

OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH (708) BOARD

FILED

OCT 23 2023

MINUTES OF THE
September 7, 2023 Meeting

Laura J. Cook
COUNTY CLERK RECORDER

On September 7, 2023 Dorothy Bowers called a meeting of the 708 Board to order at 7:30 a.m. at Hope, 321 W Avenue H, Rochelle, IL 61068 and utilizing Zoom meeting ID 394-790-2090. At the call of the secretary and notice given to each board member and notice posted at the Ogle County Courthouse and Hope. Dorothy Bowers presided.

The secretary called the roll:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dorothy Bowers - *708 President (Zoom)*
Kathe Wilson - *708 Vice-President (Zoom)*
Renee L. Barnhart - *708 Secretary and Treasurer (Zoom)*
Cindy Bergstrom *(Zoom)*
Jenae Bothe *(Zoom)*
Marcella Haushahn *(Zoom)*
Amy Zbinden Henkel *(Zoom)*
Judy Tatlock *(Zoom)*

ABSENT:

Joseph Simms

OTHERS PRESENT:

Easterseals - represented by and Christi Star *(Zoom)*
HOPE - represented by Ruth Carter
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois - represented by Chris Mills *(Zoom)*
Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling, Inc. - represented by Erica Engler *(Zoom)*
Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery- represented by Gerald Lott *(Zoom)*
Serenity - represented by Lynn Knodle *(Zoom)*
Shining Star – represented by Jessica Cash
Sinnissippi Center's Inc. - represented by Stacie Kemp
Village of Progress – represented by Brion Brooks

The Chair announced that we have a quorum.

Proposed Agenda August - Approve

Kathe Wilson moved to accept the agenda as presented.
Renee Barnhart seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: August 2023 - Review and Approve

Renee Barnhart moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

Amy Zbinden Henkel seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Agency Vouchers: September 2023 - Review and Approve

Marcy Haushahn moved to approve the vouchers as submitted.

Renee Barnhart seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report: September 2023 - Approve

Kathe Wilson moved to approve the financial reports as presented.

Jenae Bothe seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Officer's Report:

President - Dorothy Bowers – Dorothy has talked with John Frinfrock and they are having an open discussion regarding funding at the September 12th meeting in the old courthouse on the first floor back in the corner by the treasurer office. The state attorney possibly could get involved if the HEW committee tries to break down the funds per agency.

Vice President - Kathleen Wilson – She felt that the HEW meeting was different than years past. They asked for information that she did not feel that she could give.

Unfinished Business – Discussion and Possible Action:

708 Facebook Page Committee (Renee Barnhart and Amy Zbinden Henkel) – Status

Justine will make schedule for agencies to post to keep it active.

708 Website Page – Status

(Cindy Bergstrom) Kris Gilbert linking to County Board Website

Justine send information to Judy for follow up with Steven Varble Productions 217-245-5131

One-Year Plan – Visiting Lion's Club (Dorothy and Kathe) – Follow up – Kathe does not feel that she will be able to visit the Lion's Club. Renee said that she should be able to work this in and will touch base with Dorothy later.

Funding Application – Review and Approve

Funding Application: revision - Review and Approve

Renee Barnhart moved to approve the highlighted text for the page numbering as presented.

Kathe Wilson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Zoom – Renewal

The annual subscription for Zoom One Pro will renew for the period of September 22, 2023 through September 21, 2024 for \$149.90.

New Business - Discussion and Possible Action:

By-Laws – Review/Approve –

Jenae Bothe moved to approve the By-Laws as presented.
Renee Barnhart seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

3-Year Plan – Review/Approve –

Marcy Haushahn moved to approve the 3-Year Plan as presented.
Renee Barnhart seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

Liaison Report:

Joe Simms – Ogle County Board Liaison – not present for meeting.

Ogle County Cares Coalition – (*Meetings fall on the first Monday of the month at 1 PM held virtually and at the annex building in Rochelle. Kim Crump is the contact at KimCrump@sinnissippi.com*) – No one attended. Judy requested information and Renee said she would get some to her about potentially attending in the future.

Agency Reports

Newspaper Article

September – Sinnissippi and VOP

HOPE of Ogle County – Ruth Carter

Hired Alicia Johnson to replace Vanh as the new court advocate for HOPE of Ogle County. Alicia does have experience from two other domestic violence agencies. Training and experience have been a valuable asset and she is fitting in well. Kelly Kempson is filling dual positions as the court advocacy coordinator and court advocate.

HOPE's 40-year celebration will be held on Thursday, October 19th at SALT 251 in Rochelle from 5-8 PM. Fee of \$30 if you pre-register or \$40 at the door. All are invited. During a cocktail hour they will recognize the folks that have contributed to HOPE throughout the years. Raising funds and awarding prize baskets and other similar things throughout the evening.

Bingo night, coordinated by Ashly from AP Massage in Rochelle, will be held on September 18th, 5-7 PM, at Salt 251 in Rochelle. The fee is \$15 per person for 10 rounds of Bingo. All proceeds will go to HOPE. Prizes include baskets and gift certificates donated from small business in the area. More information is on Hope's Facebook page.

