

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Thursday, June 19, 2014

LOCATION: Oshkosh Human Services Building

TIME: 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Finch, Jim Koziczowski, Larry Lautenschlager, Donna Lohry, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, and Harold Singstock

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ron Kuehl and Tom Widener

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

Jim Koziczowski, chairperson of the Department of Human Services Board opened the hearing at 8:30 a.m. by welcoming those present in the audience and introducing the Board members and staff who were present. Jim explained that the intent of the public hearing is to provide an opportunity for the public to comment on programs funded by the Department of Human Services for residents of Winnebago County who are affected by developmental disabilities, chemical dependency or mental illness, and on the financial and social service programs available through the Department. Jim reviewed the guidelines for the hearing.

The following information is testimony given:

Testimony given by Kristine Forster: Kristine expressed thanks to the Board for all the support for Friendship Place in Neenah and for helping to bring a similar place to Oshkosh. It is a great place to develop both mentally and physically. She thanked the Board for its continued support.

Kate Pfaendtner: Kate is a member of the Board of Directors of Friendship Place in Neenah. She said they are starting a three-month pilot program called the "Pop-Up Place" in Oshkosh, which will be similar to Friendship Place in Neenah. They are anticipating the population to be double what it is at the Neenah location, but they will collect data during the three month timeframe. Kate said they generally receive referrals from Human Services and from private providers. They have funding for the three months, and the United Way has committed to being a funding partner for 2015 if the pilot program is successful. At that time the Hope & Care Center in Oshkosh would close its doors.

With no further testimonies offered, the hearing was closed at 9:30 a.m.

Submitted by:

Dorothy De Grace, Secretary
Winnebago County Department of Human Services