

NOTICE OF MEETING & AGENDA
ST. CHARLES 708 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
WEDNESDAY APRIL 22, 2026, 5:30 PM
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, DENS A & B
2 E. MAIN STREET, ST. CHARLES, IL

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. March 18, 2026
 - B. April 15, 2026
- 4. Allocation of Funding - Discussion and votes**
- 5. Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026**
- 6. Determination of Chair and Vice-Chair roles for 2025-2026**
- 7. Adjourn**

ADA Compliance

Any individual with a disability requesting a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in a public meeting should contact the ADA Coordinator, Jennifer McMahon, at least 48 hours in advance to the scheduled meeting. The ADA Coordinator can be reached in person at 2 East Main Street, St. Charles, IL, via telephone at (630) 377-4446 or 800 526 0844 (TDD), or via e-mail at jmcmahon@stcharlesil.gov. Every effort will be made to allow for meeting participation. Notices of this meeting were posted consistent with the requirements of 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq. (Open Meetings Act).



MEETING MINUTES
ST. CHARLES 708 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
WEDNESDAY, March 18, 2026, 5:30 PM
MUNICIPAL BUILDING DENS A&B
2 E. MAIN STREET, ST. CHARLES, IL

1. Call to Order

Chair Rivard called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

2. Roll Call

Members present: Denz, Litchfield, Muenz, Poremba, Rivard, Rosenberg, Weddell

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes dated January 21, 2026

Motion to approve by Muenz second by Litchfield

Voice Vote Aye: No:0

Motion carries

4. Guest – Deputy Chief Clark St. Charles Police Department

Ald. Muenz discussed that the St Charles Police Department application for funding and the purpose for inviting the Police Department this evening is a follow up to a meeting with City Administrator Heather McGuire and St Charles Police Chief Dan Likens. Presenting information this evening are Deputy Chief Clark and AID Social Worker Wendy Stanton. The police department first staffed a part time social worker in 2015. By 2020 the department, with the help of the 708 St Charles Mental Health board began staffing a full-time social worker. DC Clark discussed the impact the social worker has had for the department relative to both the volume of calls they receive and the increase in the type of calls. It's estimated since 2020 as many as 70% of the calls received have a mental health component. The ability to serve the community, with the expanded support of a social worker has been an asset to the Police Department and has provided greater service to the community in the form of solutions and reducing repeat call volumes.

Board member Weddell asked what some of the top reasons for referral to the social worker are currently. Ms. Stanton states over winter months elder services and well-being checks receive significant call volume. Domestic calls are always high on the list regardless of season.

5. Application and Rubric

Chair Rivard asked if there were any questions about the application or rubric. None.

6. Scoring Questions for Pre-Scoring Examples

The police department's application was used for pre-scoring. Chair Rivard asked if anyone had any questions or comments. Board member Denz asked about the recurring question of funding this application as well as the item in a funding priority listed as "incidentals". Board member Denz discussed items that may be considered mental health versus items that may be considered a result of poverty. The challenge remains in how to identify and differentiate the two. The mental health board wants to remain cognizant of providing funding that aligns with its mission.

Board member Litchfield asked the board if they would be scoring the LaVoz application that was received late. Round table discussion whether it may be determined on a case-by-case basis or consider extenuating circumstances. Board member Poremba states that the application is open for a month, the board has established a rule and should hold all agencies to the same requirements.

Motion to discuss whether to add a vote to the agenda for discussion of acceptance of a late application submitted by LaVoz by Muenz, second by Litchfield.

Voice Vote: Aye 7 No: 0

Motion to bring to vote carries

Motion to decline acceptance of the LaVoz application due to the late receipt by Poremba second by Denz.

