

City of St. Louis
Mental Health Board
of Trustees

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* * * MEETING MINUTES * * *

Minutes of the October 20, 2005, Board Meeting

Attendance:

*Leon E. Ashford, Ph.D.
Mary Calzaretta
Clement Cann
Mary Haberberger
Ruby Jones
William L. Kincaid, M.D.
Philip Minden
Brooke Sehy*

The meeting was chaired by President Mary Calzaretta.

Community Comments - John Murphy, Employment Connection, educated trustees about the needs of children of incarcerated parents. He distributed a fact sheet showing the high incidents of problem behaviors in children of incarcerated parents.

Bert Emmons introduced himself as the new Director of Student Support Services for St. Louis Public Schools. He said that Student Support is responsible for services provided by social workers, counselors, nurses and psychologists. He said he looks forward to a close relationship with MHB.

Angela Cassimere told trustees about St. Patrick Center's Independent Living Skills Program which provides intensive living skills classes to help move homeless families into jobs and housing. She distributed a fact sheet which gave program details.

Sue Wagener introduced herself as the new Executive Director of Covenant House.

Regina Trotter, Hopewell Center, presented the trustees with the Pioneer Award for its support of Hopewell's Co-Occurring Disorders Program.

Announcements - Don Cuvo announced that trustee/vice president Marguerite Grandelious has been honored as Counselor of the Year in a statewide competition of guidance counselors. Her volunteer service to MHB was taken into consideration by judges. Everyone congratulated trustee Brooke Hatton on her September marriage. On a sadder note, condolences were offered to trustee Ruby Jones on the passing of her grandmother, who was the well-known owner of Delmonico's Restaurant. Don pointed out that CITY10, the city's public TV station, has begun producing *How's Your Mental Health?* again, having reorganized after their retrenchment. Each trustee received a DVD of the latest show, *Depression-The Effects of a National Disaster*.

Minutes - The Minutes of the September meeting were approved as mailed.

Monthly Grants Report - Randy Breese reported on the status of the Mental Health Board's projects. Randy noted that the fiscal year had changed for the board on July 1, 2005. Randy noted the changes in the report resulting from the new fiscal year. Randy pointed out, for the benefit of new trustees, the various fiscal years which apply to projects based on the source of their funding, and how this can be identified on the printouts.

Resolution to Provide Financial Support for the Children of Metropolitan St. Louis Report - Don Cuvo noted that the trustees have twice, in the past, approved funding to support the research, production and distribution of this report on the conditions of children. A resolution was approved to provide \$15,285 to support the Report.

Resolution Adopting a Framework for the Implementation of the Community Children's Services Fund - Don Cuvo noted that the year-long Strategic Planning Process for the distribution funds for children's services are coming to a close. He said that there were two guiding documents which were continually considered in the planning: the statute, which specifies the services which can be funded, and; the *Children's Services Plan*, which recommended four service areas. He said that the progress made at the Saturday planning day crystalized the thinking of the trustees so that decisions can now be made on goals and objectives. The trustees approved a Framework which included Vision Statement, 5 Desired Results (goals) and 15 objectives, as follows:

VISION

All Children living in St. Louis grow up safe and have opportunities to succeed

Desired Result (goal) #1 **Parents and care givers provide safe & nurturing environments**

Objectives

- Parents provide positive discipline & structure and effectively manage problems
- Parents & care givers support and encourage learning
- Youth are prepared for parenting

Desired Result #2

Children are prepared to learn

Objectives

- Children receive support & are encouraged to learn
- 3rd graders read at grade level
- Children ages 0-3 achieve age-appropriate developmental milestones

Desired Result #3

Youth develop character and learn life and job skills

- More youth complete high school
- Youth make good choices that build character/reinforce protective factors and avoid risky behaviors
- Youth are prepared for work

Desired Result #4

Children & youth with emerging problems are identified and redirected

- Quick & effective intervention is provided at the onset of a child's problems
- Comprehensive services are provided for children & youth with problems

Desired Result #5

Families know where, when, where and how to access needed services

- Agencies assist families obtain needed services
- parents & care givers are aware of and access services to meet family and personal needs
- Families in crisis receive support from natural support systems (faith-based, mutual assistance)

Don said that investment (funding) priorities for each of the 15 objectives will be developed for the November meeting.

Resolution Reaffirming Leveraging Tax Revenue - Don said that the purpose of this resolution is to reaffirm the board's interest in prioritizing the use of local tax revenues to attract other matching funds. He said that in past years leveraging has brought an approximately \$7 million in additional funds which are passed through to agencies for services. These additional funds are mostly from federal and state grants. Trustees encouraged staff to continue to develop funding partnerships with the Children's Fund, as well as the Mental Health Fund. President Mary Calzaretta established a Partnership Committee to provide guidance and support. Trustees approved the Resolution.