



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

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Memo To: La Crosse County Board of Supervisors
From: Steve O'Malley, County Administrator
Date: May 4, 2017

Re: May Monthly Report to the County Board

Attached is the May 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
Veterans, Aging & Long Term Care
County Clerk, Finance, IT,
Personnel, Treasurer

"OF INTEREST"

County Board Planning Meeting Monday May 8, 2017 – CANCELLED

We have a number of items for the agenda that were not quite ready for this meeting as scheduled. Therefore, the June 5, 2017 Planning meeting of the County Board will include:

- Final Report on the results of Lakeview and Downtown Construction projects
- Update on the downtown parking situation
- Community Health Priorities and the HUB model
- Report on the West Salem Business Park TIF District finances and results
- Update on the sale of lots in the Village of Rockland

*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 May 2017

Lakeview Health Center and Assisted Living Campus Update

Nursing Home Compare:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) created the 5-Star Quality Rating System to help consumers, families, and caregivers compare nursing homes more easily and to help them decide which facilities to consider. The Nursing Home Compare website features a system that gives each nursing home a rating of between 1 and 5 stars. Areas that are rated include health surveys, staffing, and quality measures. Nursing homes with 5 stars are considered to have much above average quality and those with 1 star are considered to have quality much below average.

Receiving a better than average 5-star rating has never been more important to nursing homes. Although these ratings do not provide a comprehensive picture of a facility's overall quality, these ratings are increasingly used by consumers, regulators, insurers and other payers, and provider networks to select which facilities they will consider having relationships with.

Nursing home advocates have asked for this system to be changed to an approach that sets performance benchmarks for each star rating & would allow all facilities the opportunity to achieve a 5 star rating. For now, however, the current 5 star system remains in place and is one tool used to measure quality.

We are honored that Lakeview Health Center's 50 bed nursing home recently achieved a 5 star quality rating. We are grateful to our staff for the hard work they do to maintain and improve the quality of care we provide and we are grateful to the support from LaCrosse County in developing and maintaining compensation packages that assist us in providing strong staffing patterns within our facility.

This information about Nursing Home Compare was obtained from LeadingAge Wisconsin, an advocacy organization for long-term care providers in a recent issue paper "The Growing Importance of Nursing Home 5-Star Ratings and how they are Impacted by Survey Findings."

For more information about Lakeview's rating, check out www.medicare.gov/NursingHomeCompare/search.html.

Submitted by:

Wanda Plachecki, Administrator

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608-786-1400

Lakeview Health Center

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

Health & Human Services May 2017

Human Services Department

ADMINISTRATION

New Deputy Director

We are pleased to announce that Audra Martine will be accepting the Human Services Deputy Director position that will be vacated in May due to Dean Ruppert's retirement. Audra brings with her a B.S. in Psychology and a M.S. in Management along with numerous community volunteer experiences. She has 23 years of management and supervisory experience in community agencies as well as Human Services with her being our Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Manager. She has and is involved also as a leader in numerous state and local committees and workgroups.

AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC)

Contract Application Submission

The application for our single county ADRC, that we intend to begin on July 1, 2017, has been submitted. As part of our dissolution of the regional ADRC we are finalizing the splitting of our 2017 contract funding and the carryover remaining from 2016.

Dementia Services

As part of our Dementia Crisis grant, almost 200 city police and county sheriff personnel have been trained on techniques and support services for people with dementia. We are seeing very positive results and higher referrals following this training. We are also learning about some gaps in service that we have reported to state staff and are working to problem solve.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT (ES)

WREA 2016 Performance

The Western Region for Economic Assistance (WREA) Consortium met all state contractual performance standards for 2016. Over 95% of all applications for public assistance were processed timely, and 97.62% of all re-eligibility renewals were processed timely. WREA's Call Center answered just short of 135,000 calls in 2016, with an average speed of answer of 10.07 minutes.

Energy Assistance Update

Energy Assistance benefits in the amount of \$1,037,964 have been paid out so far for FFY16. Economic Support is preparing for an influx of applications when the annual moratorium on disconnections ends April 15th. Seventy Percent (70%) of Energy Assistance applications involve a household with a child, elderly or disabled member.

JUSTICE SUPPORT SERVICES (JSS)

JDAI (Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative)

The Department of Justice has officially invited La Crosse County to be part of the next phase of JDAI sites in Wisconsin. This will provide technical assistance by the Annie E.

Casey Foundation in 8 core areas surrounding alternatives to detention and juvenile justice system reform. La Crosse will join Racine, Manitowoc and Milwaukee Counties who were part of the phase 1 roll out of JDAI in Wisconsin. The Juvenile Justice Arrest and Disproportionate Minority Contact Task Force and the Juvenile Justice Best Practice Stakeholder Group were key in readying our system for this initiative.