Voice Vote: Aye: 6 No: 1

Motion carries

7. Sub Committee Updates

Chair Rivard again referenced a meeting with Chief Likens and City Manager Heather McGuire that occurred over the winter. The St. Charles 708 Mental Health Board is interested in finding a funding resolution to continue to support the social worker with the police department. There is a discussion the 708 Mental Health Board may approach the City Council in seeking an increase of funding for the St. Charles 708 Mental Health Board. Chair Rivard discussed that bylaws should also be considered for amendment, specifically indicating that future funding be considered priority to fund the St. Charles police application for its social worker. Board member Denz asked that the board consider what makes the initiative for the police department a priority, over other agency applicants, who also serve the community. Round table discussion ensued. Board member Weddell discussed a small 1% increase could mathematically help fund this initiative for many years to come. It was noted that historically the 708 Mental Health Board has never asked to increase via a tax levy since the inception of the board in 1986.

8. Schedule Review

9. Next Meeting Date – April 15 5:00 PM

This meeting will be for applicant presentations. Dinner will be at 5, followed by a brief discussion, with agency applicant presentations to follow.

10. Adjourn

Chair Rivard asked if there were any other items for discussion or a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn Weddell by second by Denz

Voice Vote: Aye: 7 No: 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:34 PM

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MEETING MINUTES
ST. CHARLES 708 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026
5:00 PM, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2 E. MAIN STREET, St. CHARLES, IL

1. Call to Order

Chair Rivard called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

2. Roll Call

Members present: Denz, Litchfield, Muenz, Poremba, Rivard, Rosenberg, Weddell
Others Present: Agency representatives as listed below by time for presentations

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes dated March 18, 2026

Motion to approve by Denz second by Litchfield

Voice Vote Aye: 7 No:0

Motion carries

4. Chair Report

Chair Rivard thanked attendees for their presence and presentations this evening.

5. Organization Presentations

5:35PM Fox Valley Special Recreation

Alex Englehardt presented for the organization. As an extension of the Fox Valley Park district they provide services as well as some of their own initiatives. The application is seeking funds for their summer day camp. FVSRA is celebrating 50 years this year.

5:40PM Easterseals

Discussed were pediatric therapy and rehabilitation services provided regardless of ability to pay. Forty percent of their clients are uninsured or underinsured. The organization provides wrap around mental health services.

5:45PM Rising Lights Project

Mollie Knight, program manager presented for the organization. The organization provides services for special needs individuals who age out of public-school services typically at 22 years of age. The organization is seeking support for third party providers who come in to teach a variety of activities. The organization works collaboratively with The Joshua Tree and Fox Valley Special Recreation, though they offer different programs.

5:50PM SamaraCare

Bill Peterson presented for SamaraCare. The organization has been in existence for more than 55 years and is seeking funding for their Mental Health Access program for individuals that are not able to afford mental healthcare. The organization also supports mental healthcare in support of each client's spiritual belief if the individual requests and finds it of supportive benefit. The nearest office for the organization is in Wheaton. Telehealth services are provided. The organization accepts Medicare and private health insurance; this program does not receive funds from Medicare or insurance.

5:55PM HorsePower Therapeutic

Presentation discussed a case study individual who has benefitted from scholarships provided to a young lady who has become a valuable volunteer to the organization as well as a client for many years. The organization cites 38 volunteers from the St Charles area.

6:00PM CASA Kane County

Presenting for CASA Jim DiCiaula Executive Director. Last year CASA was able to serve 25 St Charles residents through the support of funding from the St Charles 708 Mental Health Board. In the first 90 days of 2026, 59 children entered foster care which is a rate of one child every 36 hours.

6:05PM Community Crisis Center

Maureen Manning presented for this organization based in Elgin. Community Crisis Center operates 24/7. The organization served 57 individuals from St. Charles.

6:10PM Fox Valley Hands of Hope

Steve Weaver is the Associate Executive Director and Grant Writer for Fox Valley Hands of Hope. Mr. Weaver shared a case story illustrating the work done by the organization. Fox Valley Hands of Hope provides services at no charge to individuals who suffer grief and loss so that no individual grieves alone.

6:15PM Ecker Center

Jennifer presented for Ecker Center. The organization provides services for mental health and substance abuse disorders, for all ages. Last year 185 St Charles residents were served through outpatient services and 57 through crisis services. The request for funding this year is seeking to support individuals who are uninsured or underinsured.

