

**DATE:** January 13, 2015

**LEADER:** Ben Maas

**TIME:** 4:00-6:00 p.m.

**RECORDER:** Lisa Gjerde

COUNCIL MEMBERS			LIAISON MEMBERS			GUESTS
Name	P	A	Name	P	A	Name
Caroline Beise	√		Alene Chelman	√		
Sam Deweese	√		Melissa Hanson	√		
Christine Dondlinger	√		Gary Norman	√		
Lisa Gjerde	√					
Lisa Inman	√					
Sue Kunitz		√				
Ben Maas	√					
Rod Sawtell		√				
Twyla Sawtell		√				
Becky Sorenson	√					
Eddie Tipton		√				
Virginia Wright	√					

Agenda	Activity/Discussion	Decision/Action/Conclusion
Call to Order	Ben called the meeting to order.	Approved by consensus.
Approval of Dec. Minutes	Ben made a motion to approve the December minutes. Virginia seconded.	Approved by consensus.

**Approval of  
Jan. Agenda**

Ben made a motion to approve the agenda. Sam seconded.

Approved by consensus.

**Roundtable  
Discussion**

Caroline mentioned that the Mary Hanson television show is doing a three-part series on suicide. Included in this is information about the side-effects of antidepressants, as well as withdrawal symptoms.

Christine and Gary told us of the County Veterans' Service Officer, Dan Tengwall, whose office is in Waconia. Christine suggested having him as a guest speaker. Sam said that more veterans from the Mid-East conflicts/wars have died from suicide rather than while on tour.

Caroline brought up the fact that millions of people are looking for just a glimmer of hope.

Christine talked about the Heroes Coalition, a group that started three years ago to deal with bullying in the schools. They recently received a matching grant to work with the topic of alcohol and drugs and how it impacts students' lives. How does the attitude people have on substance abuse affect mental health? She gave us names of Coalition members to contact as possible guest speakers. [Heroes stands for "Helping Empower and Respect Others."]

**Review  
Outline of  
Board Letter**

There were no comments about the opening paragraph.

Regarding "successfully met needs," we determined that "met" is not the most accurate definition because the needs still exist; we are simply moving in a positive direction toward success. In this section, we should briefly explain both the veterans' court and the jail's new mental health program. Regarding the latter, it is hard to measure

**Discussion of Letter cont.**

success. The new position filled by a psychologist does, in part, reduce the number of visits the Crisis Team needs to make to the jail, but it is important to clarify that this does not in any way reduce the community's need for the Crisis Team. Finally, another area that has had success but needs continued development is transportation.

Under Part III of the outline, we decided to attach a list of what is encompassed in each of the three priority action items.

Pertaining to guest speakers, we will also mention that LAC members have shared their own expertise with the council. Members have also taken the initiative to seek out educational opportunities and become involved in pertinent outside activities (such as NAMI and We-Cab). We should explain how our guest speakers tie into our priority action items. We also need to remember to spell out any acronyms.

It was suggested to leave the conclusion more general, and reiterate our mission statement. We also determined that it would be helpful to have another meeting with consumers such as we had last March.

**Other Business**

Ben read the letter from Commissioner Lynch to Christine thanking her for her years of service on the Council. Virginia mentioned how insightful and helpful Christine has been in the area of foster parenting. Ben made the motion to thank Christine for her service on the advisory council.

We have a few positions to fill on the council. Specifically, we need to find someone from a diverse ethnic background, and someone who has a child with a severe emotional disturbance. We have up to three slots to fill, as the council membership is limited to fourteen.

Ben volunteered to write an attachment to include with the letter that will go into more detail about each priority action item.

Motion passed by acclimation.

Becky will check with the special education director at her school to see if she knows of any potential candidates. Likewise, Alene will look via the new therapist in the elementary school.

<p><b>Other Business cont.</b></p>	<p>Gary Norman announced that a new, full-time (.9 FTE) psychiatric nurse practitioner has been offered a position at First Street, pending a background check. According to a new law in 2015, she will only need to be supervised by a psychiatrist for one year; thereafter she will be able to work independently.</p> <p>Gary also mentioned that he has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs (MACMHP), of which First Street Center is a member.</p>	
<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	<p>Ben made the motion to adjourn. Christine seconded.</p>	<p>Approved by consensus.</p>