



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

County Administrative Center
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Memo To: La Crosse County Board of Supervisors
From: Steve O'Malley, County Administrator
Date: March 2, 2017

Re: March Monthly Report to the County Board

Attached is the March 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 should 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”

County Board Planning Meeting Monday March 6, 2017

Our agenda will include:

- Recognition of our Finance Department by the Government Finance Officers Association
- Fraud Prevention Presentation
- An update from our Marketing and Promotion work group to provide a consistent public relations image across all departments by unveiling a new County Logo and Tag Line.
- Update and Public Presentation on the Premier Resort Area Tax Referendum

*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*

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Aging & Long Term Care March 2017

Veterans Services

The La Crosse County Veterans Service Office, in conjunction with local, state and federal agencies, will be hosting the 2nd Veterans Benefit Bonanza to be held on March 9, 2017 at the Radisson Hotel from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. We currently have 60 vendors who will be participating in the event this year.

Our first Bonanza saw over 300 attendees who came from the Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa areas. This event is meant to capture all ages of veterans, military members, their spouses and dependents. Our target with the Veterans Benefit Bonanza is anyone who is serving or has served from the point of discharge, to the grave and beyond for spouses and dependents.

Camp Lejeune Water Contamination Presumptive Conditions –

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has published regulations to establish presumptions for the service connection of eight diseases associated with exposure to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune, N.C. The presumption of service connection applies to active duty, reserve and National Guard members who served at Camp Lejeune for a minimum of 30 days (cumulative) between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987.

With the new presumptive, our office will work to identify veterans who may fit the criteria for the new law change and assist them in filing for benefits.

La Crosse County Veterans Commission –

On February 16th, the La Crosse County Veteran Commission recognized Carl Sjolander for his 20+ dedicated years of service to the Commission. In that time, Carl assisted in providing assistance to 100's of veterans in La Crosse County to help prevent them from being evicted, having their heat / electricity cut off and many other hardships that the veterans encountered. Our office cannot say enough in gratitude for Carl's dedication. On February 19th, the La Crosse County Board selected Timothy Mitchel to take Carl Sjolander position on the La Crosse County Veterans Service Commission.

Welcome aboard Tim!

Adam Flood
Veterans Service Officer

Lakeview Health Center and Assisted Living Campus Update

LONG TERM CARE WORKFORCE

The long term care industry continues to experience significant workforce shortage issues. Caregiver vacancies and lack of qualified applicants are making it more and more challenging for facilities all across the State. LaCrosse County has recognized this growing problem and has been working to develop strategies to address the workforce shortage issue for the past year. In conjunction with Personnel & Hillview administrative staff, we have implemented strategies to encourage recruitment and retention within our organization.

More recently, Lakeview Health Center & Assisted Living has initiated a variety of opportunities to get feedback from our direct care staff to develop additional recommendations for consideration. Ideas include suggestions for additional pay & financial incentives but, also include ideas for mentor programs, career advancement, & recognition. As we begin to gather and sort through these suggestions, it is a good reminder that how people feel about their work has as much to do with our culture, both within our organization and within our communities, as it does about the more tangible financial benefits.

CAMPUS SERVICES UPDATE

As many of you are aware, there is a growing need in our region to provide additional services for individuals with dementia and challenging behavioral symptoms. Our new facility provides an excellent environment for these services – small households, quiet spaces, updated technology to enhance safety, community kitchens, & a variety of licensing options. All of these features contribute to our ability to serve the individualized needs of people with dementia. Part of this latest transformation is the transition of Ravenwood, our 10 bed State-only licensed facility. With the flexibility to be a “locked” or “secured” environment and the additional security features such as a fully enclosed courtyard, we have been able to serve individuals who need stabilization for their behavioral symptoms. In addition, we have developed additional programming and planning systems to better address the needs of these individuals. We believe this transition will help us better meet the needs of our local community and this is apparent in our current census of 9/10!

