

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY  
AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE OF MEETING:** Monday, March 13, 2023

**TIME OF MEETING:** 3:00 p.m.

**PLACE OF MEETING:** VIRTUAL – Meeting recording can be referenced for additional meeting details

**Members Present:** Paul F Janty, Harold Singstock, Rob Paterson, Jim Lauer, Elizabeth Jones, Jan Olson, Tamar Mathwig, Kate Pfaendtner, Mike Norton

**Members Excused:** Brook Slick, Fritz Rudy, Michael Robinson

**Staff Present:** Beth Roberts, Nicole Davis-Dawald, Brian Nagler

**Paul Janty** called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

1. **Public Comments:** No public comments.
2. **Approve Minutes of the February 13, 2023 Meeting:** Harold Singstock made a motion to approve the February meeting notes. **Kate Pfaendtner** seconded it. Minutes approved by members.
3. **Conflict of Interest Annual Signature – Beth Roberts:** Conflict of interest forms are being distributed to Committee members in order to meet the annual signature requirement. Information from the State detailing what constitutes a "conflict of interest" is included of which is mostly meant for ADRC staff rather than committee members.
  - Committee members only need to sign page 8.
  - Fill in Beth Roberts as the supervisor.
  - Return signed forms to Beth Roberts.

**Rob Paterson** questioned whether the acronym ADRS on the bottom of Page 1 is a misprint and also asked for additional information regarding the customer service agreement on Page 5. Tribes offer services through a Tribal Aging and Disability Resource Specialist (ADRS), so that is not a misprint. The State has added several pages of information including the wording on the customer service agreement which is intended as an agreement to options counseling.

4. **Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwinding – Beth Roberts:** In follow-up to the question from last meeting regarding the number of people receiving benefits in Winnebago County, Beth reported approximately 20,000 individuals receive benefits with 10,000 receiving FoodShare and 10,000 receiving Medicaid. At this point, there have only been a few calls to the ADRC directly about FoodShare but will likely increase in June upon the resumption of Medicaid reviews.
5. **Wheelchair Wash – Beth Roberts:** The date for the Wheelchair wash will be either June 10 or 24 which will be determined once entertainment and the wheelchair inspector have been verified. A few larger bariatric wheelchairs are still needed so recipients have a chair to sit in while their chair is being washed, dried, and inspected. Recipients receive a free meal and there is entertainment as well. The Lion's Club has not been able to offer a representative due to being very short staffed so Kate will contact them to ask if they have any wheelchairs available to loan out for that day.
6. **Committee Member Updates – Beth Roberts:** Voting on chair and vice chair positions will occur at the May meeting.

7. **Reports - Committee Member Updates:**

**Beth Roberts:**

- Reassessing the ADRC's role with falls assessments: The fire departments, Public Health, and Senior Center, and Rebuilding Together are partnering in fall prevention. Whenever an individual falls, the fire department simultaneously sends referrals to all entities in the partnership. An assessment is needed to provide clarity regarding roles of each agency within the partnership.
- HELP Program: The HELP program continues to thrive with receiving referrals of individuals who are at risk of becoming homeless. A proactive approach is being taken to help those facing eviction. The HELP supervisor, Sara, will be invited to attend an upcoming meeting. The program starting mid-January to date there have been: 118 referrals of which approximately 60 have resulted in individuals successfully maintaining stable housing; 30 referrals have disengaged for unknown reasons. Examples were shared at the board meeting of how the HELP Program works with people including assisting with tenant rights and supports for elderly adults.
- Staffing: Beth shared an upcoming opening is anticipated in APS and two in the ADRC. An individual has been offered one of the ADRC positions.
- Tracking of APS Referrals: Statewide there has been inconsistent reporting of APS referrals due to unclear State guidelines.

**Rob Paterson** reported he attended a City of Oshkosh Commission on Aging meeting.

**Jim Lauer** plans to attend a Neenah Commission on Aging meeting. Other local meetings were discussed by Committee members.

