

Human Services Director's Report
To the Health & Human Services Board
November 2021

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
Caregiver Support	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	November is National Family Caregiver Month, a time to acknowledge and celebrate caregivers. Today, over 90 million Americans are caregivers and many find themselves providing care 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Although caregiving can be a rewarding experience, it often comes with a variety of challenges, frustrations, and stress. To celebrate local caregivers and the important work they do, the ADRC is hosting a Caregiver Celebration on Thursday, December 2nd from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at The Cardinals Nest (1710 Commercial St, Bangor) or First Free Church (123 Mason St, Onalaska). Music, activities, and refreshments will be similar in both locations. To learn more, or make a reservation, call the ADRC at 785-5700 (space limited, masks required, health screening at door).	ADRC Manager Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
Brain Health	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Boost Your Brain & Memory, an evidence-based brain health program, is back! This program goes beyond simple brain games, it focuses on a variety of lifestyle factors that impact brain health as well as memory strategies that participants can implement in their daily lives. Class will be held on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, November 2nd through December 14th at the Community Connections Center (1407 Saint Andrew St, La Crosse). To learn more, or to register, call the ADRC at 608-785-5700.	ADRC Manager Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
Wisconsin Medicaid and Badger Care Plus Non-Emergency Medical Transportation	Economic Support (ES)	The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has contracted with Veyo to provide non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services for Wisconsin Medicaid and Badger Care Plus members. Effective November 1, 2021, Veyo will replace Medical Transportation Management, Inc. (MTM, Inc.). To assist with a smooth transition for members, Veyo will use the same dispatch number as MTM. Veyo will also implement several service enhancements, including a mobile member portal, SMS capability, and a facility booking tool. The facility booking tool, called RideView, is a web-based portal available to all health care providers. It enables real-time visibility and trip management capability to providers.	ES Manager Lorie Graff 738-2410 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No
Emergency Supplemental Food Share Benefits due to COVID	Economic Support (ES)	Wisconsin continues to provide Emergency Supplemental Food Share Benefits to help during the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the Emergency Supplemental Food Share benefit, all FoodShare members are receiving at least \$95 in additional benefits each month. Some households receive more to bring their benefit amount to the maximum monthly benefit amount for their household size. The Emergency Supplemental Food Share Benefit due to COVID-19 began in April 2021. While it requires federal approval each month, the supplemental benefits	ES Manager Lorie Graff 738-2410 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No

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		<p>are tied to the national health emergency. The supplemental benefits have provided significant assistance to individuals and families struggling as a result of the pandemic. In September 2021, a total of \$2.7 million in Food Share benefits were issued in La Crosse County. For comparison to pre-pandemic amounts, a total of \$891,469.00 in Food Share benefits were issued in La Crosse County in September 2019. Given the duration of the supplemental amounts being issued, consortia are working with the Department of Health Services on communication surrounding the ending of the additional benefits that will occur with other pandemic initiatives tied to the national health emergency.</p>		
Fresh Start/Second Chance Grant	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS) & Justice Support Services (JSS)	<p>An application was recently submitted to extend our Second Chance grant to end September 2022, to serve and provide broader community based/re-entry prevention social work. This grant will shift in scope to focus in on joint community based/jail based preventative work with consumers rather than work solely based inside the jail and Human Services Buildings.</p>	<p>ISRS Manager Christin Skolnik 785-6019 cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org</p> <p>JSS Manager Tonya Van Tol 785-5815 tvantol@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No
Drug Court Evaluation	Justice Support Services (JSS)	<p>The Drug Treatment Court comprehensive evaluation was funded by a grant and data collection began in 2017.</p> <p>National Center State Courts reports that Drug Treatment Court (DTC) is in compliance with evidence-based standards in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to the use of evidence-based practices in general and in compliance with many of the critical Best Practices recommended in the 10 Key Components of Drug Court and National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards • Written policies and procedures manual • All key team members attend staffing's • Provide ancillary services to address participants criminogenic needs including mental health needs • MAT is provided when appropriate • At least 12 months of participation is required for successful completion • Drug Testing results are available within 2 days of testing • Drug test are conducted twice per week during Phase I • In support of the celerity principal of sanctioning, sanctions can be imposed in advance of a client's regularly scheduled court hearing • Judge spends at least 3 minutes per participant during status hearings • The DTC has used the results of program evaluations to make modifications in drug court operations 	<p>JSS Manager Tonya Van Tol 785-5815 tvantol@lacrossecounty.org</p> <p>Adolescent Services Supervisor Jill Dunne 785-5542 jdunne@lacrossecounty.org</p> <p>Youth Justice Supervisor Phil Stegemann 386-6048 pstegemann@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No

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		<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek to achieve full capacity • Lower absconding rates • Improve graduation rate • Seek to lower in-program and post-program recidivism rates <p>Cost Benefit Analysis - Though not able to calculate cost of participation in the DTC nor of probation due to not having the resources nor the required data to conduct a full cost/benefit analysis National Center for State Courts (NCSC) did offer some informed speculation of costs as well as a near complete account for benefits, the cost of avoided recidivism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data reveal that the average daily cost (2021 dollars) of imprisonment at a maximum-security facility is \$115.61 per inmate, \$125.30 in a medium security facility and \$92.61 in a minimum-security facility. • The annual cost of drug court participation would have to exceed \$45,767-\$33,803 to be more costly than prison and probation - a high threshold. • When NCSC divided the total costs of recidivism for each group by the number of individuals in each group (79 drug court participants, 167 comparison group members) they found that the cost of recidivism for drug court participant was \$14,464.80, while that for the comparison group member was \$18,623.99. The cost of avoided recidivism for drug court participation per participant was the difference between these two estimates, or \$4,159.19; this is the benefit of drug court participation. • While not able to produce estimates of the cost of participation in the DTC, NCSC speculates, based on the result of previous cost/benefit evaluations conducted on other drug courts, these costs are unlikely to exceed the cost of incarceration. Given the value of avoided recidivism and the benefit of drug court participation, NCSC speculates that the DTC is likely a cost-effective investment for the citizens of La Crosse County. 		