

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Tuesday, February 2, 2010
Administrative Center – Room 3220
6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sharon Hampson, Jill Billings, Tammy Gamroth, James Glasser, Loren Kannenberg, Brad Konkel, David Trapp, Margaret Wood

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Bill Brockmiller

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Jerry Huber, Doug Mormann, Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Sara Koopman, Dean Ruppert, Jeanne Melde, Matt Strittmater, Lorie Graff, Jane Klekamp, Tom Miller

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sharon Hampson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January County Board Action

No action regarding HHS.

Board Members Report on Conferences/Meetings/Workshops

- Sharon Hampson was in North Carolina recently, and shared information about that state's new smoke free dining and bar law.
- Jill Billings attended a County Ambassador lobby day, and met with Senator Kapanke, Representative Shilling, and a member of Representative Huebsch's staff. She reported that March 4, 2010, is Human Services Lobby Day.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Resolution to extend H1N1 emergency declaration

Doug Mormann reported that the first declaration was given an end date of February 28, 2010, at the request of the County Board, and the extension will go through the end of June, 2010. He stated that 6,500 people have been immunized. There were 28,000 immunizations given, which includes the second immunization that was necessary for children. **MOTION** by Kannenberg/Glasser to approve the Resolution to extend H1N1 emergency declaration. **Motion carried unanimously.** Brockmiller excused.

County Recognition of Human Services in March

Jerry Huber said that the recognition occurs every March, and they will have a lunch for all staff. Doug Mormann added that the Health Department had to reschedule their recognition, and it will be February 11, 2010.

POLICY ISSUES

Potential action on Public Health Legislation

The Chair took the item out of order. The key issues selected for further discussion at the January 12, 2010, HHS Board meeting were brought back to committee for a decision regarding further action.

- Burn barrels: Discussion was held regarding the attention given to the subject by the Sustainable La Crosse Commission, and a possible County-wide proposal. Doug Mormann will research the various township ordinances. Supervisor Hampson will talk to Supervisor Pedretti about the Town of Holland's approach to enforcement.
- Raw milk: Legislation regarding deregulation of food laws has been passed in both houses and is going to the Governor. **MOTION** by Billings/Wood to write a letter to the Governor to encourage him not to approve the raw milk bill. **Motion carried unanimously.** Brockmiller excused.
- Public breastfeeding: The legislation will probably pass without controversy.
- Beer and Alcohol Taxes: Discussion was held regarding the cost of alcoholism vis-à-vis beer and alcohol taxes, and the number of deaths due to alcoholism

that could be prevented. General consensus was that it would be a slow process, just as taxing tobacco had been. It will be placed on the HHS Board's work plan for December, 2010.

- Tobacco products purchased for minors by adults: The bill will come back at the next session in a different form to direct keeping products away from places where children can access. It will be placed on the HHS Board's work plan for December, 2010.

BOARD EDUCATION

Policy, Practice and People of Public Health Nursing

Jeanne Melde, YMCA Child Care Director, spoke as both an organizer of H1N1 flu vaccination clinics and as a parent and recipient of H1N1 clinic services. She reported that the YMCA clinic was open to the community, and not just YMCA members. The YMCA's public education efforts resulted in parents making informed decisions.

POLICY ISSUES, CONTINUED

Changes in Wisconsin Works (W2)

Lorie Graff and Tom Miller reported that the W2 program's previous philosophy, whereby most customers were considered "job ready" and therefore not placed in W2, was held prior to the current recession. With the increase in unemployment, the state has shifted focus to making W2 a safety net program if an applicant cannot find a job within five days of losing employment, and has directed W2 agencies to place even those who may be "job ready" on W2 cash assistance. La Crosse County's funding had already been drastically cut, and is at the level of one fulltime person. They have submitted a funding proposal to the Wisconsin Department of Children & Family Services for two new Financial and Employment Planners and one Job Developer/Work Experience Site Developer. Discussion was held regarding the "working poor" who are employed in jobs where they can't make a living. Unemployed, lower-skilled persons are now competing for jobs with laid-off, college-educated persons. A proposal for enhanced funding to the La Crosse County W2 program is being prepared at the request of the Department of Children and Families and if approved will come back to the board as a resolution early this spring.

Budget for Crisis Assessment, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Center

Jerry Huber presented a Power Point review of statutory mandates under Chapter 51, the downsizing of inpatient mental health beds, and changes in state financing. He spoke about the role of the mental health mobile crisis unit, and the current continuum of care. He pointed out that the biggest cost is for placement in residential settings. He explained that the CARE Center total annual costs are projected at \$677,000, including wage and benefits for 13.5 contracted employees, facilities, and Tellurian administrative charges. In 2010, \$150,000 will be transferred from AODA inpatient, mental health inpatient, and Crisis Services budgets. Additional funds will need to come from a variety of sources, including MA crisis revenue, client fees, insurance revenue, and contributions from the community. He reported that he has spoken with stakeholders such as hospitals and law enforcement about monetary and in-kind contributions. On the federal level, the Bureau of Justice Assistance could be a source of continuous funding.

Mental Health Parity Legislation

Chair Hampson reported on a meeting with the editorial board of the *La Crosse Tribune* that went very well. Jerry Huber provided information on the Wellstone-Domenici Act, and three exemptions to compliance:

1. The Mental Health Parity Act does not apply to small employers of two to 50 employees;
2. Large group health plans that can show increases in their health costs of at least 1% can opt out of MHPA requirements;
3. A nonfederal government employer may opt out of notifying enrollees if it provides self-funded group coverage.

La Crosse County as an employer will not opt out of federal mental health parity, but the City of La Crosse will do so. Wisconsin is one of only nine states without a mental

health parity law. The Wisconsin Senate voted in favor of mental health parity in January and the Assembly bill is due to be heard in February.

The 3 E's of Reinventing Service Delivery in Human Services

Jerry Huber reported on the "Three E's" of focus in examining service delivery with regard to the development of the CARE center, the Aging & Disability Resource Center, Economic Support, and Chemical Health & Justice Sanctions. He identified the "Three E's" as:

1. Entry or eligibility for services;
2. Effectiveness or evidence based types of services;
3. Exit or discharge strategies to reintegrate customers.

He reported that there are too many entering the system and not enough funding, and they need to do a better job of evaluating services and creating better exit strategies.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Health Department Written Director's Report

Human Services Written Director's Report

Questions were asked and answered on Healthy Family's funding, and the status of Home Health Nursing.

MOTION by Wood/Konkel to receive and file the Directors' reports as provided by the Health Director and Human Services Director. **Motion carried unanimously.** Brockmiller excused.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Billings/Konkel to receive and file the following consent Agenda items.

Motion carried unanimously. Brockmiller excused.

Minutes

Health and Human Services Board 1/12/10

Criminal Justice Management Council 12/16/09

Coulee Region Childhood Obesity Coalition 1/12/10

Mental Health Advisory Council 1/15/10

Dental Care Advocacy Committee 1/25/10

Fiscal

Health Department Contracts

Vendor Audit Compliance Report

Department Reports

Quarterly Fiscal (handout) and Activity Report – Health

Department Summary for 2009 – Health

Department Summary for 2009 – Human Services

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None requested.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Kannenberg/Trapp to adjourn to the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Approved, March 9, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder