

LONG TERM CARE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Friday, June 4, 2010

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

ROOM 3220

400 NORTH 4TH ST

LA CROSSE, WI 54601

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Johnson, Tara Johnson, Mildred Evans, John Mroch, Jim Pinger, Tim Garrity, Tom Rand, Pete Eide, Jerry Huber, Connie Eide, Keith Keller, Jennifer Bielefeldt, Pat Ruda

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Pam Semb

MEMBERS ABSENT: Don Bina, Jim Gausmann, Noreen Kuroski, Pam Bendel, Kim Wing, Betty Wells

OTHERS PRESENT: Dean Ruppert

CALL TO ORDER

Steve Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Round table introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF 3/5/10 MINUTES

T. Johnson/P. Ruda moved for approval of March 5, 2010 Minutes, and the motion carried.

VICE CHAIR VACANCY

Vacancy needs to be filled in the event of the chair person not being able to attend a meeting. Jerry will talk with Steve Doyle.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS UPDATE – KEITH KELLER

The Children's Long Term Support Waiver began six years ago. The program currently has approximately 140 children enrolled with an additional 78 children on the waiting list. It serves children with developmental disabilities, physical disabilities or severe emotional disturbances. To be eligible, the children need to meet four eligibility requirements which are:

1. Functional Screening to determine the level of care
2. Must have or be eligible for Medical Assistance
3. Living in eligible living arrangements such as foster care or with their natural family
4. A need for long term care services

Traditional services that are provided include: Supportive home care, daily living skills training, respite care/foster care, home and vehicle modifications.

La Crosse County along with Dane and Milwaukee counties is part of a pilot program with the State of Wisconsin transitioning from the payment of services to having WPS (Wisconsin Physician Services) pay these services to meet Federal reporting requirements.

BADGER CARE BASIC PROGRAM – JERRY HUBER

Jerry provided a BadgerCare+ Basic Plan General Information handout to group members. This program was developed to alleviate the waiting list that was initiated due to the overwhelming response to the BadgerCare Core program. This is a very basic plan and it is understood that if a person is eligible for the Childless Adult Core Plan, they would be eligible for the Basic Plan.

The premium for the Basic Plan is \$130 per month. It was considered by the county to pay this fee for clients who could not afford it, but we chose not to because this would require that the county pay for anyone who requested payment. We could not pay for some and not others, essentially eliminating much of the cost savings we first considered possible.

HEALTH CARE REFORM – PRIMER – JERRY HUBER

Jerry spoke about this being the most significant social policy change since 1935. He will ask Renee to send out information to group members. He will also provide the Federal Website address.

FUTURE PLANNING FOR DIALOGUE WITH LEGISLATORS/WISH LIST, ADVOCACY LIST – JERRY HUBER/TARA JOHNSON

It is recommended that a candidate forum be scheduled for the September meeting, which could be held after the September election and invite the two governor candidates along with local representatives, Shilling, Huebsch and Kapanke. Additionally, it was suggested that the La Crosse County boards and other counties be invited to participate. If anyone would like to be involved, please contact Tara Johnson/Renee Weston.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HEALTH SERVICES UPDATE – JERRY HUBER

Jerry gave an update on Mississippi Valley Health Services (MVHS). Lakeview was becoming more and more dependent on tax dollars from La Crosse County to serve out of county residents. Legislature passed Wisconsin Act 283 to allow commissions to jointly operate nursing homes. Dodge County will develop their own commission. Most counties are now part of a Managed Care Organization (MCO) as these are going statewide. We are moving forward with members of MCO becoming admitted to Lakeview including La Crosse County Western Wisconsin Cares (WWC) members. WWC is able to pay the supplemental rate except for La Crosse County residents. MVHS Board meets in mid August to further explore costs and options. County operated facilities have to reduce the size of their own nursing homes, do them differently as done here and develop options besides nursing homes, or get out of county run care facilities. MVHS updates will be provided to LTCCC on a regular basis.

HILLVIEW ASSISTED LIVING – PETE EIDE

Hillview is building a new assisted living facility and the architect drawings of the facility should be completed about July 1st, 2010, with hopes of breaking ground this fall. The building will be located on the south end of Carroll Heights, thereby connecting the three facilities. Construction is expected to take 9-10 months with the projected opening in spring 2011. With the opening of this new facility, it is the plan to hire 20 new employees. The facility will be open to MCO clients.

HOME CARE UPDATE – CONNIE EIDE

We generally serve 42-46 Skilled Clients that may receive Skilled Nursing, Therapy Services, and Home Health Aide Services, or all three. We also have a Client load of 12-14 Personal Care Clients which consist mainly of Pediatric cases. The number of hours for the children increases in the summer months. We are current with 2.6 Nurses and Home Health Aide positions at 4.5, down by .5. There is hope of picking up some WIMCR reimbursement dollars this fall to help with the 2010 budget.

OTHER

Jerry Huber stated that on March 25, 2010 the LTCCC sent out a letter about MA transportation to Governor Jim Doyle, State Legislators, WI Department of Transportation, and WI Department of Health Services. Responses were received from The State of Wisconsin, Department of Health Services and The Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and at this time we have learned that the project is on hold again. Copies of the letters were provided to meeting attendees.

Tara Johnson informed the group that the County Board has asked staff to prepare a document to show where the ARRA dollars have been disbursed and what these funds have accomplished in terms of services in La Crosse County, so the board has an idea where the impact has been.

It is suggested that the scheduled September 3, 2010 Committee meeting be moved to September 10, 2010 to accommodate a Candidate Forum. *J. Pinger/T. Johnson moved for motion and the motion carried.*

Steve Johnson personally extended a thank you to Jerry for all he has done. The committee applauded Jerry.

Future Agenda Items:

- ARRA Dollars
- Candidate Forum
- Dental Services Update – Doug Mormann
- Hwy 33 Express

ADJOURNMENT: *P. Ruda/C. Eide moved to adjourn at 11:37 a.m., and the motion carried.*

The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

Denise Bendel, Recorder