

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Administrative Center – Room 3220

6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sharon Hampson, Bill Brockmiller, Tara Johnson (for Jill Billings), Monica Kruse, Margaret Wood

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jill Billings, Bill Feehan, James Glasser, Loren Kannenberg, David Trapp

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Jason Witt, Doug Mormann, Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Dean Ruppert, Peggy Herbeck, Jane Klekamp, Nancy Pohlman, Jeni Kendhammer, Sandy Suchla, Keith Lease, Greg Hickey, Becky Spanjers, Anneliese Ellefson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January County Board Action

The Resolution regarding an Economic Support supervisor was approved.

Board Members Report on Conferences/Meetings/Workshops

- Supervisor Wood attended the Solid Waste Policy Board meeting. There was a presentation on burn barrels, with discussion following about their expectations of the Health Department and the Health and Human Services Board creating an ordinance to ban burn barrels. HHS Board discussion ensued about the Health Department's plans for community education.
- Supervisors Hampson, Johnson, Kruse, and Wood attended the Wisconsin Counties Association Legislative Exchange in Madison.
- Supervisor Wood will be attending a WALHDAB meeting this week. Staff from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health, will be addressing regional offices.

Health Department Employee Recognition February 21

Recognition of Health Department employees will be held on February 21, 2012, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the HHS building.

Human Services Employee Recognition –March 13 Noon lunch and March 14 8:00 breakfast

Jason Witt asked members to hold the date, and said there will be more information coming.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Re: Increase Hours of a Health Educator by 0.2 FTE – 7.5 HR/WK

The Resolution states that the La Crosse County Health Department has been authorized by the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention to receive \$18,800 to cover some of the costs associated with La Crosse and Monroe Counties becoming nationally accredited health departments. The funds will cover part of the expense of an existing staff position. **MOTION** by Brockmiller/Kruse to approve the Resolution Re: Increase Hours of a Health Educator by 0.2 FTE – 7.5 HR/WK. **Motion carried unanimously.** Feehan, Glasser, Kannenberg, Trapp excused.

BOARD EDUCATION

Policy, Practice, People of Chemical Health & Justice Sanctions-Supported Housing

Jane Klekamp explained the difference between Cope House and Hope House as alternatives to hospital services for alcohol detoxification. Cope House was established for persons who are not interested in recovery, but who are in need of having fewer detoxification episodes. Hope House was established for those who are interested in recovery. She introduced Greg, a client who has been a resident of Hope House. He talked about his 10-15 years of alcohol rehab, and two emergency room admissions due to drinking prior to staying at Hope House. He stated when he was ready to make a change, Hope House helped him achieve sobriety, employment and his own

residence. He stated that while he was at Hope House for six months in 2011, he had other people around him who were going through the same process, and he was able to get support and direction to focus on his addiction. As a result, he has maintained a job and renewed ties to his family. He also volunteers at a food pantry, and attends church and Alcoholics Anonymous.

Out-of-Home Care Update

Jason Witt provided an update on child/youth out-of-home care placements. In January 2011, he gave a presentation on the rising group home and residential care placements and how this was posing a significant challenge for the Human Services budget. At that time, he described various management strategies that were to be used to address the challenge. His follow-up presentation detailed the progress on implementing those strategies and the 2011 impact on out-of-home placements. He showed both group home and residential placements were down significantly in 2011. As a result, where they were over-budget in out-of-home care accounts in 2010, they came in \$341,000 under budget in 2011. He reported that going into 2012, the focus will be on permanency timeliness and meeting federal standards to file a termination of parental rights (TPR) when a child has been in placement 15 out of the most recent 22 months. There are currently 44 children past this threshold in La Crosse County, at a cost to Human Services of \$44,000 per month or \$488,004 annually. When a successful TPR is completed, the State assumes financial responsibility for the case. Corporation Counsel has limited resources and there is currently a backlog of TPR cases to be filed. Human Services is participating in the IV-E Legal Services program, which provides federal "pass through" funding to provide additional legal resources. The plan is to use this funding to contract with local attorneys to handle certain TPRs. It is challenging to find private sector attorneys who do not have case conflicts and who have the expertise to be efficient with these cases. Human Services will continue to work with Corporation Counsel and report back to the HHS Board at a future date on how the contracting approach is working and whether other options should be explored.

