

MENTAL HEALTH STRIKE TEAM MINUTES
October 19, 2009

In attendance: Cheryl LaFlame, Miriam Lacher, Betsy Nelson, Barb Kopp, Inaki Rezola, Elaine Levesque, Kristie Skoglund, Susan Goffard, Anne Ferrier

Psychotropic Medication- Miriam brought up her concern that in case of a disaster the mentally ill will have no way of getting their medication because the Health Department doesn't provide psychotropic medication. Discussion ensued around the possibility that people might decompensate and the effects that would have on the rest of the population.

The Red Cross does provide psychotropic medication but only for people who have an active prescription. Miriam made the point that, especially the mentally ill, are often not up to date with their medication. We will research what other communities have done in regard to this subject.

Disaster Preparation- Elaine raised the question in what setting the Strike Team would be called on to help out and to build a foundation that guarantees preparedness. Miriam responded that the EOC looks at the disaster and contacts the appropriate Strike Team and sends them wherever they're needed.

Training- Individuals can sign up for the MRC training and choose to participate as needed.

New Members Strike Team- Inaki suggested to invite school counselors to join our team and Miriam encouraged us to think about how we can engage people in private practice. The suggestion was made to have quarterly workshops and offer CEU's. Susan commented that the MRC is already offering CEU's which has had positive effects.

Next Meeting – November 16, 2009, 3:30 in Room 2063