

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

Minutes

DATE: Monday, December 5, 2016

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Neenah Human Services Building, Rm. 008

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Karen Powers

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Mary Fredrickson, Tom Saari, Beth Culp, and Dorothy De Grace

OTHERS PRESENT: Lori Hill, Executive Director & Stephanie Wheeler, Program Coordinator of Friendship Place

Larry Lautenschlager 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 NOVEMBER 7, 2016 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Jerry Finch moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Harold Singstock and carried.

AGENDA ITEM #3: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS

Bill Topel reported on the information given on the statistical chart for inpatient and institutional placements: Child Welfare Division–Juvenile Corrections shows that the average daily population (ADP) through October was 2.5; for Child Residential Care Centers the ADP was 4.6, which is below budget; for Behavioral Health & LTS Division–Specialty Hospitals for adults the ADP was 2.2, and the ADP for children was 0.9; Secure Detention’s ADP was 7.1 and under budget; the ADP for children’s Foster Care was 98.7 and has been going down, primarily due to our In-Home Safety Services program.

AGENDA ITEM #4: FINANCIAL REPORT

Bill Topel said the 2016 Financial Report shows a projected surplus of \$1,546,824. Labor surplus is \$741,123 which is due in part to a reduced number of placements for Child Welfare; staff turnover; some retirements. We plan to apply approximately \$200,000 of the Labor surplus to next year’s budget. A \$41,881 deficit in the Administrative Division is for certification and maintenance of a new health records computer system; and \$121,651 in the Long Term Support Division is for the cost of a placement that is not eligible for waiver reimbursement.

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AGENDA ITEM #5: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill Topel reported that the WCHSA Conference had very worthwhile presentations. He said he will be in charge of starting quarterly meetings of the WCHSA Board member group for the eastern region, which will be held at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton.

AGENDA ITEM #6: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Ron Kuehl thanked everyone for the honor of serving on the Board, as this is his last meeting.

Donna Lohry, Harold Singstock, Mike Norton, Jim Koziczowski, and Jerry Finch reported on their attendance at the recent WCHSA Conference.

PROGRAM: Friendship Place Services

Lori Hill explained that Friendship Place has been in operation since 1991. In 2001 it became an independent agency for funding purposes, and it is now under the direction of National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), Fox Valley. Through the years they have operated as a traditional drop-in center for people with severe and persistent mental illness. When Lori started in 2005 they changed the programming by focusing on more responsibility and accountability of the individuals and helping them live well with their mental illness. Friendship Place now has membership requirements whereby an adult with severe and persistent mental illness can be referred by someone that is serving them, such as Winnebago County Behavioral Health Services or a private agency; and they must be under the care of a physician. Lori pointed out that the average cost for an individual psychiatric hospitalization in Wisconsin is \$1,760 per day; the average cost for an individual to be served at Friendship Place is \$23 per day. In planning their programs, Friendship Place wanted to reduce the frequency and the number of psychiatric hospitalizations to its members who have been with them for at least three to six months. Friendship Place offers a supportive and safe environment for socialization to build a better self-esteem. The professional staff at Friendship Place transform activities into informational opportunities for counseling and therapy through arts and crafts. They offer cooking and nutrition lessons, recreational activities, and life skills classes. Lori said Friendship Place has recently created an endowment fund with the Community Foundation. She expressed appreciation for the funding that they have received from Winnebago County in the past. Stephanie Wheeler said that all of their programming is planned at the members' suggestions. Lori said that each month they serve between 54-60 individuals from Oshkosh, and most of them get there via the commuter bus.

A tour of the Friendship Place facility followed the presentation.

With no further business, Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Ron Kuehl and carried at 4:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be on **Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.** in the Oshkosh Human Services Building, Room 33.

Submitted by Dorothy De Grace, Human Services
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