

**MEETING OF THE
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Minutes

DATE: Monday, July 30, 2012

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building, Room 33

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Finch, Jim Koziczowski, Ron Kuehl, Larry Lautenschlager, Donna Lohry, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, Harold Singstock and Tom Widener

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Ellen Shute, Tom Saari, Mary Krueger, Ann Kriegel, and Dorothy De Grace

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristene Stacker, Manager – Fox Cities Community Health Clinic; Leona Whitman, Manager – Living Healthy Community Clinic; and Vicki Schorse, Executive Director – Mercy Health Foundation

Jim Koziczowski called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #1: DISCUSSION AND ACTION (IF ANY) RE: 2013 BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR THE LIVING HEALTHY CLINIC AND THE FOX CITIES COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC

Bill Topel explained that Kristene Stacker and Leona Whitman are present today as a follow-up to the Board's 2013 Budget discussion regarding collaboration between the two health clinics. The Board would like similar services available for both Oshkosh and the Fox Cities.

Leona Whitman said the Living Healthy Clinic is a nursing center model, and its emphasis is on serving the uninsured poor. They generally do not have an access problem for medical care for the Medicaid population in southern Winnebago County. Leona said there continues to be a need for access to dental health service for Medicaid patients in the Oshkosh area. The Living Healthy Clinic now offers on-site mental health care and diabetic education. They provide basic lab and diagnostic testing at no cost to the patients. They refer people with emergency dental needs to the Tri-County Dental Clinic. The clinic operates under a voucher system. Vicki Schorse said the School of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh is the managing partner of the Living Healthy Clinic, and it carries all of the liability. She pointed out that they operate with a medical home model, whereby a patient's primary care needs are met completely. Vicki listed the sustaining funding partners for the clinic. She said that at some point as the government makes changes to health care coverage and we have an increase in Medicaid patients, we could bill through federally funded programs offered through the nursing center model or we could consider becoming a satellite of the Fox Cities Clinic. She said costs go up when you are a federally qualified center, which means they would need to increase fundraising. Their 2011 annual budget resulted in gross revenue of \$340,500; expenses of \$325,362; and net revenue of \$15,138.

Kristene Stacker said the Fox Cities Community Health Center is a full-scope primary care facility with access to specialty care within the Theda Care and Affinity system. As a federally qualified facility it is designated with a payment structure. They have a voucher program that is funded with United Way dollars totaling \$95,000 for the uninsured to have access to specialty care. Kristene said they receive funding from Calumet, Outagamie and Winnebago counties and the dollars have not changed since they opened in 2005. They receive \$653,000 annually from the federal government on a competitive grant cycle of 3-5 years, which will be due in 2015. They receive \$75,000 annually from Affinity and Theda Care combined. Their annual budget for 2011 consisted of gross revenue of \$6.6 million and expenses of \$6.825 with a deficit of \$250,000. The clinic manages the community emergency prescription drug fund that allows anyone in the community with a financial hardship to receive a voucher for their life-saving medications. They offer a prescription assistance program that requires patients to keep follow-up appointments for medication refills. Uninsured patients are put on a sliding fee scale based on income and family size. The clinic provides regular dental care, with a focus on early intervention, prevention and restorative care. Patients are referred to the Tri-County Dental Clinic for emergency dental care. Their service area is Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago counties. Funding limitations have prevented them from spreading to the distant areas of eastern Calumet County, northern Outagamie County, and southern Winnebago County. Kristene said they began their clinic with volunteer medical providers from the community. They moved to a medical home continuity of care model to promote a patient/provider relationship, and they also went to a fully employed model and applied for federal designation for medical malpractice insurance. Kristene said the Fox Cities Clinic currently doesn't have enough funds to open a satellite in Oshkosh. There would be a potential of receiving \$650,000 in operating money if they apply for a "new access point" grant; although, it is very competitive.

Bill Topel asked what it would cost to open a satellite clinic in the Oshkosh area. Kristene said they would need to have funding partners interested in supporting them. A satellite clinic would need to be operated similar to the Fox Cities Community Health Center with a federal designation. Currently they need a percentage of Medicaid patients to offset the cost of providing care to the uninsured. Kristene said she wouldn't be comfortable opening a satellite clinic for medical care until we see what happens with federal health care changes.

Winnebago County designates \$27,000 to the Fox Cities Community Health Center and \$126,900 to the Living Healthy Community Clinic each year. Both clinics collaborate with each other in trying to serve people that have limited resources. Vicki said that originally a grant was awarded to the School of Nursing at UWO to take over primary medical care for the uninsured poor when General Relief dollars were discontinued by the state. When the money ran short, they obtained a \$50,000 grant and they engaged various community funders to discuss doing a better job with available medical care for the uninsured. The county was then required to have medical care access in Menasha for the uninsured, so the nurses started doing some service there and the money was distributed between the two locations by the population served.

Bill Topel said Winnebago County has continued to put funding toward the health facilities since the General Relief program ended. He said we want to use a model that will be the most efficient.

The Board unanimously agreed to wait until the 2014 Budget cycle before taking any action on the funding allocation for the two health clinics.

AGENDA ITEM #2: RESOLUTION: CONSIDER AND ACT UPON A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE WINNEBAGO COUNTY TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE MARSH COUNTRY HEALTH ALLIANCE COMMISSION

Bill Topel explained that the concept of a resolution is that counties could form a relationship together so they could place somebody in a multi-county group facility and pay a small portion of dollars per day in addition to the facility accepting Medicaid. We would pay approximately \$49 per day at the Dodge County facility; without such an agreement we would be paying about \$290 per day to place someone in a facility located further away. There is also a \$5,000 one-time contribution that we must make to be a member of the commission. Mike Norton moved to accept the resolution as presented; seconded by Jerry Finch and carried (9-0).

With no further business, Jerry Finch moved for adjournment; seconded by Ron Kuehl and carried at 4:45 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be **Monday, August 6, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.** at the Neenah Human Services Building.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Lohry, Board Secretary

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