

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Tuesday, June 12, 2012

Room 3220, Administrative Center, 400 4th St. N.

6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Monica Kruse, Ralph Geary, Loren Kannenberg, Laurence Berg, Karin Johnson, Peg Jerome appointed to assure quorum

MEMBERS EXCUSED: David Trapp, Bill Brockmiller, Joe Veenstra, Cheri Olson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Donna Christianson, Matt Strittmater, Erin Davis, Doug Mormann, Jason Witt, Dean Ruppert, Nicole Cox, Patti Jo Severson, Adrian Novak, Jim Bagniewski, Renee Weston, Marilyn Hempstead, Sharon Hampson, Steve O'Malley, Lorie Graff, Meghan McClellan, Karlana Brailey

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Monica Kruse called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Supervisor Peg Jerome was appointed to assure quorum. Sharon Hampson was honored for her 10 years of service on the HHS Board. To honor Sharon, a donation was made to New Horizons Shelter in her name.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Board Members: New board member welcomed, and introductions were made.

Public Budget Hearing on Human Services and Health Department 2013 Budget on July 10, 2012 at 5:30 PM in Room B190 of Administrative Center

Chair Kruse advised there will be public budget hearing on July 10. This hearing is mandated by state law.

May County Board Action

Dr. Cheri Olson was appointed to the HHS Board as a citizen representative.

Board Members Report on Conferences/Meetings

None reported.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Award to Donna Christianson/Comments by Patti Jo Severson

Adrian Novak (NAMI Chair) and Patti Jo Severson (State Board of Directors) presented. NAMI provides advocacy for people with mental illness and their families through free educational programs and meetings throughout the year to talk about mental illness, support groups, social activities and collaboration with AMOS. Each year NAMI awards people who support their cause and in May 2012 the Human Service IRIS Award was presented to Donna Christianson, Mental Health Recovery Services Supervisor, for her efforts and accomplishments in the field of mental health. Donna was recognized for the role she played in expanding community crisis continuum, reducing Ch. 51 emergency detentions, and for her role in evolving crisis intervention training with law enforcement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

BOARD EDUCATION

Policy, Practice, People – Economic Support

Economic Support (ES) Manager Lorie Graff provided an overview of funding sources and programs for ES in the board packet. ES Specialist Erin Davis introduced Jim Bagniewski to present to the board. Jim is a customer receiving services from the Western Region for Economic Assistance (WREA), an 8-county consortium providing Economic Support Services for La Crosse, Buffalo, Clark, Monroe, Trempealeau, Pepin, Jackson and Vernon Counties. Jim lives in La Crosse and he is an authorized representative for his disabled brother who lives in another county served by WREA. Jim feels it is an asset to have an office in La Crosse that he can go to for face-to-face contact to discuss his brother's case versus having to drive to the county where his brother lives which is quite a distance from La Crosse. The programs in WREA have really helped Jim's brother to work to his full potential while still receiving health care benefits.

Orientation Manual/Orientation for New Members

Newly updated orientation manuals were distributed to board members. Doug Mormann outlined the materials in the manual for Health Department and Jason Witt outlined the materials for Human Services. Board members are welcome to schedule a meeting with department directors for more specific information, or if they would like to shadow programs or services in either department at any time.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Re: Requesting that the Department of Health Services Incentivize More Effective Regional Collaboration, Cost Savings and Efficiency in Income Maintenance (IM) Administration by Bringing More Equity to Calendar Year 2013 Consortia Funding Allocations

Witt presented an overview of this resolution's purpose along with the impact of IM programs in La Crosse County. One in every six county residents receives IM benefits representing \$125 million annual MA reimbursements to area health care providers, \$4.6 million annual MA revenue offsetting HS department costs, and \$13.7 million cash flow to local grocers from FoodShare benefits. When the Western Region for Economic Assistance (WREA) consortium was launched on 1/3/12, state/federal funding reduced 31%, Economic Support workers reduced 16% and worker caseloads increased 20%. The funding formulas used to distribute CY 2012 state IM funding assigns funding to individual counties instead of consortia, fails to consider legislatively mandated maintenance of effort (MOE) levels, distributes a 17% state funding reduction in a widely disparate fashion and continues to subsidize duplication and inefficiency. WREA has been successful so far by sharing resources, administrative structure, and cases across county boundaries, as well as equaling workload across the region to maximize resources. Burnout is inevitable, however, and this resolution asks the state to rework allocation to put the 10 consortia across the state on a more equitable footing and utilize consistent performance standards.

MOTION by Kannenberg/Johnson to approve the Resolution Re: Requesting that the Department of Health Services Incentivize More Effective Regional Collaboration, Cost Savings and Efficiency in Income Maintenance (IM) Administration by Bringing More Equity to Calendar Year 2013 Consortia Funding Allocations. **Motion carried unanimously.** Trapp/Brockmiller/Veenstra/Olson excused.

Resolution Re: Requesting the State of Wisconsin Suspend the Current Request for Proposal (RFP) for Wisconsin Works (W-2)

Witt presented that for the past 9 years the county has been competing with private agencies to run the W-2 program on a level playing field based on who can deliver the best service at the lowest cost to taxpayers. The award point system in the current W-2 RFP are geared toward the private sector making it difficult for any government agency to receive the contract. La Crosse County submitted a timely response to the RFP in an effort to receive the contract, however, this resolution is asking the state to suspend the current RFP and begin to develop a new RFP based on input from all stakeholders involved in the W-2 program. **MOTION** by Johnson/ Kannenberg to approve the Resolution Re: Requesting the State of Wisconsin Suspend the Current Request for Proposal (RFP) for Wisconsin Works (W-2). **Motion carried unanimously.** Trapp/Brockmiller/Veenstra/Olson excused.

Resolution Re: Support of Policy of Tax Equity on Other Tobacco Products

Mormann presented on this resolution asking the state to tax other tobacco products in a similar fashion that cigarettes are taxed. Other tobacco products present the same health risk as cigarettes yet are taxed at a significantly lower rate which makes them cheaper and more accessible to children. Similar legislation advanced in Iowa. **MOTION** by Johnson/Jerome to approve the Resolution Re: Support of Policy of Tax Equity on Other Tobacco Products. **Motion carried unanimously.** Trapp/Brockmiller/Veenstra/Olson excused.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Health Department Written Director's Report

Human Services Written Director's Report

MOTION by Kannenberg/Johnson to approve the Directors' Reports. **Motion carried unanimously.** Trapp/Brockmiller/Veenstra/Olson excused.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Jerome/Geary to receive and file the following Consent Agenda items. **Motion carried unanimously.** Trapp/Brockmiller/Veenstra/Olson excused.

Minutes

Health and Human Services Board 5/8/12

Criminal Justice Management Council 4/18/12

Coulee Region Childhood Obesity Coalition 5/8/12

Mental Health Recovery Services Advisory Council 4/12/12

Family Policy Board 4/2/12

Family Policy Board Executive Committee 4/2/12

Action Recovery Resource Team 5/18/12

Fiscal

Human Services Quarterly Review/Analysis of 2012 Budget Benchmarks

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Frac Sand Health Impact Assessment

ADJOURNMENT TO THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2012

MOTION by Kannenberg/Johnson to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Trapp/Brockmiller/Veenstra/Olson excused. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved, July 10, 2012, Renee Weston, Recorder.