



Observer Reporting Form

Feature Evaluated	Yes	No	Comments
Meeting started on time?	X		Started at 6 pm, ended at 7
Were members courteous to each other and the public?	X		
Agenda sent/posted 72 hours before?	X		
Agenda items clearly described what was to be discussed?	X		
Adequate opportunity for public input?	X		
Was background information available to the public?	X		The PowerPoint slide will be available online.
Facilities adequate? (room size, lighting, ventilation, speakers audible, accessible to handicapped)	X		Counted 60 seats plus standing room – est 75 attendees

Notes:

Facilitator: Mary Thom Adams; Presenter: Sheryl McCormick

The PowerPoint presentation (Mental Health Services for Persons in Permanent Supported Housing) will be available on a Department of Mental Health website that TYP will provide a link to. Ms McCormick provided a very Comprehensive presentation. Some points that came out in the Q&A included: 25% of the general population have diagnosable mental illness, but only one third seek treatment. These numbers apply to the homeless population as well. Knox County Detention Center is the largest “mental health facility” in the State of TN - in the same way that the LA County Jail has the largest such facility in the country. Approx 20% of the KC jail population is on medication (implied for mental illness). Untreated Mental Illness can result in homelessness. Traumatic experiences during episode of homelessness can result in exacerbated mental illness or stress disorders, creating a cycle that is hard to break. Housing makes treatment more effective. The client-to-case manager ratio depends on the scope of duties. Generalists are supported by specialists who may have a lower case load. Case managers are more effective as a team. Jails and ER will continue to provide services; Housing is not creating demand, but will cut the cost of services. Robert Finley of the TYP will post his meeting notes and address any questions that were not fully answered at the meeting.

Next meeting August 25 on Addition Treatment, 6PM at Cansler YMCA.

Were any issues on the agenda relevant to LWV positions or programs? The league has a position statement about chronic homelessness.

Do you recommend League action on any of these issues? Further study

Other Concerns: none

Observer: Judy Barnette

Meeting: TYP Public Meeting #4

Date: July 21, 2010