Five families are currently in shelter. Short staffed, they are very busy. They are still seeking a Latinx Outreach Counselor and the position is listed on Indeed and their Facebook page.

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois – Chris Mills and Ashly Regalado

Nachusa finalized their sale to Dixon Public Schools making the transfer of property official. They will be celebrating 100-Years of service on the campus on Tuesday. Past employees, Reverends and local Lutheran Pastors that have been involved with the campus will be joining in the celebration as they look forward to the future. She continues to re-enforce the message that they will continue to provide services out of the same building.

CCBYS partook in the *National Night Out*, promoting police and community partnership and support held in several locations throughout four counties. School out reach has been strong with the beginning of the school year. Making sure that schools know the referral process if they come across any youth or student at risk of displacement of their home due to run away or lock out situations. Currently they have several open cases in Ogle County they are counseling youth and families to make sure that placement is preserved.

Youth Works is holding many back-to-school nights in Oregon and Byron and getting involved with the *Two Good for Violence* curriculum that will be starting at Aplington School tomorrow. *Suicide Awareness* presentations are also scheduled in Byron. Youth committee meetings will resume in Oregon starting September 14th.

Project Lead has multiple agreements for the *Two Good for Drugs* curriculum with Meridian Junior High, Aplington, Oregon Junior and Senior High and Centennial Elementary School for the expansion into the 4th and 5th grades.

Communication campaigns are being planned with the focus on the prevention of alcohol and marijuana. One is being designated to middle school aged youth and one for high school. They are also pushing hard for everyone to participate in the Illinois Youth Survey done bi-annually. This provides necessary information to stay current with issues that need to be addressed.

They did suffer cuts that where unexpected this fiscal year that they could not plan for prior to the application submission. The *Youth Works* program alone was cut \$20,000 across the four-county area, \$5,000 per county. They are trying to utilize their current support to keep it funded but it is a struggle as they don't plan to ever cut those programs as they offer positive reinforcement for the area youth.

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling – Erica Engler

Michelle (Ogle County therapist and advocate) contracted West Nile Virus and became seriously ill and was out of the office. She is recovering and working with some clients again but not up to her normal hours.

RSAC is having their 4th Annual *Dispelling the Darkness* candlelight vigil and awareness campaign on September 12th at 6:30 PM located at Starlight Theater at Rock Valley College. Survivors share their journey either in person or by written messages and it becomes a very meaningful and moving event. Candles can be purchased online at RockfordSexualAssultCounseling.org or the night of the event.

The prevention education team is kicking off at the Oregon middle school and high school. The curriculum has been tweaked from last year, keeping it new and fresh for the kids.

Serenity Hospice and Home – Lynn Knodle

Their census continues to grow but they are challenged to find resources so they unfortunately had to limit some of their referrals that have been coming in as well as put people on a wait list. This allows them to be able to give the best quality of care they can provide.

CMS has refreshed their star ratings and Serenity is currently rated as a 5-Star organization.

They have a late start as prior years they usually start working on *The Angel Ball* fundraiser in July but it is now in progress so watch for updates. Many retirements this year that include their billing specialist, the facilities manager, the medical director and the bereavement coordinator is going to part-time. They have hired a new billing specialist and a facilities manager and they have a plan in place for the medical director and they will be moving one of the social workers into the bereavement coordinator roll. They will be looking for another social worker to fill the spot when the transition takes place. Currently they do have an intern social worker from the Aurora area that they hope will stay on.

Support groups are all going well with no changes. A new admin/marketing person was hired to spend a minimum of one day a week at The Shed. Her duties will include marketing The Shed and the Angel Treasures stores and assisting with administrative responsibilities.

Walgreens has selected Serenity to be part of their Impact Program. This allows individuals the option of donating their cash rewards they accrue during September and October to Serenity.

Shining Star – Jessica Cash

In August they had the *Night with the Stars* Fundraiser at the Dixon Elk's Club. It was a very fun evening that was well attended.

Fundraisers include the giving pump at the Dixon Shell Station on 38 will continue to the end of September. A portion of those proceeds go to Shining Star. It is only pumps 3 and 4 and it has to have the purple handle. KSB is doing a supply drive until the end of October that include items like crayons, play dough, coloring books, journals and like items that they send home with children.

They are hiring for a child forensic interviewer, currently. If people know anyone that has a social worker, psychology, criminal justice background that would be good talking with kids about sensitive topics please inform them of the full-time position.

Their numbers are picking up with school being back in session as teachers report concerns on littles that have not been in school prior. The next few months tend to busier than others through out the year.

Sinnissippi Centers, Inc. – Stacie Kemp

Patrick's last day was Friday so she is the interim CEO.

The CCBHC model is the largest task at hand currently. It is the Federal model that is the future of behavioral health, both programmatically and financially. It is backed by the Biden administration.

Illinois is in the process of applying for a grant to have a certification process and it is very involved. Last week Illinois announced a large amount of state specific requirements that include things that are not feasible for most organizations. I.E., having a 24/7, 16 bed crisis stabilization program in the next two years. Illinois is making things very challenging so they are doing a lot of advocacy efforts to address the issues. This will be a large focus in the upcoming months.

