

HANOVER TOWNSHIP MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

MINUTES of the MEETING

November 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Faiza Rahim at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call: Faiza Rahim, Mary Jane Garvey, Michelle Esquivel, Heidi McGuire, Matt Steichmann. Not present: Maria Wywialowski, Denise Noyola. Also present: Mental Health Board Manager Amanda Teachout, Natalie Rodriguez, the Executive Director of Hopeful Beginnings, Donna Rasmussen, the Director of Consumer Credit Counseling, Alex Anderson, the Program Coordinator at Alive Center, Carrie Schneider and Jen Keller, representing PADS of Elgin, Maureen Manning from Community Crisis Center, Paul Cusimano from Little City and Kim Petit from Ecker Center for Behavioral Health.

Approval of the Agenda: Ms. Rahim moved to approve the agenda of November 18th, 2024 and Ms. Garvey seconded. The motion passed.

Public Comment: None

Presentations: Mr. Cusimano presented on the capital request in the amount of \$25,000. He explained that the current wheelchair ramp is hazardous in the snow and ice, as it is made of aluminum. He also explained that the CILA home that needs the kitchen renovation has the original kitchen and with eight adult men, it has outlived its useful life. Ms. Petit presented on the Challenge request in the amount of \$25,000. She explained that this new supportive employment program would be open to all Ecker Center clients and Hanover Landing residents. The Board asked about the location of the program.

Workshop: Fiscal Year 2026 Mental Health Board Funding Hearings: Ms. Rodriguez discussed the Annual Funding Request from Hopeful Beginnings. She shared that since the Challenge Funding was awarded two years ago, Hopeful Beginnings has been very intentional about building slowly and sustainably into the community. They now have a local caseload large enough to hire a full time staff person to serve Hanover Township. Ms. Rasmussen shared the Annual Funding Application and discussed helping families with mental health disorders and developmental disabilities reduce anxiety and stress by providing financial counseling. Mr. Anderson shared about the ALIVE Youth Center in Hanover Park and discussed the philosophy of the program. Ms. Schneider explained that PADS was asking for an increase in funding due to an increase in residents at the shelter. Ms. Manning also discussed an increase in need and decrease in funding particularly in the economic and children's programs.

Manager's Report: The Manager's Report was presented for November. Manager Teachout shared discussions with Ecker Center regarding applying for Hanover Landing Funding separately from Annual Funding. She also discussed the Resource Center at the Hoffman Estates Police Department. Manager Teachout also shared with the Board discussions she had with funded agencies that were not reporting as regularly as they should and potential steps. Manager Teachout also shared that she had presented at the Senior Committee and the Committee asked her relay to the Mental Health Board their appreciation for the work that is being done.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2024: Motion to approve the regular meeting

minutes of the October 22, 2024 was made by Ms. Esquivel, seconded by Ms. Garvey. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Approval of September 2024 Financial Statements: Ms. Garvey moved to approve the September 2024 Financial Statements as presented and Ms. McGuire seconded the motion. Ms. Rahim requested a roll call and the vote passed unanimously.

Ms. Garvey	Yes	Ms. McGuire	Yes	Mr. Steichmann	Yes	Ms. Esquivel	Yes
Ms. Rahim	Yes						

Capital Funding Request-Little City

Ms. Esquivel moved to approve the Capital Funding Request from Little City in the amount of \$25,000 and Ms. Garvey seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Ms. Garvey pointed out that the total requested did not match the quote and was a little over. Mr. Steichmann stated that things do not always go to plan and it is good to have a reserve in construction projects. Manager Teachout reminded the Board that Capital Funds are paid out as a reimbursement up to the amount submitted on the proof of payment. Ms. Rahim requested a roll call and the motion passed.

Ms. Garvey	Yes	Ms. McGuire	Yes	Mr. Steichmann	Yes	Ms. Esquivel	Yes
Ms. Rahim	Yes						

Challenge Funding Request-Ecker Center

Ms. Garvey moved to approve the Challenge Funding Request from Ecker Center in the amount of \$25,000 and Mr. Steichmann seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Ms. McGuire pointed out that the application did not reveal the plan for sustainability of the program and Ecker was coming to the Board already in annual funding for a program they did not plan for sustainability. The Board members agreed that more information was needed regarding if this program was completely dependent on grant funding. Ms. Esquivel expressed concern over specific budget items listed in the budget and wondered why Ecker Center did not plan a program that cost the full amount they had received from Kane County. Ms. Garvey moved to reconsider Ecker Center's request in December when more information could be made available. Ms. McGuire seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Garvey	Yes	Ms. McGuire	Yes	Mr. Steichmann	Yes	Ms. Esquivel	Yes
Ms. Rahim	Yes						

Site Visit Update: Ms. Rahim and Ms. McGuire shared about their visit to Children's Advocacy Center in Hoffman Estates. Ms. Esquivel asked for clarification on the exact services provided. Ms. Rahim noted that she was impressed with the agency's ability to note that their referrals from DCFS had dwindled and found a way to address the issue directly.

Executive Session: None

Other Business: Manager Teachout shared that Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault (NWCASA) had been awarded a large amount from the state and was awaiting the actual award. They intended to purchase a building and wanted to know if the Mental Health Board would be willing to provide a short-term loan to cover the earnest money. The Board agreed that was very risky and needed to offer parity among the agencies. They suggested NWCASA could apply for capital funding once the purchase was complete. The

Board was reminded that the next meeting of the Mental Health Board was Monday, December 16 in Downey Hall.

Adjournment: There being no other business, Ms. Rahim moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Esquivel
Mental Health Board Secretary