

Montgomery County 708 Board Meeting

January 7, 2019

Historic Court House

Those attending from the Board:

Kenny R.

Dan H.

Pam L.

Chrissy D.

Earlene R.

Brian G.

Linda B.

The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. The guests were asked to sign in and a complete list is attached. The pledge was done, and introductions were made. The Board presented a plaque to Bruce Sanford for all his work as the first President of the 708 Board.

The minutes for December were read and approved. Brian made the motion and Chrissy seconded.

UCAN presented an update on the use of their funding. The Director stated they had not received a bill from MCHD for therapy and co-pays yet. The Director asked if the funds were not used by June should they be returned? The Director spoke of some continuing work being done on the facility. Earlene reinforced that the award of funding from the 708 Board is to be used primarily for therapy. The amount of the award was \$15,000 with \$3,000 of that amount to be used for building needs. When the Director was asked if they would be requesting funding this year, she responded they would, but a lesser amount.

CRC used their funding for last year and will probably not be asking for this year.

MCHD gave an update on the Psychologist and Nurse Practitioners. MCHD will be seeking funding in the coming year.

FAYCO provided an update that they have been able to assist 6 new individuals with the funding. They will be applying in the coming year.

The next discussion was for the schools that are requesting funding for a Social Worker position. Brian addressed the group stating that of the six 708 Boards that are similar in size to our county, rarely do they fully fund specific positions to the schools. The positions are needed but there is just not enough funding for all schools. The Board was then open to hear all their needs and requests.

The schools use the CARES Line for the students in crisis who may need hospitalization. The schools all prefer to have this position of Social Worker on site and would agree that partial funding would be the best option. The schools appreciate the help of MCHD in the schools, but clearly prefer the person to be staffed by them. They feel that the response time is immediate with the person within the system. Chrissy asked the schools if funding two specialists in the field of Social Work employed through MCHD would be a solution? She continued by expressing the employee would be available even in the summer. MCHD expressed that they “would be a phone call away,” and could respond within the hour. The general consensus for the schools is they wish to have their own staffed Social Worker. The schools asked if they could count on continued partial funding for the Social Worker positions? The Boards response is no that cannot be assumed. The Board asked for suggestions for funding for materials and evidence-based programming. Can you please provide the Board with some options? Litchfield gave an update that they had just hired a Social Worker who starts next week, and he would work in the summer. They would also be open to partial funding.

The Board is considering another meeting if the need arises. This will depend on the number of applications and the amount of funding. The meeting could consider the smaller groups that cannot use a tax levy for funding.

Cross Over Ministries introduced themselves and told the Board of the programs they are hoping to start in the County. Their catchment group will be MH and SA. They are going to provide clients with \$\$ for co-pays for appointments and medications. They are working on increasing transportation options. They are having a Mental Health Seminar in February. They are working on a plan to have a facility called The Living Room that would serve as a go-to between the ER and the Hospital. They will need to have a Psych Nurse on the staff, and this is just in the planning stages. The group wished to just introduce themselves and is not sure if they will do an application at this time.

The applications were reviewed. Brian made a motion to accept them. Linda seconded and the motion passed. They will be online on February 1st until March 31st.

There will be no February or March meeting. The Board will have its own email and they will purchase ink and paper for the secretary. The Board will add some options for expenses to the budget.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:30 p.m. by Earlene and seconded by Chrissy. Next meeting is April 8th at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Court House.