

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

**Minutes**

**DATE:** Tuesday, September 9, 2014

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

**PLACE:** Oshkosh Human Services Building, Rm. 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, Ann Kriegel and Dorothy De Grace

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tony Beregszazi, Deputy Director and Lu Scheer, Affordable Housing Director – Advocap

Jim Koziczowski 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 4, 2014 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**

Jerry Finch moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Donna Lohry and carried.

**AGENDA ITEM #3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JULY 14, 2014 ADRC COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tom Widener moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Donna Lohry and carried.

**AGENDA ITEM #4: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS**

Ellen Shute referred to the Inpatient & Institutional Utilization graph and pointed out that in the Child Welfare Division, Juvenile Corrections there was an average daily population (ADP) of 3.8 through July, which is slightly over budget; Residential Care Centers had an ADP of 9.2 which is slightly above budget. In the Behavioral Health & Long Term Support Divisions for specialty hospitals for adults there was an ADP of 4.5 through July, but the number is currently down to 2; the ADP for children under age 22 in specialty hospitals was 2.1, but many of them have medical assistance or health insurance. The ADP for Secure Detention was 5.7 which is a significant decrease from previous years. Child Foster Care's ADP was 113.8 compared to 94.7 from last year, which is a good trend.

**AGENDA ITEM #5: FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ellen Shute presented the 2014 Financial Report of January through July, which shows \$805,945 unexpended tax levy. Of that number, \$114,382 is associated with labor cost. Ellen pointed out that there is a possibility we would need to submit a budget transfer request from the General Fund near the end of the year due to a budget deficit for program expenses, since we can't count on unexpected revenues from the state to be used for that purpose. The County Board had approved \$22,698,191 for program expenses for 2014, and currently our projected actual program expense is \$22,913,818. Any budget revenue we have at the end of the year needs to go back to the General Fund, as has been the practice in previous years.

**AGENDA ITEM #6: DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Bill Topel gave updates from the most recent WCHSA Executive meeting. In Behavioral Health there is a proposal from the state that starting January 1, 2016 all managed care organizations (MCO's) such as Lakeland's Family Care will be in charge of all behavioral health services for their members. A concern we have is that we currently offer most of the behavioral health services for people in Family Care, and there typically isn't anyone on staff at the MCO's that has a license or expertise in mental health services. Bill said WCHSA's recommendation to the state is to add some qualifiers to their proposal so that an MCO member that is already receiving mental health services from the county would be able to continue receiving those services from the county. We would then inform the MCO what the type and amount of service should be for the member. Bill said the state is also considering adding behavioral specialists to MCO's.

Bill Topel said Outagamie County will be returning some first-time or nonviolent 17-year-old offenders back under the Child Welfare system, which will give us some data to reference in our county's decision to do the same. We would need money from the state to serve those individuals.

Bill Topel said the state is proposing to stop funding counties for the Independent Living Program, which prepares older teens currently in the Child Welfare system to live on their own. The state would bid it out to a private entity to serve these teens on a regional basis. Bill said we are not in favor of this proposal.

**AGENDA ITEM #7: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Rob Paterson reported that he is now a member of the Oshkosh Housing Authority Board. He reported on his attendance at the first meeting of the Greater Winnebago County Mobility Coalition where they discussed its by-laws.

Donna Lohry reported that last month Lakeland Care District held its public hearings. She said they are the only MCO in the state that offers public hearings. Our ADRC is looking at recommending that the state make it mandatory for every MCO to have a public hearing once a year.

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Donna Lohry said there is concern regarding specialized transportation requiring that a rider would need to call 24 hrs. ahead to schedule a ride or would otherwise need to pay an extra dollar.

### **PROGRAM: ADVOCAP**

Tony Beregszazi explained that Advocap is a private, non-profit organization that contracts with the county for several programs: Senior Nutrition, Volunteer Transportation, Senior Friends, and Poverty Case Management or PASS Program (People Achieving Self-Sufficiency). The PASS program was started by a local group called self-sufficiency project. Tony said they interviewed several people at various agencies to find out where they felt there were gaps that weren't being addressed. The top item on the list was "case management support," which is how the program got started. Winnebago County currently budgets \$80,000 to Advocap at the behest of the County Executive a few years ago to target some monies for the purpose of trying to help people who have special needs in poverty to be able to navigate the system. Tony said there is ongoing community planning on how to help people who end up in emergency needs situations where they can't meet their basic needs. Last year Advocap took over the Bridges Program which was previously operated by the American Red Cross and funded by the United Way and St. Vincent de Paul. It is basically an emergency fund available to help meet people's needs. Many people who receive such emergency assistance move voluntarily into the PASS program for case management support that connects them to the community.

Lu Scheer manages many programs at Advocap related to affordable housing for individuals. She said that so far this year they had 329 households contact Advocap, with 315 being from Winnebago County (the 14 not from Winnebago County were directed to other resources). Of the contacts made, 122 made appointments with a case manager, while others just needed information or a referral to another agency; and 56 of the households attended follow-up appointments three or more times. Lu listed the reasons for the contact, such as homelessness; rental assistance; legal issues; dental or health issues; food, clothing or transportation. Lu shared some success stories of individuals that received assistance from them.

Tony said they are finishing the third year of a federally funded project to get dads more engaged with their families. They designed it as an employment and training program that has the peripherals built onto it. Their program was well received at a recent national conference in terms of achieving results. Tony said their homeless services are predominantly funded by HUD, which is currently looking at criteria in funding projects where they are serving the chronically homeless and at what percent. They need to work out with a partner agency how to get documentation that says a person has AODA or mental health issues at a level that impacts their ability to be stable in housing. Bill Topel will meet with Tony and Lu to see if our agency could collaborate in making that happen.

Tony thanked the Board for its support of Advocap. It is a very critical piece in helping people that aren't otherwise getting the help they need.

With no further business Ron Kuehl moved for adjournment; seconded by Jerry Finch and carried at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be held on **Monday, October 6, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.** in the Neenah Human Services Building, Room 008.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Norton, Board Secretary/dd