



*Office of County Administrator  
County of La Crosse, Wisconsin*

County Administrative Center  
400 4th Street North • Room 3300 • La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601-3200  
(608) 785-9700 • Fax (608) 789-4821  
[www.co.la-crosse.wi.us](http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us)

**Memo To: La Crosse County Board of Supervisors**  
**From: Steve O'Malley, County Administrator**  
**Date: September 6, 2012**

**Re: September Monthly Report to the County Board**

Attached is the September Monthly Report to the County Board, providing monitoring information about department activities to the full County Board instead of reporting only to governing committees.

**REMINDER Monthly Reporting by roughly half the organization every other month.** While you will receive this report each month, the reports do not cover every department each time.

February, April, June, August, Oct. & Dec.

Planning, Resources & Development  
Public Works & Infrastructure  
Judiciary & Law Enforcement  
Corp Counsel & Child Support

January, March, May, July, September, November

Health & Human Services  
Aging & Long Term Care  
County Clerk, Finance, IT,  
Printing, Personnel, Treasurer

**“OF INTEREST”**

Policy Planning Meeting Monday September 10, 2012 The three agenda items for this meeting are,

- Presentation by Western Technical College regarding Vision 2020 and upcoming referendum – Lee Rasch
- Drug Treatment Court: A 10 year Recidivism summary – Bill Zollweg
- Review of Farmland Preservation Ordinance – Charlie Handy

***Reminder: From 5:30 – 6:00 Charlie Handy will be available with maps to answer questions about the ordinance***

Information Res.#8-14 Authorization to sell Property to La Crosse Community Housing Development Organization

The LCHDO will own the property through a “land trust” which is a means for insuring long term affordability, while paying property taxes like other residences. After razing the existing home, LCHDO will construct a new home for purchase. The land trust will lease the land to a new homeowner. The homeowner purchases the house at a significantly reduced rate, (typically less than ½ full market value) because they qualify and because they don’t own the land. As part of the lease agreement the land trust allows this owner to make improvements and build equity. At the time of a future sale of the home, the homeowner gets most of the equity, the LCHDO gets some of the equity, and uses that to keep the house permanently affordable. The homeowner can sell to anyone who qualifies as low to moderate income.

The land and home are typically assessed at a full assessed value (typically around 80% of what the fair market value would be on a comparable home), because a purchaser must be income qualified. The taxes paid are on that assessed value by the municipal assessor. The land trust homeowner is typically a family transitioning from renting into homeownership. [La Crosse County sold a lot in the city of Onalaska to the city who in turn sold it to the Land Trust. This is now a tax paying single family home at 907 8<sup>th</sup> avenue North. This was a vacant lot that came back to the county in tax foreclosure and couldn’t sell it.]

***If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by phone or e-mail.  
County Administrator direct line: 785-9789, cell phone 608-385-3316  
or e-mail [steve.omalley@co.la-crosse.wi.us](mailto:steve.omalley@co.la-crosse.wi.us)***

# **MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD**

## **Aging & Long Term Care September 2012**

### **Veterans Services**

- I have been doing outreach at both Western Technical College and at UW – La Crosse in preparation for fall semester. We are busy guiding veteran students into selecting the best education benefit for them. We expect 1500 veteran and vet dependent students at Western, and up to 250 veteran students at UW – La Crosse. We work closely with Veteran Certifying Officials at local schools to insure minimal delay in veterans receiving education benefits.
- We have scheduled the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans' Stand Down for October 18<sup>th</sup> at La Crosse American Legion Post 52 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. All veterans are encouraged to attend to receive a free flu shot, health screen and get information on benefits and services available to veterans in the community.
- The La Crosse Area Veterans Mentor Program and Veterans Court Program are evolving into fully functioning community programs. Grant applications have been made and we are working with Western Technical College to put together a lifelong learning class to train veteran mentors. This has the potential to turn into a statewide education program to assist other communities in starting veteran mentor programs.

*Jim Gausmann  
Veterans Service Officer*

### **Lakeview Health Center**

#### **Tobacco Free Campus September 2012**

In 2010, resident and staff smoking was moved to an outdoor sheltered area to be in compliance with the Clean Indoor Air Act.

