

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Health and Human Services Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
November 2, 2015**

The Health and Human Services Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, November, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairperson Haji-Sheikh called the meeting to order and those Committee Members present were Mr. Askins, Ms. Little, Mr. Porterfield, Mr. Reid, Mr. Whelan, and Chairperson Haji-Sheikh. All Committee Members were present.

Others present were Gary Hanson, Donna Moulton, Deanna Cada, Dawn Littlefield, Cindy Worsley, Ellen Rogers, and Dianne Leifheit.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Porterfield, seconded by Mr. Whelan and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2015 meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Porterfield asked to add Old Business to the agenda in order to discuss the possible next steps the Committee would want to consider concerning mental health services within the community.

It was moved by Mr. Porterfield, seconded by Mr. Reid and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairperson Haji-Sheikh noted that on 60 Minutes last night had a segment on heroine addition and they spotlighted Narcan. She encouraged those who had not seen the episode to look it up online and at least watch that portion of the show.

Chairperson Haji-Sheikh encouraged Board and Committee Members to read up on the latest National Association of Counties (NACO) newsletter. The article is in regards to improving the behavioral health system.

Lastly, it was reminded that the November Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10th due to the County being closed on the 11th in observation of Veteran's Day.

211 PRESENTATION – DAWN LITTLEFIELD

Dawn Littlefield, Executive Director of Kishwaukee United Way joined the Committee to present information regarding Illinois 211. 211 is an easy-to-remember, non-emergency telephone number that connects people with essential community information and services. 211 saves time and frustration through specialist who match callers to the right agency based on each caller's need. The 24-hour line makes it easy for the public to navigate the maze of human service providers and help lines. All calls are free, anonymous and confidential. Calls can get live assistance with needs such as: food and shelter, counseling and mental health services, income and employment support, help for elderly and people with disabilities, resources for children and families, and a possibility of many other services.

Ms. Littlefield also provided a brief history of the 211 program and how United Way has been involved since 1997. She also explained why now may be a good time to consider implementation of the 211 program. Ms. Littlefield also shared how the databases would be created and maintained along with the costs and potential funding partners that are being informed about this program right now.

Ms. Littlefield noted that currently local partners (government, nonprofit, agencies, etc.) are coming together to determine a broad database list for a 211 director, determining funding support, coordinating local connections to 211 portal, and planning and executing marketing of 211 to general communities. Conversations are ongoing with the PATH call center and local partners are still defining what the next steps are to take in order to implement a 211 program within DeKalb County. Ms. Littlefield shared that she would be happy to revisit the Committee when she had additional information to provide.

VOLUNTARY ACTION CENTER LEASE

Mr. Hanson shared that the 30 year lease on the Voluntary Action Center building and property is up for renewal. The lease is very simple to renew. All the VAC would need to do is notify the County that they are interested in an extension to the lease and the lease will then automatically renew for 20 years (same terms apply).

Ms. Ellen Rogers from Voluntary Action Center was present to share that VAC was not selected to receive the TIGER Grant again this year. They are continuing to look for other less competitive grant opportunities in the meantime and will apply for the TIGER Grant again next year.

VOLUNTARY ACTION CENTER RELEASE OF SENIOR SERVICES GRANT FUNDING

Chairperson Haji-Sheikh noted that she has contacted the County Treasurer to ensure that the funds are available for early release and they are.

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Ms. Rogers shared that what VAC is asking for right now is only \$65,000 of their already approved senior services tax levy allocation dedicated to the Meals on Wheels program. She also noted that for whatever reason the down state money for the transit operation are still flowing but the Meal on Wheels dollars are not. The Meals on Wheels program has already cut down to four-days a week service. The \$65,000 will sustain that right now and will allow for no additional cuts.

It was moved by Ms. Askins, seconded by Ms. Little and was approved unanimously to immediately release \$65,000 of the already approved senior services tax levy allocation money dedicated to Meals on Wheels to the Voluntary Action Center.

FOX VALLEY OLDER ADULTS FUNDING REQUEST

Cindy Worsley, Executive Director of Fox Valley Older Adults Services in Sandwich, Illinois revisited the Committee to provide an update on the status of the facility. She additionally thanked the Committee for the early release of the senior services tax levy allocation to them. The allocation provided Fox Valley with their first sign of hope and did allow the facility to continue on.

Since last meeting, Ms. Worsley shared that Fox Valley hesitantly announced to the community that they were close to closing their doors. She also shared that since that time they have had a great deal of community support through the Lions Club, Rotary, Sandwich Township, City of Sandwich, P.E.O., and through their annual bowling fundraiser.

