

BEMENT COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

"The Pride of Piatt County"

Mrs. Mary Vogt
Superintendent
201 S. Champaign
Bement, IL 61813
217-678-4200, ext 3

Mr. Doug Kepley
MS/HS Principal
201 S. Champaign
Bement, IL 61813
217-678-4200, ext 1

Mrs. Christy Sweet
PK-5 Principal/6-12 Athletic Director
201 S. Champaign
Bement, IL 61813
217-678-4200, ext 2

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to encourage community members to become informed about the benefits of a 708 Board in Piatt County. A "708 Board" or Community Mental Health Board is established for the purposes of planning and funding mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services. The board is governed by the Illinois Community Mental Health Act. The 708 Board allocates local tax revenues to local service providers that service Piatt County Residents.

For over 50 years, The Center has proudly stood as a beacon of support for those in the mental health and developmental disability service field, as well as a resource for our community. Their reputation for high clinical services and collaborative approach is wide-known and one of the reasons why they serve around 600 unduplicated individuals from 12 different counties annually. One of the bigger challenges for The Center has been navigating rising operational costs with limits to the revenue stream. Support of a 708 Board is one way to provide funds to ensure continuity of services at The Center.

Piatt County has always been known as a place where community needs are best met with community resources. Passing a 708 Board would be a positive step in showing community support for The Center and the services being provided by their agency.

Respectfully,

