

LA CROSSE COUNTY W-2 COMMUNITY STEERING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

Onalaska Goodwill Store

7:45 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paula Egge, Maureen Funk, Jackie Helgeson, Tom Miller, Lindsey Swartz-Nichols, Nancy Wagner, Jodi Widuch

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Beverly Mach

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Ellen Prinsen, Richard Sage, Peter Thao, Sean Young

OTHERS PRESENT: Nancy Gardner, Jason Witt

CALL TO ORDER

Jodi Widuch, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m. Those present introduced themselves for the benefit of Jason Witt, the new Director of Human Services.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve August 17, 2010 committee minutes. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

None. Jodi explained the purpose of the W2 Community Steering Committee to Jason Witt.

Poverty Task Force Update

None

QSR (Quality Service Review)

La Crosse was selected as a second field test for QSR. Rock County was the first field test.

The purpose of QSR is to find what's working and not working in practice for W2 participants and why. The QSR connects results to local W2 frontline conditions and supports teaching and learning processes, provides useful feedback, and affirms good work. QSR stimulates next step actions taken to improve practice and results at all levels of the organization. Field activities included review of 8 cases, interviewing 26 people. Feedback was given to workers and supervisors with presentations on each case. Summaries were provided and a summation of the reviews were given at the end. Strengths were: commitment to quality improvement, strong working relationships with participants, addition of job developer position, education and career assessments, emphasis on building strong trust-based relationships with participant, individualizing

employability plans based on participant skills and interest, coaching and mentoring offered by job developer, frequent communication with practice partners, FEPs coordinating Foodshare, BadgerCare and Child Care, FEPs screen FSET cases referred to Workforce Connections. Opportunities included: use of family base practice model, contingency plans for W2T SSI participants, focus on long-term possibilities, daily life skills and financial literacy, ongoing communication with providers, and job opportunities for participants with criminal histories. All cases were within acceptable range.

W2 UPDATE

Tom Miller informed the committee of the role of the job developer and the positive influence this role has had in the short time since implementation.

TOUR OF GOODWILL

Paula Egge conducted a tour of the new Onalaska Goodwill store. In addition to donations, new items are available. An explanation of how donations are accepted and sorted was given. Goodwill also has an online purchase site available.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Approval of November 9, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Public Input

Chairperson's Report

Poverty Task Force Update

W2 Program Update

Agenda for May 17, 2011 Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 7:45 a.m. at La Crosse County Human Services, Administrative Conference Room. Future meetings will be:

May 17, 2011, August 16, 2011, and November 15, 2011.

The above minutes were approved unanimously at the February 15, 2011 meeting.

Nancy Gardner, Recorder