If you have questions about these or other issues of concern, please let me know.

Submitted by:

Wanda Plachecki, Administrator

wplachecki@lacrossecounty.org

608-612-0640

Lakeview Health Center

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Health & Human Services March 2017

Human Services Department

ADMINISTRATION

Human Services Open House

On January 12th we held an Open House for the public with tours and “goodies”. Even though few persons attended it was great to showcase what was done to our Human Services Department 1st floor level to our building to those who attended. Most everyone except for 3 staff are moved to their new locations and we are finalizing some items yet like door locks and windows, door name plates, signage, etc. that would make areas more functional.

AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC)

Program Update

A letter was presented on December 14, 2016 to the ADRC partner counties (Jackson, Monroe and Vernon) which provided notice that La Crosse plans to end the regional agreement on June 30, 2017. The ADRC Advisory Committee was informed of this decision on the same day. Planning has now begun by each of the counties regarding what the organizational structure of their future ADRC will be. Applications to the state for the new model (which would begin July 1, 2017) are due before April 1. The ADRC in La Crosse has begun to review staffing, board structure options, and furthering integration of our ADRC and Aging programs.

Transportation Update

We are working on a joint survey with City of La Crosse Municipal Transit Utility and Community Link (formerly called Western Wisconsin Cares) to assess the quality of transportation services being provided. Our current vendor is Abby Vans.

Dementia/Crisis Grant

The Dementia/Crisis grant that we received last year (ends 6/30/2017) has allowed us to perform multiple training sessions with law enforcement in January and February this year. We are meeting with both the County Sheriff and City Police officers to discuss how to coordinate assistance for people they encounter with dementia.

Music and Memory Project

On April 8, we will kick off a new Music and Memory project in La Crosse that will partner the ADRC with the library to offer assistance for people with dementia. We will be the 3rd library project to offer this service in the state.

Public Outreach

We are increasing public outreach in order to provide information regarding benefit/service questions that are becoming more frequent as the state and national systems and funding are being discussed. Some upcoming outreaches include: more routine visits to our meal sites, Gundersen Lutheran’s Parkinson’s symposium, Veterans Expo and the Viterbo

Community Health Fair. The ADRC has handouts available that inform on how to contact legislators.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT (ES)

Meetings with Child Care Providers following Implementation of MyWICChildCare

The WREA Consortium's Child Care Supervisor, in collaboration with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) Early Care & Education Division, has held follow up meetings with certified and licensed daycare providers within the eight county consortium service area. The purpose of the meetings is to follow up with daycare providers following implementation of the MyWICChildCare Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) initiative. DCF representatives, along with Western Region for Economic Assistance (WREA) leadership, offered sessions for providers to ask questions about the new EBT card initiative for the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Assistance program, and share concerns they have over new policies and processes that were implemented as a result of MyWICChildCare. Besides making sure that child care providers understand the policies and processes, DCF will be using their feedback as they implement MyWICChildCare across the rest of the state.

JUSTICE SUPPORT SERVICES (JSS)

Treatment and Diversion Grant Award

Justice Support Services was awarded the Treatment and Diversion (TAD) grant in the amount of \$209,180. TAD funding supports positions in JSS that focus on pre-trial, diversion and deferred prosecution services.

System of Care Grant Award

La Crosse County was awarded \$24,700 each year for 2 years (2017 & 2018) in Early Intervention funding from the Department of Children and Families. This funding will be used to provide our La Crosse System of Care with assistance in providing needed services for youth in our community prior to arrest.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S (FC)

Child Protective Services Funding Advocacy

On January 27, Jason Witt and Tracy Puent had the opportunity to meet with Representative Jill Billings to discuss her involvement in the Governor's task force on Opioid Abuse and the recommendations that came from the task force. We were able to share some of our CPS data over the past few years and how we are seeing an overall increase in referrals. One of the recommendations from the task force is increased funding to counties to address the increase in worker caseloads to allow CPS workers to provide services to children and families involved in the CPS system. Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) is also supporting this funding increase.