Justice Involved Women Training

Mandy Bisek, Manager of JSS, was accepted as part of a team of individuals including Department of Corrections, Sheriff's Department, and Western Technical College's Project Prove, to travel to Colorado in April for a National Institute of Corrections training regarding women in the justice system.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S (FC)

Participation on Panel at Local Conference

On February 3, 2017, Deanna Hoffman, CPS Initial Assessment Supervisor, presented at the 2017 Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Conference sponsored by Gunderson Medical Foundation. Deanna was part of a panel discussion regarding the community response to Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. Deanna spoke specifically about the role of Child Protective Services and the collaboration that takes place between the medical community and human services in order to address the needs of infants who are exposed to drugs throughout the pregnancy and at birth.

INTEGRATED SUPPORT & RECOVERY SERVICES (ISRS)

Recovery Avenue (RAVE) Satisfaction Survey Results

ISRS partially funds Recovery Avenue (RAVE) for consumers with mental health (and substance use) issues. Independent Living Resources (ILR) operates this Recovery Center, and Peer Specialists/Peer mentors facilitate a safe and supportive environment that also works hard on skill building, recreational opportunities, etc. Approximately 450-500 people use this service each year. About 112 surveys were returned to ILR in 2016; some highlights of the responses include:

- 85% indicated services increased coping skills
- 90% indicated services helped them become more independent
- 88% indicated services increased social support system
- 91% indicated services reduced need for crisis and/or hospital
- 85% indicated services helped with sobriety

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Iris Awards

Two ISRS staff have been selected for 2017 NAMI Iris Awards:

- NAMI La Crosse selected Nicole Milliren (children's therapist) to receive one of seven local awards due to the impact her work has had on children and families in our community. She will receive her award in a ceremony in La Crosse in May.
- NAMI Wisconsin selected Dr. Katie Fassbinder (psychiatrist) to receive the **NAMI Wisconsin Outstanding Mental Health Professional Award** for 2017 in recognition of her dedication and commitment to promoting recovery and improving the treatment and quality of life for people affected by mental illnesses. She will receive the award at the NAMI state conference in Madison on May 7th.

Jason Witt

Director of Human Services



La Crosse County Board Health Department Report

April/May 2017



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Health Advisory Issued Regarding Water Quality Concerns:

On April 6th, the Health Department notified the public of water quality concerns relating to nitrates and bacteria in private wells in the Northwest portions of the County. Based on available data, high risk areas were identified; over 2,000 letters were sent to residents in these areas. A press conference was held to notify the general public as well. The primary message was to test drinking water. Thankfully, of the 360 water samples submitted for bacteria testing, only 21 or 5.8% were coliform positive and all samples were E. Coli negative. Unfortunately, of the 365 water samples submitted for nitrate testing between April 6th and April 19th, 111 or 30.4% were high for nitrates (greater than 10 mcg/mL). The Health Department will be working with partners to further analyze the data and identify next steps.



Sharps Disposal Boxes in the City of La Crosse:



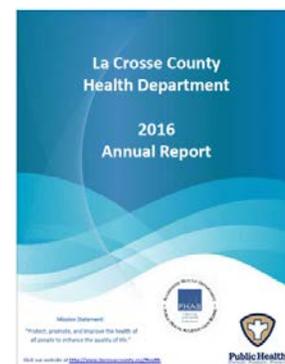
In conjunction with our community partners, a subcommittee of the Heroin and Other Illicit Drug Task Force has been tackling the issue of inappropriately disposed needles in our community. The Health Director worked with the City of La Crosse, including the Fire Department Chief and the Mayor among other leaders, to identify locations for the boxes based on where needles have been found around the City of La Crosse. It was also important that the locations allow for those wishing to dispose of needles to “drive up” to the boxes easily in their vehicles. Western Health Care Coalition, under the direction of Bob Ritger, purchased 2 sharps disposal boxes. The City installed the boxes in the King Street Alley between 4th and 5th Street downtown La Crosse and in the

boat ramp on the North side of La Crosse behind Hardee’s. Aids Resource Center of Wisconsin will monitor the amount of needles being disposed and will coordinate and pay for disposal. Data will be collected to identify if the boxes are decreasing the amount of needles found inappropriately disposed of in our community.

Messaging to the community engages the 3 words of “collect, protect, and respect;” this has been used in other communities and Michaela Burton, an intern in our department identified this through her research of what other communities are using. Thank you Michaela!

2016 Annual Report:

By state statute and in conjunction with national accreditation standards, the La Crosse County Health Department announces our 2016 annual report. The report is located on the Health Department’s website under the “[Administration](#)” tab under “Reports.”



Brekke Receives 2nd Annual Friend of Public Health Award:



As part of National Public Health Week, Sandy Brekke received the “Friend of Public Health” award for 2017. Ms. Brekke is the Director of St. Clare Health Mission and a Population Health Consultant for Gundersen Health System. Under the direction of Jen Rombalski, Health Department Director, the Friend of Public Health award was adopted in 2015 as a way to recognize individuals who have been champions of public health in the community and supporting partners for the mission of the La Crosse County Health Department.