Ms. Worsley shared that she has been so hesitant so ask for any type of additional funding because the County has been so generous to them already. She also stated that she understands that there are so many other agencies that are in the same boat that Fox Valley is currently in. Should the County find any additional funding, she would be thankful for the opportunity to apply.

Ms. Worsley briefly shared financial data with the Committee and noted some of the mostly costly bills they are working with. She assured that Fox Valley would love to continue to partner with Voluntary Action Center and will also continue to host fundraisers and look for charitable donations in order to keep their doors open for as long as possible. The Committee thanked Ms. Worsley for the update and for everything that Fox Valley Older Adults Services is doing.

FY 2016 BUDGET – MENTAL HEALTH TAX LEVY

Mr. Hanson shared that in early September when Administration presented their recommendations for the FY 2016 Budget, there was a provision in there to take the levy request from the Mental Health Board of \$2,375,000 and reducing that to \$2,300,000 to be levied in the General Fund instead. He noted that sometimes when you make budget recommendations, you never feel totally good about those, and this was one of those. Mr. Hanson and Mr. Stefan took time to evaluate how they could address this issue and still accomplish what they need to do for the budget but not quite impact Mental Health as much. After further conversations with Mental Health Director Deanna Cada, Mr. Hanson and Mr. Stefan presented the following new Community Mental Health Tax Levy Budget Compromise for Budget Narratives #5 and #40:

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“The Community Mental Health tax levy is restored by \$75,000 to the original budget request of \$2,375,000. A corresponding reduction is made to the General Fund tax levy. In addition, in order to have an opportunity to capture allowable dollars under the Tax Cap (PTELL) law, especially the “New Construction” dollars, the property tax levy ordinance will be set at a maximum of \$2,425,000. This “capture” would be consistent with other County funds and past practice. In order to make this adjustment and not impact the County’s General Fund reserve target reduction of \$400,000, expenses for the “Specialized Care & Treatment” line-item in the Court Services General Fund Budget that total between \$100,000 and \$200,000 will be paid by the Community Mental Health Board. Expenses under \$100,000 and over \$200,000 will be paid by the County General Fund. Any tax dollars collected above the \$100,000 threshold, and not needed for this stated purpose, will be for the exclusive use of the Community Mental Health Board at their discretion.”

Mr. Whelan made a motion to forward the draft Community Mental Health Tax Levy Budget Compromise to the Finance Committee recommending its approval for the FY 2016 Budget. Ms. Askins seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

This is the time of year that the County Board collects legislative agenda items before the legislature convenes in late January/ early February. Now is the time to put the County’s priorities out there and try and draft some suggested language in order to lobby the legislators to introduce them as bills at the appropriate time.

Chairperson Haji-Sheikh noted that the first items that come to her mind are passing a budget and mental health. Other items mentioned were criminal justice reform, unfunded mandates, and cyber security. Chairperson Haji-Sheikh also asked that last year’s legislative agenda be sent out in order to review what the Board had put through then.

OLD BUSINESS


Mr. Porterfield addressed the lack of mental health services within the community and wanted to gauge what the next steps that Committee may want to take in order to help lobby for better services within DeKalb County.

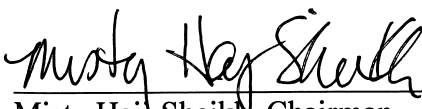
Ms. Cada also explained steps that the Mental Health Board are taking and shared how communication with the Ben Gordon Center has opened up significantly since KishHealth Systems took over the center.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Porterfield, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary


Misty Haji-Sheikh, Chairman

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What is 211?

- 211 enables people in need to make toll free call or access website for help
- 211 is free, confidential and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- 211 can help with:

rent & utility assistance
food pantries
child care referral
Financial assistance
Maternal and child health

substance abuse
disability services
counseling
parenting programs
legal assistance

mental health issues
shelter
senior services
education
volunteer opportunities

MISSION: To provide streamlined access to health & human services in an effort to build a stronger community.

Why 211?