INTEGRATED SUPPORT & RECOVERY SERVICES

Western Region Integrated Care (WRIC) Pilot Project Update

Pilot Project: Implement shared services approach for a core set of mental health/substance abuse services across partner counties by the end of 2016.

Final Project Report:

- All 27 consortium Core Benefit services are now operating.
- Simplified summary of regional design:
 - 8 are truly regional
 - 16 have centralized elements
 - 3 are focusing on consistency (independently run)
- Focus moving forward will be to monitor outcomes to determine system design effectiveness related to:

- Equitable and affordable funding for services
- Equitable access to a set of core benefits
- Efficient shared service delivery system
- Improvement in outcomes (clinical and system)

Jason Witt
Director of Human Services

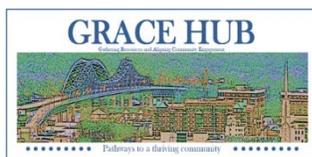


Health Department



Public Health
 Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Connecting People in Need with “Resource Rich” La Crosse County: One of the priorities in the Community Health Improvement Plan is Social Determinants of Health – where you live, work, learn, and play – and connecting people in need with the resources available in La Crosse County. The Pathways Community Hub model (https://innovations.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/guides/CommHub_QuickStart.pdf) provides the means to meet this goal.



The model involves a small amount of staff (less than 2.0 FTE), including a Director and Resource Specialist, who develop contracts with agencies to provide care coordination – linking clients in need to resources in the community – and with funders to reimburse care coordination services. A 3-year pilot phase will target the same high-risk neighborhoods served by the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative. In addition, the Hub will serve individuals who are using the Emergency Room frequently. Care coordination follows a find, treat, measure framework where the treatment and measurement is documented via 20 standardized “pathways” covering social and medical needs such as housing, medication management, mental health, immunizations, and social service referral.



Enough funding has been received through support from Gundersen Health System and Mayo Foundation to launch the Hub in La Crosse; launch is planned for Fall 2017.

Governor’s Task Force – Special Session & Legislation:

During the first week of January, the Co-Chairs of the Task Force submitted a report full of recommendations to Governor Walker. This report can be found at:

<https://hope.wi.gov/Documents/ReportOnCombatingOpioidAbuse.pdf>.

Governor Walker called a special session of the legislature focused on opioids; this was held January 5th.



Here is a summary of the 3 Executive Orders: <https://walker.wi.gov/press-releases/governor-walker-calls-legislature-special-session-and-orders-new-actions-fight>



Biodiversity Coordinator – Welcome Megan:

Megan Muehlenbruch joined the La Crosse County Health Department team in January 2017. She has a B.S. in Community Health Education from UW-La Crosse and a Masters of Public Health from Dublin, Ireland. She has been a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Coordinator as well as a number of other roles that will assist her in leading the Biodiversity/Nature Connections Program. She has a passion for engaging others in the vast benefits of the ‘great outdoors.’

Certain Types of Cancer are Vaccine-Preventable:

The Coulee Region Immunization Coalition (CRIC), which is chaired by the Health Department and aims to increase immunization rates to protect the public from vaccine-preventable diseases, ran an educational campaign in January to get boys and girls vaccinated against Human Papillomavirus (HPV); 4 Public Service Announcements (PSA's) have been made possible through collaboration with community partners. One of the PSA's is "Sara's Story" and is available on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1FgB3xM16I>. HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection and can cause many types of cancer. Two doses of the vaccine is recommended for 11-12 year-old males and females. For more information, check out their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/CouleeRegionImmunizationCoalition>. You can also visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/std/hpv/stdfact-hpv.htm>.



Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Rombalski
Health Director

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Internal Departments March 2017

County Clerk's Office

Elections

- **February 21st Primary:** A countywide primary was held on February 21st that included the State Superintendent of Public Instructions and two local races; City of La Crosse Council Member for District 7 and Town of Campbell Supervisor 4. The top two vote getters for each contest will move on to the April 4th Spring Election. It was a low turnout of only 9%.
- **April Spring Election:** We have already compiled the contests and candidates from the State, all the Municipalities and School Districts and created our ballot proofs for the April election. There are 75 ballot styles for the April election. Absentee ballots are required to be delivered to the Municipal Clerks no later than March 13, 2017 for mailing of absentee ballots on March 14, 2017. A pending lawsuit allows Municipal Clerks to select their own date for starting of in-person absentee voting. La Crosse County Municipal Clerks have agreed to start in-person absentee voting on March 20, 2017 as a way to be coordination with each other and not confuse the public.

Dog Licenses

- Approximately 8500 Courtesy Reminder post cards were mailed to La Crosse County dog owners (outside of the City of La Crosse) who have not licensed their dogs yet. This notice reminds dog owners that their 2017 dog tags expired December 31st and they should purchase the 2017 tag now. It also warns them that if they purchase the tags after April 1st, there is an additional \$25 late fee, and that the fine for failure to license dogs by mid-year, when we process citations, is \$200.50.

Marriage Licenses

- 710 marriage licenses, 1 domestic partnership, and 2 terminations were issued in La Crosse County for 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk

Treasurer's office

Well since my last report, we have been in the process of closing out the In-Rem foreclosure and January and February settlements with municipalities for 2016 tax collection. The In-Rem foreclosure for 2012 is complete with a final court date that happened on 2/15/17 in which we took 9 individual properties. We will be in the process of advertising these in the next few months. We have finalized the February settlements with all municipalities except for the City of La Crosse and the amount that needs to be collected is similar to 2016. We are currently working on the 2013 In-Rem foreclosure process with getting bids from local title companies for searches. On March 5-8th I will be attending the WCCO conference in Madison. At the conference we will be setting the agenda for the June WCTA conference that will be happening in La Crosse County. As always if you have any questions or

concerns please feel free to stop by our office or contact us at 608-785-9711 or my direct line of 608-785-9712.

Respectively submitted,

Shawn Handland
La Crosse County Treasurer

Human Resources

EMPLOYEE COUNT STATISTICS-JANUARY 2017

MONTH	TOTAL EMPLOYEES	FULL TIME	PART TIME	IPT*	FULL TIME EQUIV.	NEW HIRES	TERMS	TURNOVER RATE
JAN	1321	860	223	238	1084	35	27	2.04
2016								
DEC	1315	861	218	236	1080	25	82	6.24
NOV	1371	915	221	235	1138	84	18	1.31
OCT	1305	854	225	226	1078	21	34	2.61
SEP	1322	870	228	224	1096	19	33	2.50
AUG	1338	885	232	221	1114	26	40	2.99
JULY	1347	892	236	219	1122	21	18	1.34
JUNE	1346	891	241	214	1124	40	25	1.86
MAY	1332	885	244	203	1118	32	44	3.30
APR	1343	879	244	220	1115	40	27	2.01
MAR	1331	867	238	226	1102	21	27	2.03
FEB	1342	872	237	233	1102	19	21	1.56

IPT =Irregular Part Time (such as on-call, less than half time, seasonal, temporary)

FTE =Full-time equivalent employees (actual hours paid including overtime)

New Hire =New employees started

- We are settled in our new office space, however we are still in the process of unpacking the terminated personnel files in our basement storage area.
- The processing of the 2016 1095's was completed on schedule. The 1094 transmittal has been submitted and accepted by the IRS.
- Staff are fully engaged in implementing the HR/Payroll system. They have started to build pay scales and benefit plans, identify system reports and are working with Payroll staff reviewing pay codes all in preparation of the first visit from the New World/Tyler consultant site visit the week of March 13th.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Marco

Human Resources Director