In an effort to promote a healthier environment for the residents, staff and visitors, Lakeview will be going tobacco free on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

What does this mean? Any new resident admitted on or after 9-1-2012 will not be allowed to use tobacco in any form. Staff and visitors will no longer be allowed to use tobacco on site either.

Current residents who smoke or use other forms of tobacco will be "grandfathered-in" per federal regulations. This means current residents will still be allowed to smoke or use tobacco in the designated outdoor area.

This change will be challenging for our staff the next few months monitoring resident activity to assure safety for all. In the long run however, we feel this is the right decision for all those involved.

Guardians, families, case managers and other referral sources have all been informed of this change. We have also met with our current residents several times to share this information.

If you have any questions regarding this policy change feel free to contact me, Pam Semb at 786-1400.

*Pam Semb*

*Lakeview Administrator*

## **Aging Unit**

Please see attached *Aging in Place: Helpful Services in an Aging World*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Noreen Holmes

# MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

## Health & Human Services September 2012

### **Human Services Department**

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

##### Performance and Trend Data: "LaXSTAT"

In a planned effort to make better use of data to monitor and maximize performance in all of our program areas, we are implementing a new management process. The name of this new process is "LaX STAT". The guiding principles are:

- 1) Using timely data and relentless follow-up to drive performance to desired results.
- 2) If you can't measure it, you can't manage it.
- 3) What gets measured gets done.

Areas of focus will include performance monitoring (program and fiscal), trends and workload, coordination of initiatives/ideas/resources. The process includes monthly meetings with managers and supervisors, enhanced data reports and meticulous follow-up tracking. The implementation of this process is being supported by our involvement in the Department of Children & Families "Data Leadership" initiative.

#### **ECONOMIC SUPPORT**

##### Wisconsin Shares Child Care Assistance Program

On July 1, 2012, The Department of Children and Families (DCF) implemented a tiered reimbursement system for the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Assistance program. The tiered reimbursement system is part of YoungStar, a program created to improve the quality of child care in Wisconsin. YoungStar established a five star quality rating system for all child care providers. The tiered reimbursement system links a child care provider's Wisconsin Shares subsidy reimbursement to the provider's quality of care, with bonuses paid to 4 Star and 5 Star child care providers. Also beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, certified and licensed providers must participate in YoungStar in order to be eligible to receive Wisconsin Shares Child Care Assistance subsidy reimbursements. While Economic Support has received feedback from a few providers concerned over the new standards and requirements, more providers have said they welcome the incentives and rewards under YoungStar for providing quality child care.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH RECOVERY SERVICES**

##### Implementation of Supported Employment Evidence Based Practice

In 2011 La Crosse County began working with the state of Wisconsin and Dartmouth University on a project to weave the Evidence Based Practice of Supported Employment into our mental health case management programs. This model is considered the most effective way to assist individuals with mental health issues to achieve competitive employment. The service is delivered by Family & Children's Center to consumers within our longer term case management programs.

A high standard for a strong program would be to have 60% of consumers involved in this service working in competitive employment or formal educational programming. In the first half of 2012 this service had a success rate of 47% within this standard – very positive for a program only one year into this model.

On July 2, 2012 one of the contracted Employment Specialists involved in this program described the service in a La Crosse Tribune commentary.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN'S**

### 2012 Quality Service Review

The Child Welfare Quality Service Review (QSR) orientation meeting was held on July 19. Department of Children and Families (DCF) staff presented information on the review tools that have been added and will be included during our QSR week which is October 15 – 18, 2012. Child Protective Services (CPS) Access and Initial Assessment will be reviewed as well as CPS in-home cases, CPS and Juvenile Justice out-of-home care cases, and post Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) cases.

## **CHEMICAL HEALTH & JUSTICE SANCTIONS**

### Thinking for a Change (T4C)

T4C is a cognitive behavioral group designed specifically for people involved in the criminal justice system. Staff collaborated with the jail program coordinator and ATTIC Correctional Services to develop a seamless handoff between agencies if a client is participating in the group while incarcerated and is released to the community. A quarterly rotation has been established to maintain the continuity of the groups.