- **Makes finding information easier.**
 - Easy to remember number
 - Trained staff & volunteers 24/7
 - Database access to hundreds of services
- **Strengthens access to needed services.**
 - Creates efficiency by eliminating service repetition
 - Can access wide array of services we help to populate
- **Attends to caller's most critical requests.**
 - Provide help for vulnerable populations
 - Calls fielded by specialists in facilitating assistance & wrap around support
- **Helps during disasters.**
 - Links victims with emergency services & lightens first responder's load
 - Access for ongoing non-emergency information (debris removal)
 - Connects volunteers to service

History of 2-1-1



- Began in 1997 at United Way of Greater Atlanta to provide information & support for people facing disaster, health & human service needs
- Easy access by phone or computer
- Via toll free call or web access people were directed to critical service providers
- Chicago has it's own system; PATH is the Call Center serving counties outside of Chicago area (Established thanks to *United Way of Illinois*)

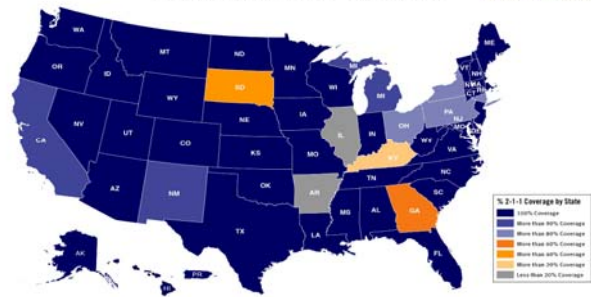
2-1-1 Nationwide

92.6% Overall Coverage

% of Population Covered* by 2-1-1 in Each State



Illinois:
Less than
20%
coverage

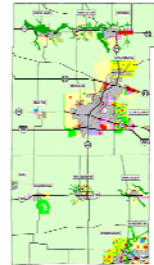


Data produced by 211US, February 2015.
Map produced by United Way WorldWide, February 2015.

*Coverage is defined as populations with local telephone access to 2-1-1. (Scaling codes)
Population based on 2010 Census.

2-1-1 DeKalb County...Why Now?

- **Fairdale** Tornado Disaster demonstrates need for fast, easy access to health & human service agencies
- **24-hour Call Center** can quickly match people with right agency to help them year-round
- Implementation will help **reduce calls** going to police & fire emergency numbers (**45% of 911 calls = non-emergency**)
- **Neighboring counties** of Lee, Ogle, and Winnebago are already connected to 2-1-1
- Coordinated system would **save resources** across multiple agencies



Database Creation/Maintenance

- Local partners convene **Community Leader meeting with PATH representatives** to share info about 211 & enroll agencies in call center database (enrollment = paper forms or electronic)
- PATH is AIRS (*Alliance of Information and Referral Systems*) and American Association of Suicidology **accredited** and FEMA trained & tenacious with maintaining current, accurate data
- **All nonprofits** are permissible in database listing, as are free programs of for-profit companies, open for the public good (i.e., health resources offered by a for-profit health system)
- 211 has **language line** (159 languages) to assist ESL callers

Access to 211 Database

- There is a 211 web link that ANY website can link to for 211 access
- Site is searchable by county and topic area
- NEW 'chat' interface feature will be available for online searches to connect folks browsing for help to live support person
- PATH works with universities that have PBX systems (systems where you have to dial # for outside line) to get 211 on campus

Additional function: PATH can provide electronic files of **directories** sorted by county, topic area (i.e., *senior services, youth services*) for use by different organizations, as well as a formatted 1-page summary of services for DeKalb County.

2-1-1 Costs - One Time

- Phone Service Establishment Fee - ~~\$1,500~~

Waived (PATH is already a service provider)

- Phone Central Office Switch Programming
(10 switches @ \$200 each) - **\$2,000**

*Sycamore, Maple Park, Genoa, DeKalb, Kirkland, Malta,
Hinckley, Shabbona, Somonauk & Waterman*

2-1-1 Costs - Ongoing

- Monthly Phone Routing Cost - \$70 (\$840 per year)

- Call Center 4-year Contract

Year One: \$3,075

Year Two: \$3,444

Year Three: \$3,998

Year Four: \$4,413

Potential 2-1-1 Funding Partners

- DeKalb County and Local Government Units
- DeKalb County Community Foundation
- DeKalb County Long Term Recovery Board
- DeKalb County United Ways
- Corporate Partners
- KishHealth System
- Northern Illinois University
- School Districts

TIMELINE:
Estimated 6-9
month period for
database creation
& phone routing

Questions - Contact Paul Callighan, Volunteer Board Member, United Way of Illinois
(email: pccallighan@Comcast.net ; cell phone: 815-262-6953)

Suggestion Action: 2-1-1 Collaborative

FORM

Members= Local Partners (government, nonprofit, agencies, etc.)

FUNCTION

Determine broad database list for 211 directory

Determine funding support for 211 initiative

Coordinate local connections to 211 portal

Plan/execute marketing of 211 to general community (211 Cards)