

FAMILY POLICY BOARD

Monday, January 4, 2021

Meeting Held via Zoom

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kristi Arenz, Karolee Behringer, Katie Berkedal, Nicole Brei, Hetti Brown, Mandy Bisek, Megan DeVore, Gloria Doyle, Lisa Duncanson, Isaac Hoffman, Lauren Journot, Ann Kappauf, Jane Klekamp, Catherine Kolkmeier, Sue Mathison, Vie Matty, Barbara McPeak, Melisa Myers, Heidi Odegaard, Roberto Partarrieu, Heather Quackenboss, Ryan Stotts, Bridget Todd-Robbins, Tina Tryggestad, Jodi Widuch, Jason Witt, Mary Kay Wolf

GUESTS/OTHERS PRESENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ann Kappauf called the meeting to order at 12:02pm

The meeting began with members taking the “How would you rate the past week?” survey by Mentimeter at the request of Catherine Kolkmeier. Mentimeter (<https://www.mentimeter.com>) is a company that provides real-time polling tools for groups. This poll showed a snapshot in time of how members were feeling. Below are results for the instant feedback survey.



APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Roberto Partarrieu, seconded by Jodi Widuch to approve the December 7, 2020 minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES

HHS Board Update: Tina Tryggestad – the only action was to authorize the state opioid response funding, which passed. Funding significantly increased from last year, allowing us to add a full time case manager position to help with coordinating treatment.

HS Director Update: Jason Witt – in 2020 there were a lot of changes and we are really looking forward to 2021. Thank you to the County Board and policy makers for getting the additional services available that were needed. We will use what we've learned in 2020 to help us in 2021 to be close with the community and strengthen our community partnerships.

Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS) Section Update – Jason Witt shared with the group that the intake process has been revised to make it more streamlined for those that use the children with mental health and disability services. The number that people should use to make referrals is 608-784-HELP (4357). Someone from ISRS will be here in future months to explain more about this change.

PRESENTATION:

State Biennial Budget & Policy Priorities of Advocacy Organizations and Local Stakeholders (Jason Witt & Hetti Brown)

Jason Witt shared a PowerPoint with the group, which can be found here:

<https://www.lacrossecounty.org/humanservices/docs/Family%20Policy%20Board/01%20004%202021%20Witt%20PowerPoint.pdf>

- Activities & Timeline
 1. January-March – Priority/Proposal Development
 2. April-June – Press Conference, Biennial Legislative Meeting and Letters to Governor & Joint Finance
- Preliminary Priorities from the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA)
 1. Child Protective Services Subsidized Guardianships – Transfer payment responsibility for subsidized guardianships from counties to the state in a manner similar to the adoption assistance program.
 2. Youth Justice Corrections Alternatives – Remove the cap on the number of youth who can be served by local correction alternative programs (365/180 day programs), like the program administered by La Crosse County.
 3. Juvenile Court Jurisdiction for 17-Year Olds – Transfer jurisdiction over 17-year-old youth to the youth justice system and create a sum sufficient appropriation to fully cover the costs.
 4. Birth to Three Funding
 - Maintain the increased funding provided in the 2019-21 state biennial budget.
 - Provide a \$4 million increase in the Birth to 3 state GPR allocation in the first year of the budget.
 - Provide a three percent increase to the allocation in the second year of the biennium.
 5. Mental Health Crisis Services – Options to consider include: Creation of regional crisis stabilization facilities; Additional funding for crisis services; *Creation of regional emergency detention beds; Create access to a centralized log and inpatient bed tracking system; Allow individuals to maintain Medicaid while in county jails, and Develop crisis response coaches who can provide in-home crisis stabilization for youth and adults.*
 6. Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Program – Eliminate the maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement for counties in the CLTS program that has an inequitable impact on counties like La Crosse for previous local investments in this program.
 7. Income Maintenance Administration Allocation (IMAA) – Support the increases proposed by the Department of Health Services for FY22 (\$3.6 Mil) and FY23 (\$5.2 Mil). If caseloads rise higher than projected, adjustments should be made to the funding amounts. Increase the IMAA to support the costs of Medicaid expansion.
- Other Notable Proposals from State Agencies - The Department of Children and Families has a \$12 million proposal to create infrastructure to support evidence based services to keep children in the child welfare system with their families and prevent out of home placement. Future support and expansion would come from Federal IV-E dollars. Components include:
 1. 2.0 FTE State Staff to provide technical assistance and system support to counties and provider agencies.
 2. Resource Pool for direct family supports.
- Other Community Issues
 1. Resources for Home Visiting Services
 2. Resources & Options for Children & Youth Complex Needs

Hetti Brown shared with the group information on the COVID stimulus package that will be coming to our community and suggested that we think about how to advocate for where those funds should go. She also shared with us the Wisconsin Community Action Program Association (WISCAP) agenda that lists the state and federal priorities, which can be found here:

<https://www.lacrossecounty.org/humanservices/docs/Family%20Policy%20Board/01%20004%202021%20WISCAP%20Legislative%20Agenda.pdf>

Small Group Discussion on Development of Family Policy Board Policy Priorities

- We broke out into small groups (5 per group) and were asked to discuss the following questions.
 1. Of the items you learned about today, which do you feel most strongly about including as a priority for Family Policy Board advocacy? Of these, is there any information your agency has (data, anecdotal, etc.) that could help make the case to our legislators?
 2. What other issues that were not discussed today would you like to see prioritized?
 3. Are there a slate of issues from an advocacy organization you are connected with that you would like to present during a future month's Family Policy Board meeting?
- We ran short on time, but there will be time for more discussion at future meetings.

AGENCY ROUNDTABLE – No updates

ADJOURNMENT TO THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021, AT NOON

Chairperson Ann Kappauf adjourned the meeting at 12:57pm.

Approved February 1, 2021, Tiffany Cornell, Recorder