

**Justice and Mental Health Grant Program Ad Hoc Committee
December 9, 2011**

Call to Order. Chair Deupree called the meeting of the Justice and Mental Health Grant Program Ad Hoc Committee to order at 1:33 P.M. in Room N1, fifth floor, Rock County Courthouse-East.

Committee Members Present: Neil Deupree, Kate Flanagan, Tom Gubbin, Julie Lenzendorf, Deputy Chief John Olsen, Linda Scott-Hoag; Lance Horozewski, Greg Ammon (at 1:45 p.m.).

Committee Members Absent: Brian Gies, Carrie Kulinski, Denny Luster.

Staff Members Present: Elizabeth Pohlman McQuillen, Criminal Justice System Planner/Analyst; Nick Osborne, Assistant to the County Administrator.

Others Present: Supervisor Robert Fizzell; Laura Binkley, NAMI & SOS; Steve Howland.

Approval of Agenda. Ms. Flanagan moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Mr. Gubbin. ADOPTED.

Approval of Minutes from November 4, 2011. Ms. Lenzendorf moved approval of the minutes as presented, second by Mr. Horozewski. ADOPTED.

Recap of Winnebago County Mental Health Court Visit. Chair Deupree asked for impressions from those that attended.

Ms. Flanagan said she was very impressed and thought the trip was worthwhile. She said Winnebago County has a very effective mental health court treatment program. She said they have access to the evidence based practices necessary for the clients and everything is integrated. She noted that many of the barriers that Rock County has do not appear to be there. She also commented on impressive cohesion of the team and the judge as the leader of that team. Ms. Flanagan said that they essentially use an ACT team for their program.

Ms. Scott-Hoag concurred with Ms. Flanagan's assessment. She said she was also very impressed by their program and said it used a very client centered approach. She said members of the criminal justice system and the mental health system were working together as a team that was welcoming and caring—which is unusual in the court setting. She also said they had excellent linkages and are also in the process of establishing a juvenile mental health court.

Ms. Lenzendorf said she had the chance to talk a lot with the team's psychologist and how things have changed over the past 20 years. She said clients come to one place and can get all of the services they need all together. She said that everyone on the team knows all of the clients' personal details and makes personal connections.

Deputy Chief Olson and Mr. Gubbin echoed the previous sentiments and said they were very impressed with the program and the team's strong continuity.

Ms. Scott-Hoag said they really made the entire system welcoming and they were not punitive, but did hold the clients accountable. She also commented on the judge's sincerity.

Chair Deupree said he was struck by how many people appeared in court from jail. He also said that they pay for their program through a 1% sales tax and grants in addition to the court/coordinator/attorney staff time.

Ms. Flanagan said we have gaps in our system and must invest in training and supervision for clinical staff.

Supervisor Fizzell asked whether the program accepted felonies or misdemeanors, how long it was in operation, and whether NAMI has a role. Ms. Scott-Hoag replied that they accept both but there is exclusionary criteria, it has been in operation since 2005, and there was some overlap with NAMI working with the Court to provide resources.

Update and Discussion on Behavioral Health Redesign Steering Committee. Ms. Pohlman McQuillen handed out a draft resolution. She said it would go to the County Board in February and the new committee would start upon the dissolution of the Ad Hoc Committee at the end of March. Chair Deupree said they would finalize the resolution/executive summary at the meeting in January.

Discussion and Decisions on Site Visit Recommendations. Ms. Pohlman McQuillen told the group she contacted or tried to contact all of the potential sites the group was considering. The group decided to pursue a visit to Sedgwick County and Johnson County, Kansas. Ms. Pohlman McQuillen will try to set something up before she goes on maternity leave. Otherwise, Nick Osborne, Assistant to the County Administrator will assist the committee with the visit preparations.

Citizen Participation and Announcements. Chair Deupree read the letter from NAMI sent to the CJCC supporting CIT initiatives for law enforcement in Rock County.

Ms. Binkley said she has been an advocate for mental health court for years and told the group that Mental Health of America has grants available.

Mr. Howland said he was pleased to be at the meeting and learn what the committee is working on.

Time and Date for Future Meetings. The next meeting will be on Friday, January 6, 2011, at 1:30 p.m., in N2, 5th Floor, Courthouse East.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M. by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Pohlman McQuillen
Criminal Justice System Planner/Analyst

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.