

FAMILY POLICY BOARD COMMITTEE

Monday, August 1, 2011

Health & Human Services Building – Basement Auditorium

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jill Billings, Mike Boehm, Janet Chaney, Chris Clair, Chris Crye, Rande Daykin, Mike Desmond, Gloria Doyle, James Falvey, Maureen Freedland, Debbie Garrison, Sheila Garrity, Beth Hartung, Bob Hillary, Grace Jones, Ann Kappauf, Jane Klekamp, Catherine Kolkmeier, Ann Kramer, Janet Kusch, Mary Meehan-Strub, Linnea Moren, Nancy Pohlman, Pat Ruda, Mike Schnitzius, Sarah Spah, Denis Tucker, Jeffrey Trotnic, Jodi Widuch, Jason Witt and Mary Kay Wolf

GUESTS: Mandy Bisek, Kira Gengler, Sara Halvorson, Tara Johnson, Doug Mormann, Christi Nowland, Beth Plummer and Heather Werner

CALL TO ORDER

Grace Jones called the meeting to order and asked if anyone had any changes they'd like made to the June 6th meeting minutes or if the minutes were all right as presented and if anyone would like to make a motion to approve.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 06/06/11 MEETING

MOTION by Chris Clair/Catherine Kolkmeier to approve the June 6, 2011 minutes as presented; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Grace Jones then introduced Ann Kramer to do the agency presentation for Great Rivers 2-1-1.

AGENCY PRESENTATION: GREAT RIVERS 2-1-1: ANN KRAMER

- Ann Kramer reports that she has brought along some PR materials, i.e., poster boards with business cards, handouts/brochures, business cards in English, Spanish and Hmong.
- Runaway Bridge is a service provided by Great Rivers 2-1-1 and it is provided for La Crosse, Vernon and Monroe counties only.
- Great Rivers 2-1-1 has been here in the area for over 30 years.
- Great Rivers 2-1-1 provides information on all Health and Human Services agencies for 21 counties. They provide information about services available.
- Their staff is trained to provide information and referral.
- 82% of the Country is serviced by the 2-1-1 Service Agency.
- Great Rivers 2-1-1 is part of a network with Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.
- All 2-1-1's set up their database of information the same.
- They are accredited by the National Association.
- They get grants for the Department of Health, 1) Women and Maternal Health in conjunction with the Health Department and WIC and 2) Wisconsin First Step in conjunction with Families and Children with Special Needs.
- If anyone has any questions please contact Ann Kramer at (608) 775-5586 or alkramer@gundluth.org.

“REBUILDING FOR LEARNING” ORIENTATION SESSION: THIS SESSION WILL BE HELD IN PREPARATION FOR THE AUGUST 16TH EVENT

- Jason Witt reports that the La Crosse Community Summit is hosting this event to address the barriers to learning. The event is on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at the La Crosse Center Ballroom from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Today we have provided everyone with the book; handout and gold sheet which we would like you to review prior to the event.
- There will be 150-200 attendees.
- This event is a good fit for the Family Policy Board and its mission.
- This event is being held to look at how we can best coordinate our community's network of supports and resources for children and youth to help them overcome barriers to learning, helping ensure they succeed in school. Barriers could include a mental health condition, family dysfunction, drug and/or alcohol dependency issues, poverty, etc. It should be a great opportunity to network and share ideas.
- La Crosse School District's new superintendent, Randy Nelson, has played a leadership role in organizing this event.
- Karl Green from UW-Extension will be the facilitator for this event.

Your homework for this event is as follows:

- Read the text “Rebuilding for Learning”; pay close attention to page 18, pages 40-55, the scenarios and create a list of supports that your organization has available for each child identified in the scenarios.

What to bring:

- Pen/pencil and personal notebook (optional).

Email/contact Renee Weston (608) 785-6095 or Weston.Renee@co.la-crosse.wi.us if you are interested in attending.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES:

- **HHS Board Update/Family Policy Board Executive Committee: Jill Billings**
- Jill Billings reports that Steve Doyle was elected to the 94th Assembly.
- Tara Johnson was elected chairwoman of the La Crosse County Board.
- At the Health and Human Services Board meeting Jason Witt and Doug Mormann provided a good presentation.
- We are living with more uncertainties than usual.
- There are unknown impacts with MA due to changes in Family Care.
- It is unsure what will happen with income maintenance.
- We are depending more on County Tax Levies.
- This is one of the most challenging budgets we have had.

- **HS Director Update: Jason Witt**
- Jason Witt provided the presentation on “Rebuilding for Learning” event.
- **Family and Children’s Section Update: Nancy Pohlman**
- Nancy Pohlman reports that she has hired the Initial Assessment Supervisor and she is Deanna Hoffman who was an Initial Assessment social worker; she will be starting as Initial Assessment Supervisor on August 8, 2011.
- We have applied for a grant from the State for Permanency Round Tables and this grant was submitted on July 29, 2011; we are hopeful we will get this grant. If we get this grant we will hire a part-time Permanency Round Table coordinator.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT: JODI WIDUCH

- Jodi Widuch reported that she is reporting for the Coordination of Services Committee and she reports that they have looked at the survey results and came up with some goals:
 - 1) To increase/update the 2-1-1 program database as 2-1-1 receives approximately 32,000 calls a year and a third of them are from La Crosse County; the 2-1-1- database/system sends reminders to agencies to request updates and then they will call agencies to remind them to provide their updates. Ann Kramer states that she can provide a training after the Family Policy Board meeting on October 3, 2011 on how to navigate the 2-1-1 database and she will provide a demo. Ann reports that 2-1-1 screens newspapers for changes in staff at hospitals, etc.
 - 2) They would like to see other agencies use the Single Point of Entry as La Crosse County Human Services is currently doing. They would like to get reports back from La Crosse County to see how this process is working for them and to model this process for other agencies.

AGENCY UPDATES OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: ALL

Grace Jones announced the September 12th WCCF Event which will be held on Monday, September 12, 2011 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Vahala Room at UW-La Crosse. This is a community forum which will include the release of the Kids Count Special Report, including local information, and a panel of speakers to address how local economic issues are affecting children.

Jodi Widuch announced that the Parenting Place will be having an Open House at their Onalaska location on Wednesday, August 3rd at 4:00 p.m. at 1035 Riders Club Road, Onalaska.

Grace Jones provided a handout done by Couleecap regarding poverty issues in the Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe and Vernon Counties and the State of Wisconsin and the data was provided by the U. S. Census Bureau for 2010.

Rande Daykin reports that Western Technical College is working with folks returning from Armed Services and helping them integrate into the community. Rande reports that their enrollment has increased 2200% with Armed Forces veterans.

Pat Ruda of the Coulee Council on Addictions reports that they have a lot of 12 Step Groups that meet 365 days per year. Pat reports that she had 3 young people (17 years of age) asking for a “young people’s group” as it is sometimes difficult for these younger people to meet with the older folks. So these three young people will be starting a “young people’s group” and they are going to be organizing this themselves and they are open for new members and will be developing their own flyer for this group. This group will exclude anyone who is over 21 years of age. Pat reports that Coulee Council on Addictions has its own website with information about groups.

NOTE: There will be no meeting in September but everyone is invited to attend the September 12th WCCF Event from 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. at the Vahala Room at UW-La Crosse.

ADJOURN: Today’s meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. by Grace Jones

NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 3, 2011

Approved October 3, 2011, Tammy Hoskins, Recorder