### OWI Treatment Court Evaluation

Dr. Bill Zollweg of UW-La Crosse completed a Drug Court evaluation on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A summary of the information is as follows. There were 117 participants with a graduation rate of 43%. Of those who graduated, 20% were rearrested. For those expelled there was a 28% recidivism rate. Nationally, drug offenders reoffend at a rate of 85%.

*Jason Witt*

*Human Services Director*

## **Health Department**

Health Department Mission: Protect, Promote and Improve the Health of All People in La Crosse County

The following is an excerpt of the Health Department mid year report on meeting the Health Department Strategic Plan.

By December 2012 State software operational to complete restaurant inspections and store data electronically.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed - HealthSpace program has been implemented on 7/1/12</li> </ul>
By December 2012, initiate investigation of 100% of communicable disease cases reported in our jurisdiction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted 376 disease investigations.</li> </ul>
By December 2012 maintain an average home health nursing caseload of 31 unduplicated clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently at 31 during a given month.</li> </ul>
By December 2012 less than 5% of infants born to pregnant women participating in the La Crosse WIC Program weigh less than 5.5 pounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5% of full term infants born to pregnant women participating in the La Crosse WIC Program weigh less than 5.5 pounds.</li> </ul>
By December 2012 70% of pregnant women participating in the La Crosse WIC Program breastfeed their new infant at birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>67% of pregnant women participating in the La Crosse WIC Program breastfeed their new infant at birth</li> </ul>
By December 2012 screen 400 children for lead poisoning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>158 children screened between 1-6/12</li> </ul>
By December 2012, five school districts in the County will participate in the La Crosse County farm to school program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All 5 school districts are participating in the Farm to School Program</li> </ul>
By December 2012, 200 low-income pregnant women enrolled in BadgerCare will participate in the Nutrition division's prenatal care coordination program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>137 women participated in the Nutrition division's prenatal care coordination program between 1-6/12</li> </ul>
By December 2012, the Lead Case Management Program will show that: (1.) 100% of referrals received for children whose capillary blood lead level was $\geq 10$ mcg/dL have been contacted to promote a venous blood lead test for confirmation of lead poisoning. (2.) 100% of referrals who had a venous blood lead level of $\geq 10$ mcg/dL are enrolled into the Lead Case Management Program.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three referrals received and 100% had a venous blood test.</li> <li>One referral received and was enrolled into the Lead Case Management Program.</li> </ol>
By December 2012, a regional program for control of human disease transmitted by animals or insects with fewer reported cases of human disease than in the 2006 – 2010 baseline period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The program provided services in Jackson, La Crosse, Lafayette, Monroe, Pierce, Trempealeau, Vernon, and Winona counties and the Ho-Chunk Nation.</li> </ul>

**Goal #1 - Provide high priority public health services**

**Status**

**Goal #2 - Achieve and maintain designation as the highest level public health agency.**

By December 2012 the Health Dept. will successfully complete regular state and federal audits of each of about 35 public health programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lab – Department of Agriculture, Trade &amp; Consumer Protection audit, Dept of Natural Resources (DNR) audit</li> <li>Environmental Health – Department of Safety &amp; Professional Services audit, DNR audit, Department of Health Services audit</li> </ul>
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**Goal #3 - Promote and utilize partnerships to develop public health services.**

By December 2012, Health Department public/private health partnerships described in Healthiest County 2015: La Crosse have improved upon one or more significant system or health priorities listed in the plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Education Tobacco Multi-Jurisdictional Coalition has met once and the Alcohol Coalition has met 3 times.</li> <li>Chronic Disease Prevention Partnerships: Gundersen Lutheran, 5 public school systems, YMCA, Boys &amp; Girls Club, City of La Crosse, 9 private worksites</li> <li>Partnering with the YMCA to improve the nutrition environment at their childcare &amp; surround care sites</li> </ul>
By December 2012, partner with Gundersen Lutheran's 500 Club to increase by 25% the number of restaurants currently participating in the program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500 Club members increased 90% between June 2010 and June 2012</li> </ul>

Doug Mormann  
Health Department Director

# MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

## Internal Departments September 2012

### County Clerk's Office

In the last 19 months, La Crosse County has had 12 elections and one statewide recount with one significant election remaining this year. Not that I'm keeping track, but I guess I am. Normally, the 2011 – 2012 election cycles would have had only 6 elections.