Nancy Pohlman reported that Family and Children's Services has received two state grants for the following initiatives:

- A Permanency Round Table grant of \$13,000. The PRT process is geared toward the worker completing an action plan and using consultants from the state, region, and other counties to gain suggestions about possible solutions. Round table goals are to expedite legal permanency for the child, stimulate thinking and learning about ways to accelerate permanency, and identify and address systemic barriers to expedite permanency. Pohlman reported that PRTs are a best practice initiative that have been working in other states, and are now being used in Wisconsin to meet federal benchmarks.
- An In-Home Safety Services grant of \$243,000. Pohlman reported that La Crosse is taking the lead in a consortium with Monroe, Jackson, Vernon and Clark Counties. The grant is awarded to cover training costs for social workers for implementation of a comprehensive in-home safety plan. Their plan components included collaboration, engagement of parents and families in safety planning, a "safety network" of informal supports, and evidence-based practice and focus on outcomes.

Discussion was held regarding outcomes after transition, the cost of contracting and drawbacks for contracting legal services, and looking at staffing in Corporation Counsel.

Family Care Waiver Update

The 2011-2013 Biennial Budget capped enrollment for Family Care at the number of actual enrollees as of June 30, 2011. Family Care serves individuals with physical or development disabilities, and those over age 65. La Crosse County has been at full entitlement since April 2002, and had no waiting lists for more than nine years. Legislation is now being introduced to lift the caps and expand Family Care. Dean Ruppert and Peggy Herbeck presented information on La Crosse County impacts and management. Herbeck reported that enrollments are currently at 77% of all attrition

positions. She spoke about partnering with three other counties to take on new enrollments despite the caps by closely monitoring attrition slots due to death or voluntary disenrollment, sharing openings among counties, and using emergency slots when necessary. She stated that this process made it possible to maintain a wait list of just one week, and reported that consumers in La Crosse County saw little impact.

Accreditation - Domain 3 Inform and Educate about Public Health Issues and Functions

Doug Mormann presented Domain 3 – Inform and Educate about Public Health Issues and Functions. Standards are: Provide health education and health promotion policies, programs, process, and interventions to support prevention and wellness; and provide information on public health issues and public health functions through multiple methods to a variety of audiences. Mormann spoke about accomplishing these standards by disseminating information through press releases to newspapers and electronic media, brochures, and the department website, providing reference materials, and giving public presentations. He cited social media as a potential communication tool, and stated the department is making progress with the help of the Information Technology department.

POLICY

Compass Now 2012 Community Needs Assessment Report

Doug Mormann presented COMPASS Now 2012, a community needs assessment that described needs in health, income, education, and other community services. The assessment is the product of a partnership with 13 agencies and organizations in a five-county area. The assessment will be used to guide the Health Department in providing high priority service, and to update the department's strategic plan and community health improvement plan. The four key issues are alcohol use, health care access and cost, mental health, and obesity. Dental care access and illegal drug use are identified as emerging issues. Mormann noted that local philanthropic organizations also use the information to determine their giving.

Health Department 2012 Goals and Objectives Approval and Health Department Director Work Plan

Doug Mormann provided an update on goals and objectives:

1. Goal: Provide high quality public health services. Objective: By December 2012, data from 2011 Health Status Indicators will show a 2% overall improvement for 2008 levels.
2. Goal: Achieve and maintain designation as the highest level public health agency. Objectives: A) By December 2012, compile documentation for all 12 accreditation domains to meet national accreditation standards; B) by December 2012, maintain appropriate certification and training; C) successfully complete regular county, state and federal audits of each of about 35 public health programs.
3. Goal: Promote and utilize partnerships to develop public health services. Objective: Participate in partnerships within the County of La Crosse and at the local, regional, and national levels.

Mormann will provide future updates on department accomplishments. **MOTION** by Wood/Kruse to approve the Health Department 2012 Goals and Objectives Approval and Health Department Director Work Plan. **Motion carried unanimously.** Feehan, Glasser, Kannenberg, Trapp excused.

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.** Feehan, Glasser, Kannenberg, Trapp excused.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Wood/Kruse to receive and file the following Consent Agenda items. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Minutes

Health and Human Services Board 1/10/12
Coulee Region Childhood Obesity Coalition 12/13/11
Coulee Region Childhood Obesity Coalition 1/10/12
Family Policy Board 12/5/11
Family Policy Board Executive Committee 12/5/11
Mental Health Recovery Services Advisory Council 12/8/11
Mental Health Recovery Services Advisory Council 1/12/12

Fiscal

Vendor Audit Compliance Report
Quarterly Activity Reporting for Health Department
Quarterly Activity Reporting for Human Services
Quarterly Goal Reporting for Health Department
Quarterly Goal Reporting for Human Services

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Follow-up to TPR presentation
Initiatives from WCA Legislative Exchange meetings

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Brockmiller/Kruse to adjourn the meeting to the next meeting on Wednesday, March 6, 2012. **Motion carried unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

APPROVED, March 6, 2012, Margaret Norden, Recorder.