## Applying for Membership on the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health

The Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) accepts applications for membership from the following to serve on the Council:

- ✓ mental health consumers;
- ✓ family members of those with mental illnesses;
- ✓ parents of school-age children with severe emotional disturbance;
- ✓ mental health advocates; and,
- ✓ county or private providers of mental health services

The Council encourages people from diverse racial and ethnic groups, dually diagnosed, and other underserved groups with disabilities (including deaf and hard of hearing) to apply.

## Brief Background:

The role of the Council is to advise the Governor, State Agencies, the State Legislature, and others on mental health matters; and to review and advise on the mental health needs assessment and plans required by the Federal Government. The Council is required to be comprised of at least 50% consumer, family member and advocate representatives. Members of the Council are also representatives from various State agencies (such as the Division of Care and Treatment Services, the State Medicaid Agency, Department of Public Instruction, and the Department of Corrections) and mental health providers.

The Council meets six times a year, with five of those meetings held in Madison. Expenses (gas and other travel costs, meals, and lodging as needed to attend meetings) are reimbursed, although a stipend is not available for attendance at meetings. Council members are also required to actively participate in at least one committee of their choice, where much of the work of the Council is done. These committees are the Adult Quality Committee, the Children and Youth Committee, the Criminal Justice Committee, the Legislative and Policy Committee and the Nominating Committee. For more information, please contact the Council at <u>WCMH@wisconsin.gov</u>.

## **Steps to Becoming a Member:**

The Governor makes all appointments to the Council, though the Council will at times make recommendations. Two separate applications should be completed and submitted to be considered for appointment to the WCMH, the WCMH Applicant Questionnaire and the Governor's application to serve.

- 1. <u>Governor's Application</u> This application can be completed online. Applicants should note their interest in serving on the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health.
- 2. <u>WCMH Applicant Questionnaire</u> This application should be submitted directly to the Council using the contact information on the form.

Submitting both applications will inform both the Governor and the members of the WCMH of your interest to serve.