

Applying for Membership on the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health

The Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) accepts applications for membership from the following to serve on the Council:

- ✓ mental health consumers;
- ✓ family members of those with mental illnesses;
- ✓ parents of school-age children with severe emotional disturbance;
- ✓ mental health advocates; and,
- ✓ county or private providers of mental health services

In particular, the Council is currently recruiting parents of children with severe emotional disturbance, and mental health advocates. In addition, the Council encourages people from diverse racial and ethnic groups, dually diagnosed, and other underserved groups with disabilities (including deaf and hard of hearing) to apply.

Brief Background:

The role of the Council is to advise the Governor, State Agencies, the State Legislature, and others on mental health matters; and to review and advise on the mental health needs assessment and plans required by the Federal Government. The Council is required to be comprised of at least 50% consumer, family member and advocate representatives. Members of the Council are also representatives from various State agencies (such as the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the State Medicaid Agency, Department of Public Instruction, and the Department of Corrections) and mental health providers.

The Council meets six times a year, with five of those meetings held in Madison. Expenses (gas and other travel costs, meals, and lodging as needed to attend meetings) are reimbursed, although a stipend is not available for attendance at meetings. Council members are also required to actively participate in at least one committee of their choice, where much of the work of the Council is done. These committees are the Adult Quality Committee, the Children and Youth Committee, the Criminal Justice Committee, and the Nominating Committee. For more information, please contact the Council at WCMH@wisconsin.gov.

Steps to Becoming a Member:

The WCMH reviews all Council applicants and recommends candidates to the Governor, who reviews the applicants and determines appointments to the Council. Two separate applications should be completed and submitted to be considered for appointment to the WCMH, the WCMH Applicant Questionnaire and the Application for Gubernatorial Appointment.

1. [WCMH Applicant Questionnaire](#) - This application should be submitted directly to the Council using the contact information on the form.
2. [Application for Gubernatorial Appointment](#) - This application can be completed online on Governor Scott Walker's website.

After receiving the applications the WCMH Nominating Committee reviews the applicant's information and conducts a phone interview. The Council will then provide the Governor's office with a recommendation regarding the applicant. The Governor makes final determination of who to appoint to the Council. Members of the Council are typically appointed to three year terms.