In the process of filling a vacant position and adding a position in the Rochelle office. The goal for their out-patient services is that folks get an in-take in 10 days.

A co-sponsored event with KSB, Naomi and the Lee County Health Department will be held on September 26th at the Dixon Elks Club. An Australian woman will speak about adolescences and childhood anxiety. She will do a session during the day for professionals and one in the evening that will be open to the community.

They are ramping up their social media presence with a new individual in the marketing department. She is giving a fresh perspective on the advantages of the social media platform. The objective is to normalize and decrease the stigma of talking about mental health.

They are reengaging with schools as the new year starts. Trying to finalize contracts that include days of service and staff requirements.

Village of Progress – Brion Brooks

A new computer system was installed over the summer and is working very well.

A national accounting wealth management firm, titled Clifton, Larson, Allen (CLA), that has a foundation that members of the firm nominate agencies to apply for grants. This past spring the Village was notified they had been nominated by a CLA employee or partner because of the Bakery. They applied for the grant and it was awarded and it will help pay for a new façade on the East and North sides of the bakery building.

The annual golf play day was done during the All-Star break. It raised about \$19,000. The TOSOC annual bicycle tour will be the last weekend of September. October they will have the annual awards banquet at Saint Mary Catholic Center in Oregon. The *Angel Ball*, run by Oregon's Rotary Foundation, with a strong helping hand by Serenity and VOP, is gearing back up.

Easterseals – Christy Star

They had a very busy August that is leading into a very busy September and October. They had a very generous back pack donation from the Ogle County Probation Center that consisted of 30 back packs filled with supplies. That donation plus what they had already purchased allowed them to gift 77 back packs to families that were in need throughout Winnebago, Boone and Ogle counties.

Easterseals attended the Monroe Center Elementary Resource Fair that allowed them to inform people of their services. Two families from Ogle County took advantage of the introduction and are now being serviced by Easterseals. Spinners were passed out to many children and was a highlight for the evening.

A Super-Hero back to school event was held at the Winnebago Public Library on Saturday, August 12th and had 18 attendees. They did story-telling and created masks and capes for the kids during this two-hour event.

October 10th they will host for the first time, a mom's book club, at the Winnebago public library. Covering the book: *Becoming a Seriously Happy Special Needs Mom: 21 Steps to Finding Your Happy Place* by Linda James Bennett.

October 17th they are co-hosting with the Oregon Public Library, Family Matters and Star-Net a public parent training covering the topic of "how to get services in the school setting". They are receiving many calls with the start of school regarding behavior issues and the schools not being able to handle the children. Parents are frustrated and looking for resources to get proper services.

Currently setting up a PUNS meeting with Service, Inc. Many families are not aware of the PUNS list or how to get on it so the idea is to educate them through online training.

Public Comment:

Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery – Gerald Lott (Executive Director)

They have secured a location in Rochelle at 242 May Mart Drive in the Central Bank building and it is open. They estimate the meeting room will hold up to 25 people and they have another smaller room that could hold up to 7 people. They could expand into the space next door if they show they have a need. Three meetings are currently scheduled and advertised. They have plenty of time open for other support groups for substance or alcohol abuse to share space.

They were honored to be asked by a new recovery group ("Better Together" being created out of Sinnissippi Peer Support Department) to join them in an *Overdose Awareness Event* on August 31. Almost 100 people attended with a large amount of press presence. Their goal is to support any recovery groups and it was exciting to be able to do that.

The *Recover-Con* conference will be held at the Northern Illinois University all day on October 7th. They have room for about 10 more booths and have a couple hundred people signed up to participate and they still have another month. They will award 9 CEU's (\$22 with CEUs. Free without CEUs). They have over 25 speakers with the key note speaker, Tara Conner, 2006 Miss USA, had her title removed when it was discovered she had used drugs. She is now a large advocate for recovery. Another gentleman went from prison to coaching the Olympic BMX Team, Doctors, Policeman and people that work in Harm Reduction all talking about recovery. They are encouraging other agencies to participate via resource booth or presentation. The website (www.Recover-Con.com) is up for registration.

Upcoming Meetings

October 5 – Shining Star
November 1 – Serenity
December 7 - Sinnissippi

HEW – September 12, 3:00 PM (2nd Tuesday of the month)

County Board – September 19, 5:30 PM (3rd Tuesday of the month)

The next regular meeting will be October 5, 2023, 7:30 AM.

In person: Shining Star
215 E. First Street
Dixon, IL 61021
Zoom: Meeting ID: 394-790-2090
Passcode: 708708
One Tap Mobile: 1-312-626-6799

Adjournment

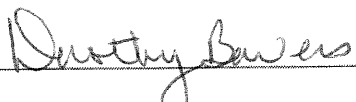
8:35 AM


Respectfully submitted,

Justine Messenger
Secretary to the Board

815-238-1829
occmh708bd@gmail.com

Approved: October 5, 2023


Dorothy Bowers, President


Renee Barnhart, Secretary/Treasurer

