

FAMILY POLICY BOARD COMMITTEE

Monday, May 7, 2012

Health & Human Services Building – Basement Auditorium

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Todd Bjerke, Mike Boehm, Janet Chaney, Chris Crye, Mike Desmond, Gloria Doyle, James Falvey, Mary Fitzpatrick, Sheila Garrity, Grace Jones, Ann Kappauf, Jane Klekamp, Catherine Kolkmeier, Ann Kramer, Janet Kusch, Mary Meehan-Strub, Pat Ruda, Ruthann Schultz, Denis Tucker, Jason Witt and Mary Kay Wolf

GUESTS: Thom Downer, Executive Director of the La Crosse Area Veterans Mentor Program

CALL TO ORDER

Grace Jones called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the April 2, 2012 meeting minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 04/02/12 MEETING

MOTION by James Falvey/Ann Kramer to approve the April 2, 2012 minutes as presented; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Grace Jones reported that she and Rande Daykin met regarding the Grant Letter Process and stated that this subcommittee will continue to meet to come up with a process for doing letters of support/grant letters.

AGENCY PRESENTATION:

COURTS AND/OR VETERANS COURT AND/OR VETERANS MENTOR PROGRAM: TODD BJERKE

Todd Bjerke talked about Veterans Court and how Law Enforcement will refer to Mr. Jim Gausmann who works in the Veterans Service Office here at La Crosse County and that the VA will cover services provided to these veterans. They have now developed the La Crosse Area Veterans Mentor Program which has been in place for a little over 2 years and they receive referrals from Gundersen Lutheran and Mayo Health System. Todd introduced Thom Downer the Executive Director of the Veterans Mentor Program. They have served about 42 veterans. See Power Point Presentation for more information.

INCOME MAINTENANCE UPDATE: LORIE GRAFF

Jason Witt reported on behalf of Lorie Graff. Jason Witt reports that the CDPU (Central Document Processing Unit) is still seeing errors. The error rate is down due to the fact the CDPU is doing less document coding, having shifted the workload to local staff. The Department of Health Services has indicated that this workload shift is temporary as technology fixes and enhanced worker training is implemented. To accommodate for state-level performance issues and other factors, changes have been made to our consortia work-team structure. This will increase our effectiveness. Our call center continues to perform comparatively well.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT: ANN KRAMER AND JASON WITT

Jason Witt reports that this subcommittee is moving forward on 4 things; those being:

- 1) Developing a Universal Form – Single Point of Entry Form for the county and the community agencies. Only having the consumer tell their story to one person so they don't have to tell their story repeatedly. This will also make referrals and registration more efficient and capture the consumer's needs.

- 2) Developing a Youth and Family Services Resource Website. Through a partnership with 211, developing a website to allow Department staff to better identify and link Youth and Families with local agencies that can assist them in meeting their needs. It is hoped that this website could eventually be accessed by any community agency.
- 3) Developing a Network of Local agencies that can assist applicants for Income Maintenance programs complete applications online. This provides more timely services for the clients, stretches the resources of local consortia staff who are handling high caseloads and bypasses the State performance issues with the CDPU.
- 4) Follow-up for the Rebuilding for Learning Summit. A subcommittee has been formed that will look at enhancing communication and this subcommittee will be starting the end of May.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES:

- **HHS Board Update/Family Policy Board Executive Committee: Jill Billings**

Jill Billings was not present at today's meeting.

- **HS Director Update: Jason Witt**

- Jason Witt reported today that our new HHS Board Member that will replace Jill Billings is Karin Johnson; however, Monica Kruse will be chairing for Karin Johnson through August 2012.
- Jason reports that they have started the 2013 budget already.
- Jason reports that we have made new changes to the Lobby consistent with our single point of entry initiative and to become more efficient with the use of reception resources.

- **Family and Children's Section Update: Nancy Pohlman**

Nancy Pohlman was unable to be at today's meeting as she was attending an advanced training in child welfare in Colorado.

AGENCY UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS: ALL

- It was reported that Lindsay Schwartz sent out an email re: 5/22/12 sessions re: Badger Care changes (see attached).
- Jane Klekamp reports that her department will be putting on a Resource Fair from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 14th regarding the "Criminal Justice System". If anyone would like a table at this resource fair please contact Jane Klekamp at (608) 785-5547 or klekamp.jane@co.la-crosse.wi.us.
- It was reported that there is a Food Drive on Saturday, May 12th and that you leave food out for your letter carrier to pick up for the food pantries. Usually you will receive a post card announcing this or receive a plastic bag to put food items in.
- Mary Kay Wolf reports that the "Taste of the Coulee Region" is being held on Sunday, May 20, 2012 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the City Brewery Hospitality Center in La Crosse.

ADJOURN: Today's meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m. by Grace Jones

NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 4, 2012

Approved: June 29, 2012, Tammy Hoskins, Recorder