



OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH (708) BOARD

THREE-YEAR PLAN: 2018 –2020



November 2017

The Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board appropriates County mental health tax funds to mental health agencies as outlined in the Illinois (405ILCS) Community Mental Health Act. This Three Year Plan identifies the long term goals of the Board. Short term goals are stated in the Board's One Year Plan.

Current Board Members are:

Nick Head, President

Dorothy Bowers, Vice President and Ogle County Board Liaison

William E. Sigler, Secretary – Treasurer

Lowell E. Harp

Tracy A. Brooks

Amy Stephenitch

Kathleen Wilson

Vicki Deter

David R. Schier

Board secretary/administrative assistant is Cecelia Zimmerman



MISSION STATEMENT

**The mission of the Ogle County Community Mental Health
(708) Board is to assist in the delivery of quality behavioral
healthcare services commensurate with the needs of
county residents.**



OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH (708) BOARD

HISTORY

- 1967..... Passage of House Bill No. 708
"The Community Mental Health Act" becomes Illinois State Law.

Provides Illinois counties the authority to pass a referendum to allocate
Tax dollars for behavioral healthcare services.
- 1968..... Passage of referendum to establish the Ogle County Community Mental
Health (708) Board.

Provides for the County Board to levy taxes for behavioral healthcare
Services which may not exceed .10% of the value of the
taxable property in the county as equalized or assessed by the
Department of Revenue.



To better respond to the behavioral healthcare needs of county residents, House Bill 708 (the “Act”) requires the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board (“708 Board”) to provide both short term and long-range planning. A one-year plan is approved each January by the 708 Board. (Appendix A) The plan contains specific goals for the current year. Long term planning is developed by way of the three-year plan, which maps strategies for the next three years.

The major responsibilities of the 708 Board are tri-fold:

- 1 To recommend funding levels for our Providers.
- 2 To be accountable to the taxpayers of Ogle County.
 - By providing key information about the 708 Board’s functions.
 - By evaluating the effectiveness and qualifications of the Providers per the Illinois State Statute (405ILCS) Community Mental Health Act.
 - By educating taxpayers about Provider services.
- 3 To appropriate and distribute funds collected through the mental health tax.

The 708 Board coordinates with the County Board and its Health Education and Welfare Committee (“HEW”) to fulfill these responsibilities.

The 708 Board recommends funding levels for Providers that serve the behavioral healthcare needs of Ogle County residents on an annual basis. Providers seeking funding complete a detailed application and defend and qualify their application at a hearing. This process attempts to evaluate the services of Providers and to ensure accountability.

Several factors impact funding levels recommendations: Evidence of activities to expand funding sources, the availability and delivery of services, Mid-Year Reports (when used), and efforts to improve programming and extend services. Hundreds of volunteer hours are expended to reach a consensus on levels of Provider funding.

These recommendations are presented to members of the HEW who can either accept or reject them. HEW recommends a funding level to the Finance Committee of the County Board. This committee sets the budget, which ultimately has to be approved by the County Board.

The 708 Board is accountable to the County Board, which in turn is accountable to the taxpayers of Ogle County. The referendum establishing the 708 Board states that the County cannot levy taxes for behavioral healthcare services in excess of .10% of the value of taxable property. Upon learning of the County Board's final decision regarding each year's funding, the 708 Board makes a final determination as to how those funds are to be allocated among Providers.

County tax assessments for mental health have been well below the .10% allowed by the 708 referendum and cannot by themselves provide for the maintenance, let alone expansion of existing mental health programs in the County. The 708 Board has encouraged Providers to seek out grants and other creative funding to help fill the gap. The Board works with Providers to define areas for expansion and reduction, in order to make the best use of available funds.

Over the next three years, the 708 Board will continuously:

- Evaluate the changing mental health needs of Ogle County
- Review the effectiveness of Providers' programs
- Review the adequacy of instruments to evaluate Providers
- Educate county residents regarding the availability of mental health services
- Advocate for adequate funding of mental health services in Ogle County