6:20PM St. Charles Police Department

Presenting for the St Charles Police Department is Deputy Chief Rich Clark and Chief Dan Likins. Funding being sought is in support of the full-time social worker stationed at the police department through contract with Association for Individual Development (AID).

6:25PM Elderday Center

Executive Director Michael Cobb presenting for the organization. Elderday has two centers one in Batavia and one in Elgin serving daytime hours, adult care services for those with dementia. In 2025 9 residents from St Charles were served at Elderday.

6:30PM BREAK

6:35PM Lighthouse Foundation

Presenting for Lighthouse Foundation is Marty Keifer. Lighthouse Foundation has a mission to ensure that individuals who need support for substance abuse can receive services regardless of ability to pay.

6:40PM Support Over Stigma

Zoeie Kreiner presented for Support Over Stigma. The organization is dedicated to supporting mental health for military families and first responders. Services are up almost 70% percent from this time last year. Support Over Stigma is a safe place for military and first responders to receive care they need with respect to the roles they carry in communities.

6:45PM MDW Cares

The organization is dedicated to supporting women in the community going through a life transition by providing them with connection and access to resources. This is achieved through free workshops and support groups. Funding is being sought to support women seeking guidance and stabilization who are going through divorce. The organization has provided services to 231 residents of Kane County with 50% being from St. Charles. The organization has existed for ten years in St. Charles.

6:50PM Kane County Bar Foundation

Ann Lobb is the Executive Director of the Kane County Bar Foundation. The NEST (Neutral Exchange Supervised Time) Family Center is a new initiative for parents to exchange children in a safe, regulated environment, through support of a court order. The goal is to be open by August 2026. At this time there is not a gauge for how many St Charles residents may be served but will be tracked once the center is up and running.

6:55PM Lazarus House

Presenting for Lazarus House is Executive Director Kristi Athas. Currently they are on track to serve over 150 residents from St Charles in 2026.

7:00PM NW Medicine Living Well

Presenting for NW Medicine Living Well is Erin Bloodworth. Funding application is seeking to maintain initiatives for individuals undergoing cancer treatments. As a community-based organization, they serve individuals undergoing treatment from any hospital system. In 2025, 55 individuals received services from NW Medicine Living Well.

7:05PM Suicide Prevention Services of America

Megghun Redmon Associate Executive Director is presenting. Cited through the presentation that priority two of the funding application will not apply, that program is funded through the state initiative in supporting 988 programs. Suicide Prevention Services of America works in conjunction with the 988 hotline.

7:10PM TriCity Family Services

Sarah Russe Director of Development is presenting for TriCity Family Services. Overall, the organization is seeing an increase in need for counseling services, but that is believed to be attributed to the opening of a new location. TriCity Family Services has been providing services to the Fox Valley area for 60 years; working in partnership with several other area service providing organizations.

7:15PM Tri City Health Partnership

Dani Ward, Executive Director, is presenting for Tri City Health Partnership. Tri City Health Partnership is Kane County's only completely free health clinic, operating for 25 years this year. Funding being sought is to support prescription medication programs.

7:20PM Prairie State Legal Services

Prairie State Legal Services provides individuals on administrative, state and federal matters. In 2025, 75 St. Charles residents were served for 81 cases. Board member Denz asked how individuals are identified for mental health related services. The intake form is through a self-identification process questionnaire.

7:25PM NAMI KDK

Kathryn Manning is presenting for NAMI KDK and is a current member of their Board of Directors and interim Executive Director. In 2024 they served 224 St. Charles residents. In 2025 they served 980 unique incident St. Charles residents.

7:30PM La Voz de Esperanza

The organization is dedicated to strengthening family mental health serving Latino communities in Kane County. Currently La Voz is working in partnership with the Kane County Health Department, currently from Aurora and Elgin.

6. Adjourn

Chair Rivard asked if there were any other items for discussion or a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn by Poremba second by Rosenberg

Voice Vote: Aye: 7 No: 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:34PM

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