**Harold Singstock** reported he been going about twice a week since the beginning of January to the Oshkosh Senior Center meal site and each time there have only been 2-3 people in attendance. Prior to the pandemic, the typical attendance was 30+ people. Members discussed that deliveries are being done only for homebound individuals and there had been a "grab and go" options where individuals could pick up a lunch. In order to eliminate the amount of wasted food, there is now a requirement to sign up a day in advance to receive a meal. Harold provided the feedback that: 1) it would be helpful to be more transparent of the \$4.00 donation and 2) that unless requested weekend meal sign up should not include meals for both Saturday and Sunday. Beth and Nicole will look into the feedback Harold provided as there are several inconsistencies including that the program was supposed to have changed to meals being provided only six days a week unless there is a specific need. Beth will check into the attendance numbers at other local meal sites. Nicole reported that over 800 people per month attend programming at the Oshkosh Senior Center.

In response to the question if long term care services are based on financial assets, Beth clarified that Medicaid eligibility is asset dependent and is required to enroll in long term care. There are caregiver programs and other free programs available through the ADRC which are not asset dependent for respite and supportive services. Options counseling helps individuals determine how to best spend their financial resources.

**Elizabeth Jones:**

- Elizabeth relayed the name of an individual who contacted her due to being interested in serving on the committee. She is the mother of an 18-year son who has Down's Syndrome and autism.
- There will be no Walk for Autism this year; likely there will be one next year.

**Jan Olson** stated in regards to earlier conversation, Winneconne has a senior center at the Highlands Independent Senior Housing Apartments which is primarily centered around social activities and hosts nail clinics.

**Tamar Mathwig** had no updates to report.

**Paul Janty** had no updates to report.

**Nicole Davis-Dawald:**

- June 15 – Elder Abuse Awareness Event – An elder abuse event will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup> which will likely entail some sort of walk. Current options include: 1) starting at the Senior Center and walking to a place called the Boathouse or 2) starting at the Oshkosh DHS office and walking to Sundial Park. In order to make this event inter-generational, the plan is to include local daycare children carrying 60 flowers representing the 600 elder abuse referrals from last year. Menominee park is closed the entire month of June and will not be holding any events due to their roads being torn up and replaced. A permit is necessary if the walk starts at the Senior Center. Police and fire department will likely be invited to participate in the event. Additional ideas suggested were to utilize South Park or Winnebago County Community Park. Elizabeth shared that considerations when organizing an event should include event permits, proof of insurance, and crowd estimation to determine burden on public restrooms. It is possible that the county has the majority of these requirements already met otherwise an idea would be to partner with a daycare or school and then use the daycare/school's insurance. There is a \$300 event budget for the event from funds raised of \$250 at a bake sale held at DHS and \$50 donation from Festival Foods.
- Partnership with the Y continues with monthly food and culture connections. Nicole has been in contact with some schools who have some students who would like to do food presentations over the summer months.
- Community Conversations Event – Several ADRC staff will be in attendance at a new ADRC promotional event being held on April 3 at 11:00 AM at the Oshkosh 20<sup>th</sup> Street YMCA. The plan is to hold a similar program at the Neenah YMCA in upcoming months. **Harold Singstock** commented that he has seen promotions via a television ad for Brown County ADRC and also an advertisement on the back of the Oshkosh city buses; however, expressed the concern that the community does not necessarily know what that acronym represents. **Beth Roberts** reported that branding of promotional materials is being worked on at the State level. Information detailing what the ADRC does can be found on the website under "About Us" under "Additional Resources" which includes the State's video.
- Dementia Grant – Nicole stated that work is being done with Fox Valley Memory Project through a grant to promote dementia awareness. Fox Valley Memory Project is hiring staff who will collect feedback and determine effective way/s to promote community awareness. Nicole will contact UW-Oshkosh to ask if they would be willing to assist with promotions through a class project.

**Brian Nagler** reported there were 51 enrollments to Family Care & IRIS in the last month. Brian is looking into the reasoning why functional screenings being done prior to options counseling is happening more often than in other counties – including Outagamie County. Current procedures have been in place since 2010 which have been working well including staffing options for taking calls, rotating the on-call staff, and addressing when frustrations are expressed by staff. Since January 1<sup>st</sup>, Family Care partnership is a new option available which includes the individual's doctor and medications. Committee members discussed various options available through Family Care and IRIS.

8. "Community Beat" – Sharing of Compliments / Complaints from Community, Consumers, providers: No updates to report.

The meeting was adjourned by **Paul Janty**.

Next meeting: May 8, 2023