



State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health

1 West Wilson Street, P.O. Box 7851
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Wisconsin Council on Mental Health – Conference Call

July 26, 2017, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Department of Health Services

1 W. Wilson Street Madison, WI - Conference Room 736B

MINUTES

Members of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) in Attendance via Conference Call:

Mishelle O'Shasky, Barb Buffington, Tracey Hassinger, Shel Gross, Karen Iverson Riggers, Julie-Anne Braun, Rick Immler

Guests in Attendance via Conference Call: Crystal Hester, Phil Robinson

Department of Health Services Staff in Attendance: Ryan Stachoviak

Item 1: Call Council Meeting to Order

M. O'Shasky called meeting to order at 2:00pm.

Item 2: Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grant Discussion

Members of the WCMH discussed the Council's response and comment on the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grant application and plan. Members of the Council discussed details regarding the letter from the Council that will accompany the block grant application. The letter should include information about the impact of the planned cuts to the block grant program. The letter should also note importance of the role of mental health in substance abuse prevention and treatment.

Members of the Council discussed ways to advocate for the block grant program. Members noted the importance of reaching out to Wisconsin's congressional delegation to inform them of the impact of the cuts. Outreach should also be done with the Governor's Office. NAMI has developed talking points that may be helpful in framing this conversation. The Chairs of the WCMH will develop and submit a formal letter for inclusion with the block grant application.

Item 3: Adjourn

M. O'Shasky adjourned meeting at 2:45pm.