

## **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Administrative Center – Room 3220

6:30 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sharon Hampson, Jill Billings, James Glasser, Loren Kannenberg, David Trapp, Margaret Wood

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Bill Feehan, Monica Kruse

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bill Brockmiller

**STAFF & GUESTS:** Jason Witt, Doug Mormann, Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Dean Ruppert, Al Graewin, Nick Nichols, Marilyn Hempstead, Sarah Spah, Lorie Graff, Jessie Brown, Lindsey Voss, Jacqueline Calkins, Brianna Lyke

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **November County Board Action**

The Resolution Re: Evidence Based Public Health Services carried. The 2011 County budget was approved.

#### **Board Members Report on Conferences/Meetings/Workshops**

None reported.

#### **Board Performance Evaluation**

HHS Board members were asked to complete evaluations and turn in to the Chair.

#### **2012 Meeting Dates**

A list of 2012 meeting dates was provided.

#### **Legislative Breakfast re: Income Maintenance on December 16 from 9:00-11:00 AM in HHS Building Basement Auditorium**

A list of invited Senate and Assembly representatives was provided.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None requested.

### **BOARD EDUCATION**

#### **Policy, Practice, People of Open Air Burning**

Al Graewin presented the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) on open burning in La Crosse County. The HIA was funded with a grant from the Wisconsin Bureau of Environmental Health. The report covered several areas: Screening stakeholder involvement; determining the scope of health impacts; assessing risks and benefits; reporting results of the assessment to municipal entities; and monitoring decision-making processes and health policy outcomes. Jacqueline Calkins reported on mixed results in gathering data from townships and municipalities: Out of 18 districts, six did not return the survey they were provided, and follow-up phone calls yielded only minimal results from non-responding townships. Nick Nichols spoke about the ordinances in place in the Towns of Onalaska and Holland. He stated fire chiefs are in charge of enforcement, which could be a model for all townships since it addresses cost savings from fewer fire calls. He stated that the Solid Waste Department has an interest in waste security and seeing all waste materials disposed of safely at the landfill. An educational campaign, funded by the Solid Waste Department, has created awareness of the contaminants contained in garbage, and the harmful effects of emitting benzene, formaldehyde, and dioxins into the environment. Chair Hampson encouraged involving fire chiefs in all townships and making the Holland ordinance available to them. Further discussion was held regarding help from County Board supervisors in talking to township officials, providing educational materials with burn permits, and staff re-allocation to wage an educational campaign. The Department Director will bring to the Board recommendations for the educational campaign to reduce the hazards of open air burning for their consideration.

### **Income Maintenance Regional Consortium Update**

Jason Witt reported that the outstanding issues in the contract negotiations between the state and counties with regards to Income Maintenance consortia appear to be resolved. It seems likely we will have an income maintenance contract between the new Western Region for Economic Assistance (WREA) and the State before we begin operations on January 1, 2012. During the negotiations the State did either accept or move towards the counties' negotiating position in several areas, including the State sharing of FoodShare bonus dollars. Our consortium is currently participating in a pilot of the central document processing that will be performed by the State for all consortia beginning January 1, 2012.

### **State Medicaid Changes**

Jason Witt and Lorie Graff reported on proposed Medicaid changes and cuts. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is seeking a waiver of federal "maintenance of effort" requirements relating to Medicaid (MA) that would allow it to make various changes in the BadgerCare program. These changes are aimed at reducing the State's Medicaid deficit by making various modifications in BadgerCare eligibility, coverage and co-pays. If the Federal Government denies the waiver, the State Biennial Budget requires DHS to reduce the income limit for BadgerCare to 133 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL), from the current 200 percent.

There are varying opinions as to which scenario (federal approval or denial of the DHS Waiver) is least attractive. Counties have by and large been counting on approval of the waiver to avoid having to assume financial responsibility for what is expected to be a large number of individuals with mental health issues who are above 133 percent of the FPL and who would lose coverage if the waiver is denied. On the other hand, at least one advocacy organization is recommending that the federal government deny the waiver. Their stance is based at least partially on an analysis showing that an overall greater number of individuals would lose coverage, including those from vulnerable populations, under the DHS plan.

