

Resolution in Support of Establishing a Mental Health Court for Champaign County

WHEREAS, jails throughout Illinois have become filled beyond capacity by persons suffering from mental health problems, simply because there is no place to offer them treatment; and

WHEREAS, the people who deal with this issue in Champaign County strongly recommend the establishment of a mental health court to direct persons needing mental health services to a facility equipped to help them rather than incarcerate them; and

WHEREAS, other communities in the United States have found there are more humane and more cost-effective ways to provide safety and treatment for persons suffering from mental illness than putting them in jail; and

WHEREAS, the burden on local police departments including the Urbana Police, of finding a safe place for people in need of mental health treatment is of concern to the City of Urbana,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Urbana City Council, supports efforts to establish a Mental Health Court for Champaign County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Urbana City Council urges the Judges and State's Attorney to renew their efforts to resolve differences in approach in order to create a mental health court in Champaign County and to find community-wide solutions for the safety and appropriate treatment for persons suffering from mental health issues.

PASSED by the City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAINED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor