



**Champaign County Children's Advocacy Center
Governing Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 22, 2009
201 W. Kenyon Road, Suite 1
Champaign, Illinois**

Minutes

Members Present: Kathleen Buetow, Secretary/Treasurer
(In Person) Lt. Roy Acree, University of Illinois Police Department
Sgt. Marc Beach, Rantoul Police Department
Amy Hurst, Intensive Outreach Services Supervisor, Mental Health
Center of Champaign County
Lt. Ed Ogle, Champaign County Sheriff's Office
Lt. Bryant Seraphin, Urbana Police Department
Captain Stuart Shaver, Illinois State Police
Janet Wells, Supervisor, Adult Probation Services, Champaign County
Probation & Court Services Department

Members Absent: Champaign County Mental Health Board
Champaign County State's Attorney
Champaign Police Department
Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
Mahomet Police Department
Regional Office of Education

Others Attending: Michael Williams, Executive Director, CAC

In the absence of State's Attorney Julia Rietz, Dr. Buetow served as Acting Chair.

Call to Order

After finding a quorum present, Dr. Buetow called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
ALLIANCE®

ACCREDITED
MEMBER

Champaign County Children's Advocacy Center
201 W. Kenyon Road, Suite 1 • Champaign, IL 61820 • Phone: 217.384.1266 • Fax: 217.344.1214

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Approval of Minutes

Lt. Acree made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Governing Board. The motion was seconded by Captain Shaver. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved.

Report from Sub-Committee on Annual Review of CAC Protocol

The sub-committee appointed by the Board to conduct the annual review of the CAC Protocol met on October 6, 2009. Mr. Williams reported that, in general, the sub-committee did not see the need for any significant revisions to the Protocol; however, given the Mental Health Center's recent decision to discontinue providing crisis intervention services to CAC clients (see below), the sub-committee will not be making final recommendations for revisions to the Protocol until an alternative plan for providing those services is in place. The only other area of concern for the sub-committee was whether or not DCFS should continue providing SACWIS forms to the CAC. The sub-committee decided to seek the advice of State's Attorney Julia Rietz before recommending a change to that section of the Protocol. In a telephone call with Mr. Williams prior to this morning's meeting, Ms. Rietz suggested that DCFS should redact any information they feel is necessary before providing SACWIS forms to the CAC. Ms. Rietz does not believe that that procedure needs to be detailed in the CAC Protocol.

Budget Report

Mr. Williams provided Board members with a copy of the Budget Report for the month ended September 30, 2009. Mr. Williams stated that there were no unusual expenditures to report for the month of September and he noted that the CAC had a positive cash balance of \$3,388.29 as of September 30, 2009. Since that date, the CAC has received our First Quarter payment from the Illinois Attorney General (\$4,250.00) as well as a partial First Quarter payment from DCFS (\$8,553.13).

Director's Report

Mr. Williams reported that he was notified by the Mental Health Center on September 30, 2009 that they would not be renewing their contract to provide crisis intervention services to CAC clients when the current contract expires on October 31, 2009. This action is being taken because the Mental Health Center is no longer able to meet the match requirement of our grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Mr. Williams expressed regret that this program was ending after a very successful seven-year run. During that time, 893 children and 1,230 of their non-offending family members have received services through this program. Although our grant from the Authority for the 12-month period beginning November 1, 2009 is not in jeopardy, we will need to come up with an alternative for providing crisis intervention

services, including a proposal for meeting the match requirement, in order to receive that funding. Mr. Williams added that there is likely to be a gap in services while we research alternatives; however, CAC Case Manager Elaine Carter will work to link clients with services and the Mental Health Center has assured us that they will do whatever they can to help until an alternative is in place.

Mr. Williams discussed with the Board a proposal to partner the *2010 Champions for Children Walk* with the *Twin Cities Twosome*. The Twin Cities Twosome has been staged for 18 years and next year's Twosome is scheduled to be held on May 15, 2010, the same date we were planning to hold the 2010 Champions for Children Walk. Three local non-profits (Crisis Nursery, A Woman's Fund and the T.I.M.E.S. Center) are the designated beneficiaries of the Twin Cities Twosome and the committee organizing the Twosome has suggested adding the Children's Advocacy Center as a beneficiary. The Twin Cities Twosome has four categories (a 2 x 5K Relay Run, a 2 x 2.5K Relay Walk, a 5K Open Run, and a 5K Open Walk) and will be held in Urbana's Crystal Lake Park. During her telephone conversation with Mr. Williams this morning, CAC Board Chair Julia Rietz expressed her support for this proposal.

The Board discussed ideas for maintaining the identify of the Champions for Children Walk, including holding a pre-Walk party for Champions for Children walkers on the evening before the Twin Cities Twosome, beginning the Champions for Children Walk at the County Courthouse and walking to Crystal Lake Park for the start of the Twin Cities Twosome, having CAC Team members gather pledges for the support of the CAC in addition to paying the registration fee for the Twin Cities Twosome, having Team members wear Champions for Children t-shirts while participating in the Twin Cities Twosome, etc. Further discussion was held. Lt. Acree made a motion to authorize Mr. Williams to continue discussions for partnering the Champions for Children Walk with the Twin Cities Twosome and to report ongoing developments to the CAC Board. The motion was seconded by Captain Shaver. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved.

Mr. Williams reported that the CAC hosted State Senators Michael Frerichs and Dale Righter and State Representative Naomi Jakobsson on October 8, 2009. In attendance were Champaign County State's Attorney Julia Rietz; Coles County State's Attorney Steve Ferguson; DCFS representatives Tamela Atwood, Maria Miller, Paula McClain and Jamie Ralph; Pam Riddle, Executive Director of the CAC in Charleston; and Marcia Milliken from the CACI Office in Springfield. Mr. Williams and CAC Case Manager Elaine Carter also attended. Topics of discussion included the impact of the state budget crisis on children's advocacy centers, the forecast for State FY 2011, and the establishment of a CAC in Vermilion County. Mr. Williams felt the meeting was very productive and was an excellent opportunity for us to keep issues important to CACs in front of our legislators.

Each of the Board members was provided with a Summary of CAC Activity for the month of September. During the month of September, 11 children were interviewed at the CAC. That number included 6 children who were accepted for case management services, 4 children for whom the Center did not provide follow-up services, and 1 non-victim sibling. Thus far during the month of October, 11 children have been interviewed

at the CAC, which includes 8 children accepted for case management services and 3 non-victim siblings. Three additional children are scheduled to be interviewed at the CAC this afternoon.

Communications

Mr. Williams stated that no communications had been received on behalf of the Board.

Old Business

Lt. Seraphin asked if there were any new developments with respect to beginning peer review for forensic interviewers. Mr. Williams stated that he had not discussed peer review with Ms. Rietz since the last Board meeting. A general discussion of peer review followed.

New Business

Dr. Buetow expressed her admiration to the Mental Health Center for the work they have done in providing crisis intervention services to the clients of the CAC over the past several years. Dr. Buetow noted that this was a unique program in terms of both the quantity and the quality of services provided and she commended the Mental Health Center for their efforts over the years. The Board and Mr. Williams echoed Dr. Buetow's sentiments.

Announcements

Mr. Williams announced that the next Board meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2009, which is a week earlier than usual due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael B. Williams
Executive Director