Witt reported that the Family Policy Board plans to write a letter to the community which will point out that, under either scenario, limiting access to health care is not a solution to reducing Medicaid costs, but rather to focus on prevention. It will also point out the impacts to the local economy and taxpayers of trying to find MA savings "the wrong way." The Family Policy Board has also discussed holding a press conference in conjunction with the letter's release.

### **Health Department Accreditation Domain 12 – Maintain Capacity to Engage Public Health Governing Body**

Doug Mormann reported that Domain 12 requires education of the HHS Board. Mormann covered the three standards in the domain, and gave examples of actions to fulfill those standards:

- Maintain current operations definitions and statements of public health roles, responsibility and authorities: Provide information about what statutes are and what the administrative code says, and provide description of operations, e.g. director's report, quarterly report, and annual report.
- Provide information to the governing entity regarding public health and the official responsibilities of the health department and the governing entity: Communicate responsibilities of the public health department, and communicate responsibilities of the governing entity, e.g. the orientation manual provided to each HHS Board member.
- Encourage governing entity's engagement in the public health department's overall obligations and responsibilities: Provide information about important public health issues; track actions taken by the governing entity, e.g. actions taken on raw milk and smoke free environments, and potential action on frac sand mining health impacts; and communicate with the governing entity re assessment of the health department's performance, e.g. results of audits and assessments.

Mormann stated he feels the Health Department and HHS Board are exceeding the standards, but suggested a strategic plan for feedback and adjustments of their work plan.

### **Proposed 2012 HHS Board Work Plan**

A grid of agenda items and board education topics for 2012 was distributed. Chair Hampson asked for any omissions. Community needs assessment will be added in February.

### **POLICY**

#### **Recognition of La Crosse County Child Death Review Team**

Sarah Spah reported that the Child Death Review (CDR) Team will review all causes of potentially preventable child deaths. Among those causes may be child abuse and neglect, but is not exclusive to those causes. Their objectives will be as follows: Identify and report causes of every child death with emphasis on prevention; improve communication and coordination of agency responses to child death; implement standardized guidelines for investigation of certain deaths; and identify needed legislation, policy and practices to expand prevention efforts. The state requires county government recognition of a CDR team in order to share confidential information. Spah reported they will go through a full year of team reviews and look at what is being done in the community, gaps that may exist, trends that may exist, and parent and grandparent education. The HHS Board asked to receive regular updates on the Team's work and recommendations for activities that could be undertaken to prevent child deaths for their consideration. **MOTION** by Glasser/Billings to recognize the Child Death Review Team. **Motion carried unanimously.** Feehan, Kruse excused; Brockmiller absent.

### **DIRECTOR REPORTS**

#### **Health Department Written Director's Report**

#### **Human Services Written Director's Report**

**MOTION** by Wood/Glasser to approve the Director Reports. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Feehan, Kruse excused; Brockmiller absent.

Doug Mormann will bring to a future meeting information on HHS Board questions regarding licensing of a commercial animal establishments, an increase in 500 Club participating restaurants, the Fit Families program, metrics used to determine progress in the Strong Seniors program, and community needs for an additional homeless shelter.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Wood/Glasser to receive and file the following Consent Agenda items. **Motion carried unanimously.** Feehan, Kruse excused; Brockmiller absent.

#### **Minutes**

Health and Human Services Board 11/8/11

Labor/Management 10/25/11

Criminal Justice Management Council 10/19/11

Mental Health Recovery Services Advisory Council 11/10/11

Mental Health Advisory Council (consumer entity) 11/18/11

#### **Fiscal**

Human Services Quarterly Report on Budget Benchmarks

Vendor Audit Compliance Report

Essential Services Contract: Al Graewin provided further information on budget adjustments that have occurred. Supervisor Billings asked for a report to come back to the HHS Board if adjustments occur in 2012.

### **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Commercial animal establishment licensing

Ophelia's House

Family Care waiver and Medicare waiver

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Kannenberg/Billings to adjourn the meeting to the next meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2012. **Motion carried unanimously.** Feehan, Kruse excused; Brockmiller absent. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

**APPROVED**, January 10, 2012, Margaret Norden, Recorder.