

708 Board Planning Committee  
February 27, 2015 – 1:30 p.m.  
Jackson County Board Office

Present: Margo Willis, Linda Flowers, Kathy Baumann, Renee Schwartz

Chair Margo Willis called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

Motion by Baumann, seconded by Flowers, to approve the minutes of January 30, 2015. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

There were no citizens present to comment.

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Southern Illinois Behavioral Health Consortium and the Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois. It was the consensus of the Committee to move both items to the full Board agenda for further action.

The Committee reviewed materials on the planning process which had been provided by Ms. Schwartz. These materials were found in the old files and had been used by previous planning committees. Ms. Schwartz also explained that she had completed a draft of the FY 2014 budget and annual report. The Committee felt that they could add that document to their one year plan as an addendum.

The Committee discussed the setting of priorities for the one year and three year plans. Ms. Baumann felt that the first step was to identify what has already been in our community. She explained that we need to gather information, invite people in to talk, and find out the things that are happening already. She felt that if we had 2 or 3 speakers and identified 6 or 7 projects, we could determine priority-wise which of these are of greatest significance to the community. The Committee discussed how to collect data from all of the existing agencies. They considered whether they should create a survey for the existing agencies to complete; there was a sample survey in the planning committee materials. The Committee considered some questions to guide them in this stage of the process:

- What is being done?
- Where are the gaps?
- How do you identify the gaps?

Ms. Schwartz stated that she had read the report “Illinois at the Tipping Point: Blueprint for System Redesign Update, May 2012,” by the Human Service Research Institute:

[http://www.state.il.us/agency/icdd/pdf/Blueprint%20Refresh%20-%20May%201%20\(FINAL\)-Rev.doc](http://www.state.il.us/agency/icdd/pdf/Blueprint%20Refresh%20-%20May%201%20(FINAL)-Rev.doc)

Self-advocacy is a major thrust of this report, and she felt that self-advocacy in the County appears to be a gap. The statute allows for the 708 Board to be expanded from 7 members to 9 members, and Ms. Schwartz suggested that two more members be recruited for the board. These should be persons who are affected by Mental Illness, Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities, and/or Substance Abuse. Ms. Baumann shared that the S.T.A.R.T. Board includes family members or consumers of the services provided; this population can comprise up to a third of the total number of Board members.

The Committee considered the difficulty of reaching out and identifying potential board members from these populations. They considered having a representative routinely attend the Jackson County chapter of the NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) to make some connections there. They also considered using social media, such as developing a Facebook page, to reach out to the community.

The Committee determined the need to clarify their mission regarding “mental health” and “mental illness.” The statute refers to both in its wording. They concluded that a minor mental health issue can become life altering, and become a major mental illness, if left unattended and noted that the state has less and less money to fund programs. The Autism Project at SIU, which is one of the leading projects in the United States, was mentioned as an example of a program that will potentially be cut. The Committee felt that the 708 Board should fund both mental health and mental illness programs and that it will be important to continue to monitor the needs of the community throughout the fiscal year.

The Committee considered the question of whether they may want to pursue grant opportunities relevant to the mission of the 708 Board. The Committee heard from Ms. Schwartz about five currently open grant opportunities. They asked Ms. Schwartz to place this matter on the agenda for the full Board meeting. Further discussion is necessary. The main question raised by the Committee: if they pursued this, who would write the grant application(s)?

It was the consensus of the Committee to invite Ms. Miriam Link-Mullison, Jackson County Health Department’s Public Health Administrator and 2014 Rural Health Professional of the Year in Illinois, to attend the next meeting of the 708 Board Planning Committee. Ms. Link-Mullison chairs Jackson County’s Access to Care and Behavioral Health Action Teams, and serves on the steering committees for the Jackson County Healthy Communities Coalition and the Healthy Southern Illinois Delta Network. She has served on a wide variety of state planning and advisory groups. Ms. Link-Mullison is a past president of the Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators and is currently the President-Elect for the Illinois Public Health Association. She will be a value resource to update the Committee on what is already being done in our community.

The Committee returned to the question of revising the Quarterly Status Report template. This form is completed by existing agencies following receipt of 708 Board funds. It was the consensus of the Committee to not include questions regarding demographics; rather, the 708 Board would ask each existing agency to provide a copy of their annual report regarding the demographics that they serve. Ms. Baumann suggested adding an open-ended fifth question to the Quarterly Status Report. The Committee would like to ask something along the lines of “Are you, as an agency, aware of unmet needs in the community?” Ms. Schwartz was given permission to revise the form and send it to agencies along with an email reminder of the next meeting date of the 708 Board (March 16<sup>th</sup>) and the due date for Quarterly Expense Reports and Quarterly Status Reports (March 13<sup>th</sup>).

The Committee reviewed its timeframe for completion of the one year plan, with a goal of submitting it to the 708 Board for approval in November. They asked Ms. Schwartz to include the minutes of this Planning Committee meeting, as well as the previous one, in the packets for the next Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

## Summary

Potential Goal: Clarify the mission of the Jackson County 708 Board

- Potential Objective: Define whether the Board funds Mental Illness prevention and treatment, or Mental Health, or both
- Potential Objective: Decide whether the Board will pursue grant opportunities and, if so, who will be asked to identify grant opportunities and write the applications
- Potential Objective: Expand funding opportunities to include for-profit organizations as well as not-for-profit organizations, as this restriction is not in the statute

Potential Goal: Assess the existing community network of resources and identify gaps

- Potential Objective: Revise quarterly status report to gather clearer baseline data on the number of Jackson County residents currently being served by 708 Board funding in each service area
- Potential Objective: Ask existing agencies to complete a needs assessment survey as part of the first quarter's status report
- Potential Objective: Identify key organizations in the community which are part of the network of resources for MH/DD/SA
- Potential Objective: Invite guest speakers from chosen community organizations to make presentations to the 708 Board Planning Committee
- Potential Objective: Collect newspaper articles from local papers that reflect community success stories, challenges, and concerns in the areas of MH/DD/SA

Potential Goal: Increase self-advocacy opportunities in Jackson County

- Potential Objective: Increase the number of board members from 7 to 9
- Potential Objective: Recruit two additional board members who are personally affected by Mental Illness, Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities, and/or Substance Abuse
- Potential Objective: Develop a 708 Board Facebook page

Potential Goal: Create new partnerships in the community

- Potential Objective: Choose a 708 board representative to attend the monthly Jackson County NAMI meetings, held on the first Tuesday of the month  
Next meeting:  
Tuesday, April 7, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.  
at Our Savior Lutheran Church (lower level), 700 South University Avenue, Carbondale  
<http://jacksoncounty.nami.org/index.html>
- Potential Objective: Choose a 708 board representative to attend the quarterly Southern Illinois Behavioral Health Consortium meetings and join the mailing list  
Next meeting:  
Thursday, March 26, 2015, from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
at the SIU Carbondale Dunn-Richmond Economic Development Center, Carbondale
- Potential Objective: Re-join the Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois  
<http://www.acmhai.org/>
- Potential Objective: Invite Ms. Miriam Link-Mullison, from the Jackson County Health Department, to attend the March 2015 meeting of the Planning Committee
- Potential Objective: Reach out to new prospective agencies regarding FY 2016 funding