

Human Services Director's Report
To the Health & Human Services Board
February 2020

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
New Collaborative Effort: Community UNITED for Families	Administration	Informal discussions over the past year with community partners have led to the creation of a collaborative effort under the banner, "Community UNITED for families." The effort is focused on engaging the entire community in wrapping around our child welfare system and supporting struggling children and their families at this unprecedented time of need. The effort includes representatives in our community from across the sectors of government, private health systems, non-profits and faith. The shared belief is that no agency can be successful alone in addressing the complex issues we are seeing, and our desired outcomes can only be accomplished through a connected community effort. We anticipate that our child welfare system will see great benefits from this collaboration and look forward to sharing more in future months.	Jason Witt 785-6095 jwitt@lacrossecounty.org	No
Aging Mastery Program (AMP)	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Inclusa, in partnership with the ADRC of La Crosse County, National Council on Aging and Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, is offering a second session of the Aging Mastery Program (AMP). AMP is a 5-week program that empowers participants to take key steps to improve their well-being, add stability in their life and strengthen ties to the community. This second AMP session will launch Friday, April 17, 2020. Class will meet every Friday from 8:30 to 11:30 AM through May 15, 2020, at Inclusa (2615 East Ave S). For more information, or to register, please contact Carla Lundeen of Inclusa at 608-785-6271 or carla.lundeen@inclusa.org .	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
Dementia Awareness	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Experience what it may be like to live with dementia. The ADRC of La Crosse County, Dementia Friendly Community Coalition and Mayo Clinic Health System have partnered to bring a dementia awareness simulation to the community. In living "in their shoes" we create compassion, understanding and can make changes to enhance the quality of life for our community members living with dementia. Please join us March 23, 2020, at Mayo Clinic Health System La Crosse, Professional Arts Building, by signing up for a free, one-hour experience between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM. To register, go to www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0a4ba4ab2aabf49-community2 .	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No

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Public Charge Rule	Economic Support (ES)	After a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court on January 27, 2020, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security can implement a new federal rule relating to “public charge”. In some cases, getting health care, FoodShare, cash benefits or housing assistance may have an impact on whether an individual is able to get a green card or change their immigration status. There are a number of exclusions to the public charge rule. Income Maintenance (IM) Consortia have been given basic talking points to assist customers calling with concerns over public charge. Consortia staff will also be referring customers to Covering Wisconsin’s website for a list of free and low cost legal services : www.coveringwi.org/immigration .	Lorie Graff 785-6061 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No
Triage/Intake Process	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	The ISRS Section is beginning the process of restructuring triage/intake for consumers to access programs and services. Please stay tuned as we train and begin to roll out our more person centered/trauma informed vision beginning in March.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org	No
Conversation on Unseen Costs of Cash Bail	Justice Support Services (JSS)	There will be a conversation with District Attorney Tim Gruenke, Justice Support Services Manager Mandy Bisek, and Judge Elliott Levine on cash bail and bond, injustices in the system, and how it affects Wisconsin. This conversation is open to the public and will be held on February 12, 2020, from 6:00 – 8:00 PM in the Auditorium of the La Crosse Public Library at 800 Main Street.	Mandy Bisek 785-6216 mbisek@lacrossecounty.org	No