



**Champaign County Children's Advocacy Center
Governing Board
Annual Meeting
Thursday, November 29, 2007
201 W. Kenyon Road, Suite 1
Champaign, Illinois**

Minutes

Members Present: State's Attorney Julia Rietz, Chair
(In Person) Dr. Kathleen Buetow, Secretary/Treasurer, Carle Clinic
Lt. Roy Acree, University of Illinois Police Department
Ms. Lisa Benson, Intensive Outreach Services Manager, Mental Health Center
Assistant Superintendent Barb Daly, Regional Office of Education
Ms. Lolita Dumas, Child Protection Manager, Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
Interim Chief of Police Jerry Gamble, Mahomet Police Department
Mr. Joseph Gordon, Director, Probation & Court Services Department
Inv. Brad Saltgaver, Rantoul Police Department
Lt. Bryant Seraphin, Urbana Police Department
Dr. Deborah Townsend, Champaign County Mental Health Board

Members Absent: Champaign County Sheriff's Office
Champaign Police Department

Others Attending: Michael Williams, Executive Director, CAC

Call to Order

After finding a quorum present, Ms. Rietz called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
ALLIANCE®

ACCREDITED
MEMBER

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Buetow made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2007 Regular Meeting of the Governing Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Townsend. There was no further discussion. Motion approved.

Election of Officers

In accordance with the provisions of Article IV, Section 4 of the CAC Constitution and By Laws, the Board proceeded with the election of officers. Dr. Townsend nominated State's Attorney Julia Rietz for Chairman and Dr. Kathleen Buetow for Secretary/Treasurer. Both indicated that they were willing to serve in their respective offices for another term. There were no further nominations. By unanimous acclamation of the Board, State's Attorney Julia Rietz was elected Chairman and Dr. Kathleen Buetow was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Budget Report

Copies of the CAC Budget Report for the month ended October 31, 2007 were provided to each of the Board members. Mr. Williams stated that there were no unusual expenditures to report for the month of October. Mr. Williams did note, however, that the CAC had a negative cash balance of -\$1,260.69 at the end of October, which he attributed to the delay in receipt of our first and second quarter payments from DCFS due to the State budget crisis. The second quarter payment of \$17,106.25 was received on November 2, 2007 and Mr. Williams expects that our first quarter payment will be received within the next few days.

Director's Report

Mr. Williams reported that he received notice from the National Children's Alliance that our application for a 2008 Accredited Member Program Support Grant for was approved. Unfortunately, our application for a 2008 Member Training Grant was denied.

On November 14, 2007, the Champaign County Mental Health Board conducted a site visit at the CAC. Mr. Williams stated that the visit went well.

Mr. Williams reported that the Open House to celebrate the Center's new home was held on Thursday, November 8, 2007, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. as planned and he thanked those Board members who were able to attend. Mr. Williams estimated that 60-70 persons attended the Open House, including State Senator Mike Frerichs, State Representative Naomi Jakobsson, Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois Executive Director Billie Larkin, Champaign Schools Superintendent Arthur Culver, several County Board members, and all three members of the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District Board. The event was covered by both local television stations.

Each of the Board members was provided with a Summary of CAC Activity for the month of October. During the month of October, 13 children were seen at the CAC, which included 10 children accepted for case management services, 2 non-victim siblings/witnesses, and 1 child who was initially interviewed in Ford County and who was subsequently referred to the Champaign County CAC for follow-up services. Thus far during November, 15 children have been interviewed at the Center, which includes 10 children accepted for case management services, 1 non-case management case, 3 non-victim siblings/witnesses, and 1 alleged juvenile offender.

At the request of the Board, Mr. Williams contacted Mark Edwards of the East Central Illinois Police Training Project to inquire whether that organization would be able to assist in providing updated forensic interviewing training to investigators assigned to conduct interviews at the CAC. Mr. Edwards felt that this was something the Police Training Project would be interested in organizing and he stated that he would be discussing this proposal with their organization's grant writer. Some of the possible areas to cover might include: interviewing the resistant teenage victim, interviewing very young children, and interviewing children with developmental disabilities. Mr. Edwards suggested a two-day training format and added that he would want to open the program to investigators from other counties in east central Illinois.

Mr. Williams stated that the Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois has applied for grant funding to pilot an Advanced Forensic Interviewing training program. If the grant is received, Advanced Forensic Interviewing would be offered in Springfield sometime next year, possibly in August. That program would likely be limited to 30-40 participants and would include a child interview practicum. Mr. Williams suggested that Mr. Edwards might be able to incorporate some of the curriculum and utilize some of the same presenters for an on-site training program in Champaign County. Earlier this week, Ms. Rietz met with Dale Lively of the Children's Advocacy Center of Collier County (Naples, Florida). Ms. Lively, who has 17 years' experience as a child forensic interviewer, indicated that she would be very interested in participating in any training program we might develop.

Communications

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

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Announcements

Mr. Williams announced that the next Board meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 27, 2007. Further discussion ensued. By consensus of the Board, the December meeting was cancelled. The next meeting of the CAC Governing Board will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2008.

Mr. Williams provided Board members with a schedule of meeting dates for 2008.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael B. Williams
Executive Director