



OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH (708) BOARD

THREE-YEAR PLAN: 2015 –2017



December 2014

To: Ogle County Board

The Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board is presenting its Comprehensive Three Year Plan for the delivery of behavioral healthcare services to meet the needs of Ogle County residents.

The 2015-2017 plan, like previous three year plans, attempts to provide for the delivery of efficient and exemplary services within the framework of our legal taxing abilities.

The uncertainty that surrounds the value of real estate and assessed valuation of the county makes it difficult to project for this time period. The Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board knows that it is subject to the economic and political considerations of the County Board, but will continue to advocate for the behavioral healthcare needs of county residents. The Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board pledges to make educated and informed appropriations of mental health tax dollars to the Agencies as outlined in the Illinois State Statutes (405ILCS) Community Mental Health Act.

Sincerely,

By: _____
Kathleen Wilson, President



OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD (708) MEMBERS

<i>Kathleen Wilson</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Dorothy Bowers</i>	<i>Vice-President</i>
<i>Seth McCanse</i>	<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>
<i>Susan Schroeder</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>William E. Sigler</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Vicki J. Deter</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>David Schier</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Harold Best</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Dorothy Bowers</i>	<i>Ogle County Board Liaison</i>

OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH (708) BOARD STAFF

Cecelia Zimmerman	Recording Secretary/ Administrative Assistant
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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board is to assist in the delivery of quality behavioral healthcare services commensurate with the needs of county residents.



DEFINITIONS

As used herein, the following terms shall have the meanings hereafter ascribed to them:

“The Act” shall mean the Community Mental Health Act, 405 ILCS 20/0.1 et seq., as it may from time to time be revised. (also referred to as House Bill 708) This state statute enables the formation of county mental health boards and the subsequent taxing authority to finance its providers.

“Behavioral Healthcare Services” shall mean therapeutic services to those who experience a variety of mental illnesses, have a developmental disability, are substance abusers, are victims of domestic abuse or who require counseling and guidance.

“County Board” shall mean the County Board of Ogle County.

“HEW” shall mean the Health, Education and Welfare Committee of the County Board.

“OCCMHB” shall mean the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board.

“Providers” shall mean those entities providing behavioral healthcare services and receiving funds from the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board.



OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH (708) BOARD

HISTORY

- 1967..... Passage of House Bill No. 708
“The Community Mental Health Act” becomes Illinois State Law.

Provides Illinois counties the authority to pass a referendum to allocate Tax dollars for behavioral healthcare services.
- 1968..... Passage of referendum to establish the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board.

Provides for the County Board to levy taxes for behavioral healthcare Services which, by law, may not exceed .15% of the value of the taxable property in the county as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue.



To better respond to the behavioral healthcare needs of county residents, House Bill 708 (the “Act”) requires the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board (“OCCMHB”) to provide both short term and long range planning. A one-year plan is approved each January by the 708 Board. (Appendix A) The plan contains specific goals for the current year. Long term planning is developed by way of the three year plan and maps strategies to use for the next three years.

The major responsibilities of the OCCMHB are tri-fold:

- 1 To recommend funding levels for our Providers.
- 2 To be accountable to the taxpayers of Ogle County.
 - By providing key information about the OCCMHB’s functions.
 - By evaluating the effectiveness and qualifications of the Providers per the Illinois State Statute (405ILCS) Community Mental Health Act.
 - By educating taxpayers about Provider services.
- 3 To appropriate and distribute funds collected through the mental health tax.

The 708 Board works directly with the HEW and the County Board to fulfill these responsibilities.

OCCMHB operates to recommend funding levels for Providers that serve the behavioral healthcare needs of Ogle County residents. On an annual basis. Providers seeking funding complete a detailed application and defend and qualify their application at a hearing process. This process attempts to evaluate the services of Providers and to ensure accountability.

Several factors impact funding levels recommendations: Evidence of activities to expand funding sources, the availability and delivery of services, Mid-Year Reports (when used), and efforts to improve programming and extend services. Hundreds of volunteer hours are expended to reach a consensus on levels of Provider funding.

These recommendations are presented to members of the HEW who can either accept or reject them. HEW recommends a funding level to the Finance Committee of the County Board. This committee sets the budget, which ultimately has to be approved by the County Board

The OCCMHB has a responsibility to be accountable to the taxpayers of Ogle County. Although the Act states that a county cannot levy taxes for behavioral healthcare services in excess of .15% of the value of taxable property, the current Ogle County levy is a conservative **0.05377**. The 708 Board strives to strike a balance between supporting the budget-making decisions of the County Board and advocating for our Providers and in turn the residents of Ogle County who are in need of behavioral healthcare services.

The annual levy for mental health is the total approved by the County Board. It is the responsibility of the 708 Board, by statute, to distribute these funds to its Providers. The recommended levels of funding can be approved or the 708 Board can reallocate the total funds if it decides it is warranted.

Having delineated the responsibilities of the OCCMHB, what do the next three years portend? Future planning usually revolves around demographics, needs assessment and subsequent program expansion. At this time, in Ogle County, maintaining the status quo is probably a more realistic endeavor. Striving to get the most out of our mental health dollar is certainly a part of our three-year plan.

Due to current financial challenges in our State and County the behavioral healthcare needs of our citizens are expanding. Program expansion is most difficult in a climate of frozen or decreasing appropriations. To this end, we have encouraged our Providers to seek out grants and other creative funding to maintain and expand programming. At present, it is hoped that the results of demographic and needs analysis together with input from Providers will assist OCCMHB in defining areas for expansion or reduction.

Over the next three years, OCCMHB is dedicated to:

1. ongoing advocacy for our Providers' appropriate share of County monies as approved by voter referendum.
2. ongoing review of effectiveness and delivery of programs and services by Providers.
3. ongoing review of instruments used to evaluate providers.
4. ongoing advocacy for Ogle County residents who are in need of behavioral healthcare services.
5. ongoing resolve to be flexible to the changing assessed valuation of the county.
6. ongoing commitment to educate Ogle County taxpayers as to the availability of behavioral healthcare services especially through the use of the internet.
7. ongoing encouragement to Providers to seek new sources of funding.
8. ongoing accountability to Ogle County taxpayers.
9. ongoing research of growth in county needs for services.
10. ongoing review of state funding to Providers and its impact on them.
11. an open application process to allow new programs to request funds and demonstrate their impact on and applicability to Ogle County residents per Illinois State Statute (405ILCS) Community Mental Health Act.
12. insuring that all programs are growing, changing and responding to the needs of our community.