

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

Minutes

DATE: Monday, September 11, 2017

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Neenah Human Services Building, Room 008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Lautenschlager, Jim Koziczowski, Mike Norton, Harold Singstock, Jerry Finch, Karen Powers, Michael Conley-Kuhagen

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Judy Wright, Donna Lohry,

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Mary Fredrickson, Beth Culp, Leo Podoski, Kari Kraft, Ashley Koll, Merissa Touray, Renee Soroko and Pam Bartelt

Mike Norton called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 7, 2017 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Jerry Finch moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Michael Conley-Kuhagen and carried.

AGENDA ITEM #3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JULY 10, 2017 AND AUGUST 14, 2017 ADRC COMMITTEE MEETINGS; AUGUST 8, 2017 SPECIALED TRANSPORTION MEETING

Jerry Finch moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Jim Koziczowski and carried.

Larry Lautenschlager and Karen Powers arrived at 3:02 p.m.

The program was moved to the next agenda item.

PROGRAM: "REUNIFICATION SUPPORT GRANT"

Leo Podoski shared that we are in our fourth year of the Post Reunification Support Grant (PRSG) Program which is federal money that allows additional funding to children and families that return from out of home care. Our program started mid-2014. The expectation of the program is that about 25% is funded through the county with 75% being funded through the grant. Some history of our program: 2014 we served 5 children; 2015 – 22 children were served; 2016 – 51 children; 2017 to present there have been 44 children served. The grant allows \$1100 per month per child for up to one year. This is a voluntary program to allow additional funding to make the transition home more successful.

Arthur is a participant in this PRSG program and shared his success with this program. It has helped his family participate in family events in order to re-establish trust within the family. The grant has assisted them with services, clothing, household items, and games for the family. Ashley is a social worker that has worked with Arthur and shared that he is a very self-motivated person, got his GED on his own, and is establishing a way to support his family. He is working with a parent mentor from the PSG group which Arthur has found very helpful.

Merrisa Touray shared a letter from a father that is participating in the PRSG Program whose parental rights were at risk of being removed. This was dismissed and they have been working on reunification of the family with the father working 40-60 hours per week to clear their debts. They have been able to use the funds from the program to create a living environment with beds, curtains, furniture, tools to build items for their home as well as teach skills to their children. They are also in need of repair or replacement of their vehicle which the grant will help with. Although the family was resistant to the program at first, they are now grateful for the assistance this provided in creating stability and belonging for their family.

Item #6 was moved to the next topic.

AGENDA ITEM #6: ACTION REQUESTED TO FORWARD TO THE COUNTY BOARD THE REQUEST FOR THE BOARD TO DESIGNATE WINNEBAGO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO RECEIVE COORDINATED SERVICE TEAM (CST) FUNDING FROM THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES TO PROVIDE WRAPAROUND SERVICES TO UNINSURED YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Renee Soroko shared a brief description of the Coordinated Service Team (CST) which has been used in the state of Wisconsin, but is new to Winnebago County. This provides funding of \$60,000 per year to implement and operate this wraparound program. Wraparound indicates that services are identified for the family and then wrap the services around the family as determined by specific needs. The difference about this program is that it can be used for services or it can be used for staff time. Winnebago County would be using this funding for staffing in order to get the program running. This is known as a “perpetual” grant which has been in existence since 1992 and will be continuing each year. The grant was written to serve fifteen families.

Karen Powers moved to approve to forward to the County Board the request to designate Winnebago County Human Services to receive coordinated service team (CST) funding from the Wisconsin Dept of Health Services to provide wraparound services to uninsured youth and families. Mike Norton seconded this and it carried. (7-0)

AGENDA ITEM #4: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS

Bill Topel shared that in Child Welfare (CW) - Juvenile Corrections is down to 1.5 Average Daily Placement (ADP) in July. There are two girls at juvenile corrections and are working to get them out of here but will be looking to go out of state as nothing is available in state. Residential Care Centers have stayed steady at 1.0 ADP. Behavior Health (BH) and Long Term Services (LTS) Specialty Hospitals for adults are staying down at 1.9 ADP. Specialty hospitals for under age 22 is way down at .4 ADP. Secure Detention is down to 5.9 ADP so going back toward the budgeted average. Foster Care numbers are down - 81.5 ADP for July. Foster care numbers have been lowered by about 20% in the past 1-1 ½ years with In Home Safety Services being a main contributor.

AGENDA ITEM # 5: FINANCIAL REPORT

Mary Fredrickson shared that the financial report is very similar to last month being \$1.2 million under budget which is mainly due to placement with children. LTS shows a deficit similar to last month as some of the children that are no longer in placement now need to be supported in the community/ homes. LTS is used for

this as every \$1.00 spent - \$.60 is federal reimbursement with \$.40 being county funded. There is still turnover in a couple departments adding to the surplus. BH shows \$300,925 over budget mainly due to so many people in specialty hospitals at the beginning of the year.

Karen Powers inquired of the situation of the drinking fountains in the building. Bill shared that a petition was brought to him in regards to water in the drinking fountain being chilled as it is currently luke-warm at best. It was previously chilled in the old units. This is a Facilities item. Bill will be bringing this to Mark Harris along with supporting documentation of unit pricing and stats.

AGENDA ITEM #7: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill Topel shared that the first Executive Director of Wisconsin Counties Human Services Association (WCHSA) has resigned. Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) which is the County Boards Association, offered a lobbyist as an interim to help cover the position while a new executive director is found. The recruiting process will take about three months. The job description has been improved slightly.

Negotiations with the state are showing that 2018 will be holding the same as 2017 which is a good thing.

AGENDA ITEM #8: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Michael Conley-Kuhagen met with Holly from Lutheran Social Services to train the volunteer driver that will be driving for 'Making the Ride Happen' program.

Mike Norton shared that several Human Services Board Members and ADRC Committee Members attended the ADRC and Aging Network Conference last week.

Larry Lautenschlager shared that he attended his first budget session. Most of what was requested for Human Services was approved with minimal changes. We will have the same tax levy in 2018 as was in 2017.

Larry also shared that he was appointed to serve on the National Association of Counties (NACo) Human Services and Education Steering Committee which is an honor.

With no further business Jerry Finch moved for adjournment; seconded by Mike Norton and carried at 4:25 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be held on **Monday, October 2, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in the Oshkosh Human Services Building in Room 33.**

Respectfully submitted by Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department/pb