment surveys. Gina volunteered to develop the survey and present it to members prior to the next meeting.

- C. Members discussed locations where residents' opinions and survey responses could be obtained. Places include: farmer's markets, churches and ethnic groups within churches, libraries, common areas in apartments for low-income individuals, local ethnic organizations (e.g. India Hub), festivals such as Septemberfest, back-to-school day, schools that are designated for other languages, Schaumburg Boomers games and government townhall meetings. In some of these locations, conducting focus groups would be beneficial. At schools, a focus group could include the social worker, support staff, administrative assistant, occupational therapist, Kasper staff, psychologist and STAR staff. Other ways to gather data is via publications such as the Town Crier and Disability/Senior newsletter. Nurse Janet at the Township could administer the survey.

**VII. Committee Member Comments –**

- A. Minds Matter will take place on May 2, 4:00-7:00pm in the Activity Room.  
B. Lauren has a meeting scheduled to meet with Harper College staff on April 17.  
Kathy will accompany Lauren.

**VIII. Next meeting – April 25, 2023, 7:00pm; Room TBD**

- IX. Adjournment –** MaryAnn moved to adjourn the meeting, Gina seconded the motion.  
Meeting was adjourned at 9:19pm.