

NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP Mental Health Funding and Oversight Committee

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 – 7:30 P.M.

AGENDA

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 2022
2. NEW CHAIR RICHARD DRAKE
3. CHAIR AND TRUSTEE REPORTS
4. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT/PROPOSAL DISTRIBUTION/NAME CHANGE OF COMMITTEE AND MISSION (SEE ATTACHED)
5. SET FALL SCHEDULE (TWO OCTOBER MEETINGS, THREE NOVEMBER MEETINGS-Mondays)
6. LIAISON REPORTS
7. OTHER BUSINESS
8. ADJOURN

Administrator Notes

Attached you will find a proposed new committee(s) names, mission and details about committee responsibilities. All three committees have new names. There are also mission/descriptions for the committees. Please review and we can discuss them at the meeting. Richard Drake was elected Chair at the last meeting. Thank you Richard! Proposals will be distributed at this meeting. I am expected three new agencies to apply for funding, one of which will be sent to this committee. Our new agency to review is called PICKLES. They are a relatively new organization and their mission is to provide free peer to peer support to kids affected by their parent or guardian's cancer. We already fund Cancer Wellness, but this organization focuses on kids and I've spoken with both and note that Cancer Wellness often refers to them and speaks highly of them.

Be sure and bring your calendars as we will be setting our Fall Schedule. We need two meetings in October and three in November. We'll set our December Decision Meeting at a later date.

Minutes from June 2022 Meeting

Members Present – Patricia Guerra, Lyn King, Richard Drake, Joel Kurzman, Joe McGowan.

Motion to approve the minutes was carried by a voice vote.

Rick Drake was elected to be the new Chairman by a voice vote.

Brian noted we could use a few more members on every committee. Applications are available on our website or have them give me a call.

Liaison Reports

Renee Cox/HAVEN – Agency Director Charley Smith noted that they have one open position, but are interviewing a strong candidate for a second time. Hiring quality staff has been tough during the pandemic, especially competing with private agencies but they have managed. For the summer they have more flexible hours and reduced the waitlist. With the addition of a new staff person they will eliminate the waiting list. There has been a 50% increase in referrals for safety assessments, which is concerning to HAVEN, some for kids as young as six. For now they are staying in current location, but need more space and plan to move in October of 2023.

Lyn King/Erika's Lighthouse – Lyn spoke with Ms. Means Meade, who does Development. Final numbers for student contacts for the year are pending the reports from 3 of 13 schools where they provide services. For school year ending the number was approaching 8,000. Breakdown for NTT will be done after final numbers are reported. Staff have been out of office due to Covid. Staff has attended Mental Health First Aid Training for Teens during past year. Handbooks are utilized for various programs they offer, including Depression Education for Parents. Peer Groups for students have received positive feedback from students. A new program was launched in Los Angeles to work with 4th thru 6th graders. And will begin in the fall. Surveys are not required but results from services to kids and families are something they will be working on to gather more info on outcomes. Covid has increased need for all services.

Joel Kurzman/Z Center – Long-time agency Director Torrie Flink is set to retire on June 30th, as planned. Also leaving is their Director of Clinical and Community Services. In-person activity is increasing compared to virtual. They have a new Peer-led support group starting in June, using graduates of 16 week fall program. It's a creative way to keep graduates engaged while serving more people (Helps with waiting list) and reduces burden on clinicians. Electronic notes/charts will soon be available. There is a 5k run fundraiser in September and New Trier High School's Day of service is doing a fundraiser for them. Lake County State Attorney has a Crime Victim Compensation Fund and agency got \$50k, which will be used to compensate victims and survivors.

Joe McGowan/Counseling Center of the North Shore – Joe met with Bob Sanfilippo on May 19th. And Kim Hassenfeld. Their annual appeal ends June 30th. A new internship program is being implemented for students pursuing a graduate degree in fields such as psychology and social work. Two interns began this month. They now have a therapist from Bolivia who speaks Spanish. Agency is reviewing its facilities. It owns building on Green Bay Road for its offices and Thrift Shop, but needs more space. Adding a floor above was deemed too expensive. Two options are being considered; build a new building at site or let Thrift Shop take over site and find a new site for counseling. Decision is expected by December.

Joe McGowan/Family Service Center of Wilmette – Met with co-director Renee and Chris at Northfield Office. Casino fundraising night was held in May. Agency highlighted its customization of services and how they have recently teamed with HAVEN for some sessions. They are hiring additional clinicians to increase services, raise revenue and reduce wait list.

Nan Hamm/Glencoe Family Services – They are experiencing a major uptick in crisis calls and intense family cases, mostly dealing with maniac bipolar. This requires a holistic approach for treatment and often involves multiple clinicians. Clients right now are about half virtual, half in-person. Agency had highly successful fundraiser, netting about \$187,000. New Director is Kristina Phillips, former director of Career Counseling Center.

Our next meeting is in September. Have a great summer!

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Leverenz