

## **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Administrative Center – Room 3220

6:30 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sharon Hampson, Jill Billings (exc. 7:55 p.m.), Bill Brockmiller, Bill Feehan, James Glasser, Monica Kruse, Margaret Wood

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Loren Kannenberg, David Trapp

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF & GUESTS:** Jason Witt, Doug Mormann, Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Dean Ruppert, Sara Koopman, Jane Klekamp, Nancy Pohlman, Al Bliss, Pat Killeen, Marilyn Hempstead, Connie Eide, Amber Davis, Jayne Rifenberg, Kate Holinka, Becky Spanjers, Carol Schilling, Mary Kay Wolf, Kirk Holliday, Michalia Holliday, Lila Barlow, James Fox, Mary Nelson

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **October County Board Action**

The members of the Mental Health Recovery Services Advisory Council were appointed for a two year term. Position changes in the Health and Human Services Departments were approved. The Resolution Re: Creating Positions Necessary for Operation of Regional Income Maintenance Consortium was approved.

#### **Board Members Report on Conferences/Meetings/Workshops**

Margaret Wood reported on a pre-WALHDAB meeting to talk about influencing DHS policy before it is finalized.

#### **Intake Worker of the Year Award**

Jim Fox, Juvenile Justice social worker, received the Wisconsin Juvenile Court Intake Association's Intake Worker of the Year Award.

#### **Wisconsin Cancer Council Recognition**

Doug Mormann announced that the La Crosse County Health Department received the Community Service Award from the Wisconsin Cancer Council for exemplary leadership and commitment to cancer control in Wisconsin.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None requested.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Resolution Re: Evidence Based Public Health Services**

The Resolution directs the Health Department to use evidence based public health programming in developing new or updating existing services. **MOTION** by Glasser/Kruse to approve the Resolution Re: Evidence Based Public Health Services. **Motion carried unanimously.** Kannenberg, Trapp excused.

### **BOARD EDUCATION**

#### **Policy, Practice, People of Family & Children's Section**

Nancy Pohlman provided a report that states that a mandate exists to notify specified relatives when out of home placement occurs, and to place with a relative whenever safely possible. There is also an internal protocol to facilitate relative involvement and placement. Pohlman introduced the mother of three children who needed out of home care while she pursued mental health stability. The children were temporarily located with their grandparents, who provided a safe and stable environment for the children with visitation opportunities for the mother until she was able to care for them in her own home again. The family remains reunited, and the grandparents continue to be involved and supportive. The mother and grandfather spoke about the plan they set up with help from social workers to allow time for healing as a family.

### **Income Maintenance Regional Consortium Update**

Jason Witt provided a letter from the Department of Health Services acknowledging certification of the Western Region for Economic Assistance to administer Income Maintenance programs, which allows becoming full operational by January 1, 2012. The next step is to contract with the state, which should include an agreement for no unilateral changes. Within the next two months they will offer a briefing for area legislative representatives to review status of the income maintenance changes and impact on our region.

### **Culture of Risky Drinking Coalition Update**

Al Bliss provided an update on the La Crosse Medical Health Science Coalition efforts to educate regarding risky drinking behaviors. He cited the following statistics showing some improvement in the drinking culture:

- Wisconsin is no longer rated the highest for binge drinking among high school students;
- Binge drinking among adults, aged 18-24, has declined since 2000.

He also cited areas needing improvement, particularly with women of childbearing age binge drinking more than national counterparts. He reported on best practices being used to encourage alcohol safety at local festivals, including the new "family zone" at the Oktoberfest Maple Leaf Parade. Bliss has worked with the Gold Star Tavern Program, which includes responsible beverage server training and the Safe Ride bus. He reported that the majority of 25 bar owners in the program advisory committee have expressed support for voluntarily discontinuing the "all you can drink" specials. He is working with local college students and campus leaders to review policies, and reported that despite La Crosse's reputation as a "party town," the three La Crosse campuses are lower in alcohol consumption than the state average.

