

**MINUTES OF
RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIPMENTAL HEALTH BOARD
FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

A meeting of the Riverside Township Mental Health Board was held on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at Community Support Services, 3732 Grand Blvd., Brookfield, IL 60513.

Cynthia Kaczmarczyk, served as Chair and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present were:

Christine Carr
Timothy Heilenbach
Kara Kalnitz
Cynthia Kaczmarczyk
Melinda Lehman

Absent were:

Joe DeRosier
Adam Wilt

Also present were:

Dr. Joseph Troiani, Consultant
Jason Strietzel, Thrive
Diane Farina White Community Support Services
Yvette Williams, Community Support Services
Don Betswina, Pillars
April Dislers, Helping Hand

It was noted the Consultant's Report for February 18, 2026, and the Agency Reports sent to the Directors this month were the following:

Aging Care Connections/Community Resource Center
Community Support Services
Helping Hand
Pillars Community Services
UCP Seguin

The Chair called for any comments, corrections, or additions to the minutes of the Board meeting held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026. Motion made by Christine Carr and seconded by Melinda Lehman, the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Riverside Township Mental Health Board held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, are herewith approved as circulated.

Treasurer's Reports:

Kara Kalnitz reported that everything cleared for the month of February 2026. She noted we took in another \$400,000 and we would be able to pay the agencies for the quarter four installments.

Timothy Heilenbach made a motion and seconded by Christine Carr, and upon vote taken was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED that the Treasurer's Report for the month of February, be and the same is herewith approved, ratified and confirmed, a copy of which is attached hereto, incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Dr. Joe Troiani shared his Consultant's Report, see attached report. Topics discussed included.

Joe reported that we are waiting to see an analysis of what funding will look like through the new Illinois Department of Human Services.

Report Highlights:

- On February 8, 2026, Joe and Tim met with Matthew Buckley, Public Safety Director, regarding the upcoming February 21st program and the need for the CIT refresher course to be offered to our township's certified officers.
- There is a detailed list of proposed legislation impacting behavioral health services in the State of Illinois. Joe will continue providing reports as the bills progress.
- February 21, 2026, community program, "The Kids Are Not All Right." There will be a line-up of speakers and presenters as well as our community agencies.

Agency Reports:

Thrive—Jason reported that Thrive continues holding open spots and there is a waitlist. They are working on how they communicate about openings to the youth. They have plenty of openings during the day but not necessarily in the afternoons or weekends. Thrive is proactive about letting them know up front about having a lot of availability during the day. This is not the case for the adult services or psychiatry. Thrive continues to grow their children's programs.

Pillars Community Health-Don said they are a Narcan distributor. Every one of our agencies has Narcan. Anybody in the community can walk in and just ask for one, no questions asked. We've had this in place for about a year and a half now.

Over at the Loft, some of the art teachers and kids asked if we could do an art presentation again. We were going to reschedule another one sometime in April. The Loft also had a presentation at Hauser, and we made sure we made time to answer all their questions.

We had a block party last year for the first time. We are planning the block party this year for June 6, 2026. It is something that anybody in community can participate in and we will be broadcasting it shortly.

CSS-Diane Farina White, President and CEO of Community Support Services introduced herself.

CSS-Yvette reported they are hosting an informational Medicaid session in April to invite our families to attend this event for guidance through the process. All our SNAP benefits have been reinstated back to our participants.

Our staff also identified assistive technology devices that we have started to process and order them. One of the devices is for the nonverbal participant. We want to do some programming with it in Spanish and English. We also identified devices for visually challenged participants to work with. We are also preparing for our Gala on May 1, 2026.

CSS-Diane further explained that the April event is to make sure the families understood the changes to Medicaid. It's also a way to educate families and help them set up ABE accounts. ABE accounts is a way that they can manage all their child's Medicaid Benefits. They will have a big team there both in Spanish and English working with individual families.

Helping Hand-April reported they had their Evening with the Arts and Daughter Appreciation event, and it was an enormous success. They had over eighty clients that were part of the cast and crew. They not only practiced for the performance but made sure that everyone was seated and ran the concession stand.

Our employment team is working really hard with high schools to make sure we're ready for Project Search for next year. Placements are going very well.

Old Business:

Budget Committee Update: No report due to pending meeting.

Community Engagement Committee:

Cynthia reported that the North Riverside Public Library has requested a presentation about the Mental Health Board. Cindy stated that she is looking at dates in May along with wanting a description of the presentation. We will need to produce a description. Riverside TV will videotape this event. Once the link is available, we will post it on the Township's website and distribute it on some social media.

Joe DeRosier is going to contact St. Mary's. to set up a time for that presentation. The Knights of Columbus and the Parish Council were also interested. Tim reported that we would also give a presentation to the Riverside Township Board. Cindy would like to track how many people are coming to the presentations and how many are listening to the video.

The Chair reminded us of the projects honoring Joan Labak from the Mental Health Board. Tim suggested we could have an honorary yearly scholarship in Joan's name for \$2,000 for one of our agencies that applies for the scholarship. Tim would like the Board to produce some other ideas by the next meeting so that we can move forward with honoring Joan.

Review and Approvals of Payables:

Kara reported there were three items: (1) Maritza's salary; and (2) two for the Growing Community Media at \$91 each. Next month we will write the checks for the agencies.

Riverside Township Mental Health Board				
Accounts Payable - February 2026				
Date Requested	Check #	Payee	Purpose	Amount

2/18/26	1136	Maritza Zitzer	Secretary	\$450.00
2/18/26		Growing Community Media	Public Notices	\$91.00
		Growing Community Media	Public Notices	\$91.00
			TOTAL	\$632.00

Cynthia Kaczmarczyk made a motion to approve payables with a second from Melinda Lehman.

The Chair called for a roll call vote, which was recorded as follows:

Christine Carr	In favor
Timothy Heilenbach	In favor
Kara Kalnitz	In favor
Cynthia Kazmarczyk	In favor
Melinda Lehman	In favor

No public comments.

Cynthia Kazmarczyk made a motion to adjourn with a second from Melinda Lehman. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maritz Zitzer
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

Adam Wilt, President

Kara Kalnitz, Treasurer