

FAMILY POLICY BOARD

Monday, April 1, 2019

Health & Human Services Building – Basement Auditorium

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tita Yutuc, Kristi Arenz, Sue Mathison, Heather Quackenboss, Tracy Puent, Jenni Loging, Megan Devore, Jane Klekamp, Gloria Doyle, Mary Kay Wolf, Catherine Kolkmeier, Chris Crye, Elizabeth Wright, Sharon Hampson, Mark Shaw, Hetti Brown, Jane Klekamp, Jodi Widuch, Barbara Mc Peak, Katie Berkdal, Lacie Kettlehut

GUESTS/OTHERS PRESENT

Audra Martine, Amanda Mather – Business Coordinator for Essential Health Clinic

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Tita Yutuc called the meeting to order at 12:00pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hetti Brown and Mary Kay Wolf to approve the March 4, 2019 minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES

HHS Board Update: Sharon Hampson

The county board is following the coverage of the measles epidemic across the country and the Governor's recently released budget. The City of La Crosse awarded \$50,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative.

HS Director Update: Audra Martine

Audra Martine attended in lieu of Jason Witt. Audra shared that La Crosse County Human Services is at the beginning phase of a department-wide initiative to become a trauma responsive agency (TRA). As an introduction to some trauma informed care concepts, interested staff are currently reading "Trauma Stewardship" by Laura Van Dernoot Lipsky and participating in brown bag lunch discussions. We anticipate that the TRA initiative will impact every area of our agency (from physical environment such as lobby appearance, to staff education and support to service provision).

Family and Children's Section Update: Tracy Puent

Department of Children and Families Secretary Emilie Amundson visited La Crosse County Human Services last week. She spent the majority of a day with us and, among other things, held "town hall" like listening sessions with child protective services and juvenile justice staff.

FUTURES PLANNING AND ADVOCACY - SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Small groups were formed for the purpose of discussing what OUR state budget priorities are and how we can best use board time to advocate for attention to them.

Criteria for consideration of our time use towards a budget item:

1. Our local voice can add to the discussion and be impactful in winning approval
2. It fits within at least one of the Family Policy Boards children, youth or family concerns
3. We can articulate specific and significant benefits to Family Policy Board agencies and the community we serve

4. It includes a balance of items important to our diverse membership

Suggested legislative advocacy activities:

- Invite area legislators to our May or June meeting
- Send letters from the chair of the Family Policy Board to the Co-chairs of the joint finance committee
- Attend joint finance committee public hearings

A list of Wisconsin County Human Service Association (WCHSA) and Wisconsin Association of Family and Children's Agencies (WAFCA) priority items was reviewed. Handouts were provided listing focus items for the Human Services Day at the Capitol. Some of these focus items include:

- Investments to increase the number of families benefiting from home visiting supports
- Increase funding by 30 million dollars for child protective services
- Increase funding for a variety of homeless prevention programs
- Expand school mental health services
- Return 17-year olds to the juvenile justice system from the adult system

Small group discussion questions

1. How do you see these items benefiting our community if they were approved in the budgets?
2. Are there budget items you would like to see either added or removed from the list?
3. Are any items listed ones your organization would prefer not to be associated with supporting?
4. What ideas do you have for structuring the upcoming Family Policy Board legislative meetings?

Feedback from the small groups was provided to the larger group. Substance abuse and mental health issues were requested as priority items to add to the focus of the Family Planning Board. Tita requested that we get a scope of practice from all agencies involved at Family Policy Board. This will help describe who we are as a coalition as we go forward and support the issues we have identified. To do this we need each agency to supply the number of clients served last year and a descriptor of service provided i.e. prevention, early intervention and treatment programming.

AGENCY ROUNDTABLE

Festival Foods will be holding a low stimulation hour of shopping at their Village location from 9:00 – 10:00 AM on April 2nd in recognition of World Autism Awareness Day

Next grant requests are due on April 15th to the La Crosse Community Foundation

April is child abuse prevention month

May is foster parent awareness month

May is mental health awareness month

ADJOURNMENT TO THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019, AT NOON

Chairperson Tita Yutuc adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm.

Approved May 6, 2019, Rachel Klistai, Recorder