### Elections

August 14 Partisan Primary: I was predicting a 10-12% turnout for the August Partisan Primary and was pleasantly surprised with the final numbers coming in just shy of an 18% turnout. The partisan primary is the most complex election to code and requires the largest ballot of any election with three columns and two sides. This ballot also creates the most confusion for voters as cross voting (voting in two separate parties) is not allowed. When voting this ballot, you are only allowed to vote in one party on the ballot. We increased our education to the public by using the media to help educate the voters on properly casting their ballot. The municipal clerks, poll workers, and my staff were excited to see our hard work paid off. We had the lowest number of cross voted ballots at the polls ever. Typically we order an additional 10-15% of ballots to help cover the spoiled ballots at the polls due to cross voting. This is something we will definitely keep using in the future to help keep cost down on elections.

We have already moved our focus on to the November Presidential and General Election and started programming and preparing ballots. This election brings out the highest voter numbers of any election and we have ordered just over 91,000 ballots to cover the anticipated high turnout. In order to be in compliance with the Federal MOVE Act, absentee ballots for the November election need to be mailed out no later than September 20, 2012. The Federal MOVE Act is intended to help military and overseas voters cast their ballots and have enough time to return their ballot to be counted on Election Day. Once again we will be under tight deadlines to make sure we meet this requirement.

So far this year we have spent just over \$61,000 on elections, with the biggest cost of this being the printing of ballots.

### Dog Licenses

On August 15, 2012, Judge Pasell found 121 owners with 150 dogs guilty by default for failure to license their dogs or provide proof of rabies. So far this year, the County Clerk's office has sold approximately 901 late dog tags over the counter for revenues of \$13,824.

### Marriage Licenses

We continue to be in our busy time of year for issuing marriage licenses. We have sold 483 licenses this year for revenues of \$17,180.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk



# Aging in Place: Helpful Services in an Aging World

**Friday, Sept. 28, 2012**

**8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
**Black River Beach  
Neighborhood Center**  
**1433 Rose St., La Crosse, WI**  
**\$20, includes light lunch and materials**

### Who Should Attend:

- Consumers
- Family caregivers
- Trade professionals
- Service and healthcare providers
- Students
- Entrepreneurs

A seminar featuring tools, techniques and resources to make homes more aging-friendly. The session includes presentations, demonstrations and resources.

### AGENDA

- 8:30-9:30 a.m. Registration | Visit Exhibitors
- 9:30-10 a.m. Aging: Your Place or Mine?
- 10-11:15 a.m. **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
Homes and Built Environments:  
The CAPS Experience
- 11:15 a.m.-Noon Light Lunch | Visit Exhibitors
- Noon-12:45 p.m. **FIRST SESSIONS**  
Home Sweet Home: A look at Multiple  
Housing Options for Older People  
  
Why do I need a building permit?  
Contractor's Etiquette
- 1-2 p.m. **SECOND SESSION**  
Kate's Little Blue House  
Home Services and New Technologies



### Featured Speaker:

**Monica Sommerfeldt Lewis**, Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) is one of the building industry's top professionals with skills and knowledge, specific to home modifications for aging-in-place. Lewis is president and owner of Archer Lion Inc.

## AGING IN PLACE: HELPFUL SERVICES IN AN AGING WORLD

Friday, September 28, 2012

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee: \$20** (includes light lunch and materials)

**Cancellation Policy:** No refunds on or after Sept. 21, 2012.

**Special Needs:** Please indicate any special needs you may have: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form along with your check:**

**By mail:** La Crosse Aging Unit  
400 4th St. N. Room 2260  
La Crosse, WI 54601

Exhibitor Tables Available \$50.  
Call Comfort Keepers 608.784.3357.

For more information/questions call  
Noreen Holmes, 608.785.9710

### Sponsored by



*La Crosse County  
Aging Unit and the  
City of La Crosse*



**Comfort  
Keepers.**

