



**Champaign County Children's Advocacy Center
Governing Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 22, 2004
1601 E. Main Street
Urbana, Illinois**

Minutes

Members Present: Chairman John Piland, State's Attorney
Secretary/Treasurer Kathleen Buetow, Carle Clinic
Lt. Kris Bolt, Champaign County Sheriff's Office
Mr. Matt Burgess, Clinical Specialist, Provena Behavioral Health at Centerpoint
Chief Dan Driscoll, Mahomet Police Department
Mr. Joseph Gordon, Director, Probation & Court Services Department
Ms. Gina Jackson, Champaign County Mental Health Board
Detective Alex Meyer, Rantoul Police Department
Lt. David Nelson, University of Illinois Police Department
Regional Superintendent Judy Pacey, Regional Office of Education
Jill Tichenor, Field Services Manager, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Members Absent: Champaign Police Department
Urbana Police Department

Others Attending: Michael Williams, Executive Director, CAC

Call to Order

After finding a quorum present, Chairman Piland called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Jackson offered a motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2004 Regular Meeting of the CAC Governing Board. The motion was seconded by Superintendent Pacey. There was no further discussion. Motion approved.

Budget Report

A copy of the CAC Budget Report for the month ended March 31, 2004 was provided to each of the Board members. Mr. Williams stated that there were no unusual expenditures to report for the month of March, nor did he have any other budgetary matters to bring to the Board's attention at this time.

Director's Report

On March 31, 2004, the Children's Advocacy Center and A Woman's Fund hosted a joint press conference to preview for the media public service announcements focusing on the issues of child abuse and adult sexual assault. Mr. Williams reminded Board members that the PSAs were produced locally with a grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and are being aired throughout the month of April on Channel 3, Channel 15, and various cable television stations. Radio versions of the PSAs will be completed later this month. Mr. Williams will be distributing copies of the PSAs to other Illinois CAC Directors at their retreat next month. Chris Walker of Rape Crisis Services will handle distribution of the PSAs to other Illinois sexual assault centers. The press conference was followed by an Open House at the CAC. All of the people involved in the production of the PSAs were invited to the Open House as our way of thanking them for their participation in this project. Mr. Williams estimated that 40 people attended the Open House.

Mr. Williams also reminded Board members about the Children's Festival to be held in Champaign's Douglass Park on Saturday, April 24th, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. The festival is the culmination of local Child Abuse Prevention Month activities. Mr. Williams encouraged Board members to attend the Festival, if at all possible.

On April 6, 2004, Mr. Williams attended the April meeting of the Champaign County Mental Health Board to discuss the programs and services offered by the Children's Advocacy Center. This was done as part of the Mental Health Board's annual contract performance review of funded agencies. Mr. Williams indicated that he focused his remarks on the Crisis Intervention Services Program, child victim support groups, Multidisciplinary Team Case Review Meetings, the collaborative project with A Woman's Fund to produce Public Service Announcements, the development and implementation of the Center's Cultural Competency Plan, and Multidisciplinary Team and staff training provided by the CAC. Mr. Williams highlighted for the CCMHB how the programs and services offered by the Children's Advocacy Center help meet the CCMHB's goal of implementing the recommendations of the Shallcross Report. Ms. Jackson commented that the coordination of the Multidisciplinary Team is very important to the Mental Health Board and that the CCMHB is very impressed by the seamless

transition to services offered by the Children's Advocacy Center. Ms. Jackson added that the CCMHB may consider providing additional funding to the CAC during the upcoming funding cycle.

Mr. Williams advised the Board that volunteers with Operation Helping Hand helped out earlier this week with removing the sod and preparing a flower bed along the walkway at the client entrance to the facility. Operation Helping Hand volunteers also helped strip paint on the concrete porch on the east end of the building to prepare it for re-painting. In addition, several members of the Master Gardeners Program have provided plants for a perennial garden being established on the south side of the facility. All of these projects will help to beautify the CAC and make it more attractive to clients, staff and multidisciplinary team members.

Each of the Board members was provided with a Summary of CAC Activity for the month of March, which was prepared by Case Manager Jill Breen. During the month of March, 15 children were interviewed at the CAC. That number includes 11 children accepted for Case Management services, 2 children for whom the Center is not coordinating services, and 2 non-victim siblings/witnesses. Thus far during April, 13 children have been interviewed at the Center, all of whom have been accepted for case management services. As of the quarter ended March 31, 2004, the CAC was providing services to 113 children representing 100 families. Mr. Williams reiterated that, without the help of the crisis intervention services program, the CAC would not be able to maintain such a large caseload. Chairman Piland asked whether or not funding for this program would be continued past the grant expiration date. Mr. Williams stated that when he and Mr. Burgess met with our grant monitor during her site visit in February, she indicated that, although she could not offer any assurances at this time, she fully expects that the Authority will continue to fund the program when the current grant expires on October 30, 2004. Mr. Williams expects to receive grant renewal materials sometime this summer.

Communications

Mr. Williams reported that he, along with other Mental Health Agencies Council members, had been approached by Dale Morrissey, Executive Director of Developmental Services Center, for support in the effort to pass a referendum supporting the creation of a Developmental Disabilities Board. If approved by the voters of Champaign County, a county-wide 10-cent rate increase will generate \$2,365,042 per year for the service system. A 3-member Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board (CCDDB) will be appointed by the County Board and the CCDDB will prioritize the funding needs, disperse the funds, and evaluate the performance of the funds. At present, developmental disabilities services receive approximately \$400,000 in funding from the Champaign County Mental Health Board. It is not known at this time whether that funding would continue to go to developmental disabilities services or whether it would be made available to other service providers funded by the Mental Health Board. Mr. Williams provided CAC Board members with a Resolution supporting the creation of the Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board for their consideration at a future meeting. Mr. Williams and Ms. Jackson both pointed out that the CCMHB is officially neutral with respect to the referendum, but will be making information about the proposal

available to the public. In addition, Ms. Jackson noted that although Mr. Morrissey is spearheading the drive to pass the resolution, decisions about which agencies will receive funding will not be made until after the creation of the CCDDB.

Other Business

None.

New Business

None.

Announcements

Mr. Williams announced that the next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 27, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Superintendent Pacey offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 a.m. The motion was seconded by Lt. Bolt. There was no further discussion, the motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael B. Williams
Executive Director