### **Women's Community Based Program Update**

Jane Klekamp gave an overview of Ophelia's House, the women's community-based program that was recommended by the Carey Report as an alternative to incarceration. Klekamp reviewed the key differences between men and women in the criminal justice system, including the ways that women often enter the system as a result of personal abuse, mental illness, substance abuse, homelessness, dysfunctional relationships, and economic and social marginality. Programs at Ophelia's house are gender specific to create safety, respect, and dignity, and to address the issues that led to involvement with the criminal justice system. Klekamp provided several statistics, including cost per day, which is comparable to jail cost, but includes programming that has shown a 52% success rate in transitioning women to the community without re-incarceration. Two former Ophelia's House residents spoke about their experiences. They stated that if not for Ophelia's House, their only alternative to being homeless and on the street would have been the Salvation Army. They were able to use resources and programming at Ophelia's House to obtain jobs. They still avail themselves of support groups. They emphasized that the house offers more for the money than jail, such as the programming they needed to find jobs. Discussion followed regarding cost effectiveness comparisons to jail, and the need for comparable data.

## **POLICY**

### **2012 Budget Update**

- Doug Mormann provided an update on the Health Department budget. He stated that various funding contracts for 19 FTE are expected to be confirmed. In Home Health, they are working on the transition by reducing the number of client hours and adjusting the caseload to be able to ration care. Mormann stated they have been talking to clients, physicians, and discharge planners about the changes. They are also working with Western Wisconsin Cares. Chair Hampson stated there are questions among County Board supervisors about continuing the service and if there would be cost savings from discontinuing it altogether. Steve O'Malley pointed out that downsizing the program and ending the program would result in the same

amount to taxpayers in 2012, but it is more responsible to clients to retain some services and monitor benchmarks. Mormann finally reported on septic system pumping fees, and a proposal to reduce the current fee of \$13. Discussion was held regarding fees that align with the cost of service, and not incurring costs that taxpayers who do not receive the service must then pay.

- Jason Witt report on one update: Youth aids may be reduced another 7%, in addition to the 10% that was previously announced. The funds support local programming as an alternative to out-of-community corrections facilities. They are expecting a memo from the Department of Corrections giving more specifics about the change.

### **National Accreditation Domain 8 – Maintain a Competent Workforce**

Doug Mormann presented the requirement for national accreditation that specifies the ability to recruit, retain, and develop management and leadership capacity to meet future needs. This includes succession planning, staff development and retention, training, coaching, mentoring, and career development. Mormann focused in particular on appropriate training to ensure that staff has the expertise to be successful and to assume leadership roles. They will rely on internal, external, and web-based training.

### **DIRECTOR REPORTS**

#### **Health Department Written Director's Report**

#### **Human Services Written Director's Report**

**MOTION** by Brockmiller/Kruse to approve the Director Reports. **Motion carried unanimously.** Billings, Kannenberg, Trapp excused.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Wood/Brockmiller to receive and file the following Consent Agenda items. **Motion carried unanimously.** Billings, Kannenberg, Trapp excused

#### **Minutes**

Health and Human Services Board 10/11/11

Criminal Justice Management Council 9/21/11

Mental Health Advisory Council 9/16/11

Coulee Region Childhood Obesity Coalition 10/11/11

Family Policy Board 10/3/11

Family Policy Board Executive Committee 10/3/11

#### **Department Reports**

Quarterly Fiscal/Activity Reporting for Health Department

Quarterly Fiscal/Activity Reporting for Human Services

Quarterly Goal Reporting for Health Department

Quarterly Goal Reporting for Human Services

#### **Fiscal**

Vendor Audit Compliance Report

### **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

None suggested.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Brockmiller/Wood to adjourn the meeting to the next meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2011. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**APPROVED,** December 9, 2011, Margaret Norden, Recorder