

FAMILY POLICY BOARD COMMITTEE

Friday, June 29, 2012

Health & Human Services Building – Basement Auditorium

11:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Todd Bjerke, Mike Boehm, Janet Chaney, Rande Daykin, Mike Desmond, Gloria Doyle, Mary Fitzpatrick, Maureen Freedland, Sheila Garrity, Troy Harcey, Grace Jones, Ann Kappauf, Catherine Kolkmeier, Ann Kramer, Monica Kruse, Kathryn Mayer, Mary Meehan-Strub, Jeff Murawski, Pat Ruda, Bridget Todd, Cinda Todd, Jason Witt and Mary Kay Wolf

GUESTS: Doug Mormann and Vanessa Southworth

CALL TO ORDER

Mike Desmond called the meeting to order and talked about how he had looked at the Strategic Plan we had done in August of 2010 and he wanted to gather the group and find out if this is still the direction we want to go and have this meeting to review our Strategic Plan and make any needed updates and/or changes we feel are needed. Mike Desmond also thanked Grace Jones for her leadership for the last two years. Mike Desmond then asked for a motion to approve the May 7, 2012 meeting minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 05/07/12 MEETING

MOTION by Grace Jones/Catherine Kolkmeier to approve the May 7, 2012 minutes as presented; **Motion carried unanimously.**

LETTER FROM THE FAMILY POLICY BOARD REQUESTING EQUITABLE FUNDING FOR WREAIM CONSORTIUM:

Jason Witt reports that the Income Maintenance Consortium when it was started and when the funding was distributed more of the funding went to the larger counties. This affects mental health clients, MA recipients, etc. Jason states that now is the time for a letter of support from the Family Policy Board supporting an effort to equalize funding for Income Maintenance services across the State.

Jason Witt stated that he would develop a letter with Mike Desmond for this.

MOTION by Monica Kruse/Grace Jones to provide a letter of support for Income Maintenance. **Motion carried unanimously.**

PRESENTATIONS:

- **Coulee Cap – Grace Jones**

Grace Jones reported that Couleecap does a Needs Assessment every 3 years and it covers La Crosse, Monroe, Vernon and Crawford Counties. Grace reports that the focus today is La Crosse County.

The top 3 areas of Needs in La Crosse County are housing, employment and transportation.

Other areas of need in La Crosse County were identified as health, education, emergency assistance, business development, child care and parenting.

Immediate Needs identified in all counties were food, energy/utility assistance and home repairs.

Grace reports that their next Needs Assessment will be done in 2013.

To view the needs assessment you can go to www.couleecap.org.

- **La Crosse School District – Troy Harcey**

Troy Harcey reported some findings they found in their survey. In the 4th-6th grader survey 45% stated that they felt like they live in a caring neighborhood. 64% marked spending a lot of time on “screen time”. 56% indicated that they were a victim of violence in the last 12 months.

8, 10 & 12th graders survey. 1/3 of the students used alcohol in the last 30 days. 45% of the males indicated that they attend many drinking parties. 41% of the females indicated that they attend many drinking parties. 37% of students have assets they hope to have.

There was a lot of information to support television over exposure and this doesn't even address screen time, i.e., cell phones and computers.

4th graders – 80% have life satisfaction

12th graders – 69% have life satisfaction

47% identified with being bullied. 7% say it is happening in their home.

Children surveyed indicated that 49% feel the community values their efforts.

- **United Way – Doug Mormann for James Falvey**

The 2012 Compass Now is the 4th Assessment over the last 15 years. It covers 5 counties 1) La Crosse County, 2) Monroe County, 3) Trempealeau County, 4) Vernon County and 5) Houston County. There is a collaboration of partners, i.e., Gundersen Lutheran, Mayo Health System, St. Joseph's Health Care, etc.

- **La Crosse County Department of Human Services – Jason Witt**

Jason Witt reports that there are some trends that stand out for example La Crosse County Food Stamp recipients in 2007 = 6,916 and in 2011 = 11, 951; that is a 73% increase. Juvenile arrests in 2010 for Wisconsin 50-60% and in La Crosse between 80-90%. There is disproportionate minority contact: African Americans, youth population = 3%, Detention/Admissions in 2010 was 26% and Probation referrals = 18% in May 2011.

We had a brief question and answer session and had lunch.

PRIORITIZATION OF NEEDS FOR 2012-2014

The group then began to discuss needs and prioritizing them with direction from Mary Meehan-Strub. The prioritized rankings for areas of need are: Good Jobs & Employment = 15; Mental Health & AODA = 13; Safe Environment = 12; Mental Health for Children = 9; Safe & Affordable Housing = 4; Financial Literacy = 2; Transportation = 1; Child Care = 1. The Board recommended the following items become components of each committee's plan of work: Coordination of Services, Cultural Competence, Advocacy and Prevention. See the Strategic Plan for 2012-2014.

Mike Desmond announced that we will discuss the next steps at our Family Policy Board meeting in August.

ADJOURN: Today's meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. by Mike Desmond

NEXT MEETING: Monday, August 6, 2012

Approved: August 6, 2012, Tammy Hoskins, Recorder