

**WHEELING TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING
YOUTH SERVICES AGENCY PRESENTATIONS
OCTOBER 11, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Wheeling Township Community Mental Health Board, for October 11, 2023 was held in the Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, in the Township of Wheeling, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Vice President, Susan Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary, Bill Dixon called the roll and the following were present: Susan Hayes, Jeanne Hamilton, Jim Ruffatto, JoAnne Schultz and Bill Dixon.

Also, in attendance: Director of Finance and Administration Regina Stapleton.

Absent: John Lubbe & Jack Vrett

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President, Susan Hayes led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None

AGENCY HEARINGS-YOUTH SERVICES

Agency presentations are now on a three-year funding cycle. This year, Youth Services agencies were asked to appear before the Wheeling Township Community Mental Health Board. Agencies were each allotted ten minutes for a presentation, with questions and answers following. All agencies submitted an application prior to the presentations, which was used as a guideline during the question and answer period. Each application for funding provided detailed program and budgetary information.

Presentations were made as follows:

A representative for **CHILDRENS ADVOCACY CENTER**, spoke on behalf of the agency and requested \$12,000 in funding. The agency provides support and healing

for child victims and witnesses of abuse & violence, along with their non-offending family members. The agency serves as a community resource to facilitate the identification, intervention & prevention of child abuse. A range of services are offered for children and families. All services are provided in English or in Spanish and are offered at no cost to the child victim and her/his family.

News/Questions and Answers-How many on the wait list? Zero. Over half of the clients are between 5-17 years of age.

A representative from **HARBOUR** appeared and requested \$10,000. Harbour is a licensed Child Welfare Agency providing housing and supportive services to runaway, locked-out, and homeless youth ages 12-23 in the North and Northwest suburbs of Cook County. Harbour's mission is to provide emergency housing and services to youth experiencing homelessness in order to promote safety, stability, and personal growth.

News/Questions and Answers- The need for services has increased over the last 3 years.

A representative from **OMNI** spoke on behalf of the agency requesting \$91,140. Omni provides outpatient behavioral services. The grant from Wheeling Township is utilized to provide services to youth who reside in Wheeling Township and require mental health and substance use treatment.

News/Questions and Answers-Omni has expanded services & has developed a good blended model of a combination of virtual and in person.

A representative from **SHELTER, INC.** spoke on behalf of the agency. The requested funding is \$60,000. Shelter's mission is to end the cycle of child abuse by providing a comprehensive network of support to children, their families, and our community to create safe, healthy, and nurturing homes.

News/Questions and Answers-There is 1 group home in Palatine for those who identify themselves as male & 1 group home in Schaumburg for young women. There is also a transitional living facility in Arlington Heights.

A representative from **CENTER OF CONCERN** spoke on behalf of the agency. The requested funding is \$5,000. The Center of Concern provides comprehensive older adult support, community services for households with low incomes, and housing assistance for individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

News/Questions and Answers- None

A representative from **KAN-WIN** spoke on behalf of the agency. The requested funding is \$5,000. KAN-WIN's mission is to eradicate gender-based violence through comprehensive, survivor-centered services, education and outreach to Asian American communities and beyond. KAN-WIN offers a range of culturally and linguistically appropriate, survivor-centered services, including crisis intervention, counseling, transitional housing, legal & medical advocacy and more.

News/Questions and Answers-They are seeking funding for 2 programs: a 24-hour multilingual crisis line and case management services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

A representative from **ZACHARIAS SEXUAL ABUSE CENTER** spoke on behalf of the agency. The requested funding is \$3,000. Zacharias Center is a rape crisis center focused on helping those who have experienced sexual violence. Through Counseling, Advocacy, and Prevention Education (CAPE) Programs, Zacharias center counselors and staff work to alleviate the trauma of sexual assault and abuse on survivors and to prevent re-traumatization as they heal.

News/Questions and Answers-None

DISCUSSION ON AGENCY REQUESTS

None

MOTION #1 ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jim Ruffatto, seconded by Jeanne Hamilton to adjourn

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes

NAYES: None...Motion 1 carried

The meeting for Youth Services Agency Presentations was declared adjourned at 7:16 pm.