



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, November 8, 2017 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 8, 2017, in the 3RD Floor Conference room at the Rock County Health Care Center, Janesville, Wisconsin.

Committee Members Present: Chair Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Karl Dommershausen, Supervisor (in at 4:31 p.m.); Shirley Williams, Citizen Representative; Terry Thomas, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Linda Garrett, Supervisor; Terry Fell, Supervisor; and Ashley Kleven, Citizen Representative (in at 4:34 p.m.).

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Phil Boutwell, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Division Manager; and Tim Zuehlke, Controller.

Others Present:

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Fell moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Williams. The agenda as amended was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of October 25, 2017: Supervisor Thomas moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Fell. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: None.

Submission of Committee Requests: Supervisor Schulz asked about her previous agenda item requests. Ms. Luster will contact Supervisor Schulz to clarify what she is asking, as we do not have anything concrete to report on those items.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved two contracts to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Fell. Ms. Mooren provided information about both contracts and responded to questions about the location of the facilities. Ms. Luster advised there is a lot of discussion right now around mental health residential care for youth. Wisconsin does not have a facility for this type of care. Youth Villages is serving many youth from Wisconsin and five are from Rock County. We need a facility like Youth Villages in Wisconsin. The State understands the need for this type of facility and is taking action to open the door to create a facility in Wisconsin. In the meantime, we are sending youth there and have had good outcomes for youth with complex needs who have been placed there. Youth Villages does have different levels of care and has transitioned youth to lower levels of care and back to Wisconsin. The contracts were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Review of Bills: Mr. Zuehlke highlighted the Department of Health Services entries which were for HSD's share for Family Care.

Cultural Competency Update: Ms. Luster updated the Board on where HSD is on the effort to initiate and integrate diversity and inclusion within the Department. Ms. Luster advised we are and contracting with Mr. Perry from Community Action to provide the training. During the month of October all HSD leadership attended three sessions with Mr. Perry. We focused on the state of the Department in regards to Diversity, and assessed where we are as a Department. We talked about foundational information around cultural competency and implicit bias within organizations. We moved toward creating a vision as a leadership team, which we will be completing. The next step is training all direct supervisors and both trainings are in November. Mr. Perry will share information from the leadership trainings and work on skills for a diverse climate with the direct supervisors. The next trainings to take place will be eight duplicate sessions in December for all staff to attend one session. By the end of this year everyone in the Department will have this training, but it is not ending there. We want to look at policies and processes, interviews, and position descriptions to create a better infrastructure. Ms. Luster will forward the presentations given by Mr. Perry to the HSD Board members, and invited Board members to attend a training in December if interested.

Evidence Based Decision Making Initiative Update: Ms. Luster advised Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM) is an effort aimed to improve the criminal justice system throughout Rock County, using data and research to make decisions and to maximize the effectiveness of systems. One key EBDM initiative is the mental health flag project that shares mental health information with law enforcement. The Janesville Police Department has piloted the project and now has an indicator in their system that flags an officer when an individual has mental illness and tips on how to approach the individual. The idea is to expand this across the county. The Janesville Police Department is providing training to train the trainer for every law enforcement agency in the County to learn about this and take back to their agency to implement. This has been a collaboration with many agencies. Ms. Luster provided an example of a recent incident with the Beloit Police Department in which the mental health flag helped divert a potential state institute placement. A concrete product of the initiative is an MOU signed by all law enforcement agencies, Human Services, Corp Counsel, District Attorney's Office, Public Defenders office, and the Department of Corrections. All agreeing that the purpose of this mental health flagging system is to help improve outcomes for people with mental health illness and not to misuse information.

There are other EBDM areas of focus that Human Services is not directly involved in that Ms. Luster shared. The Pre-charge Diversion program works to divert low risk offenders from involvement in the criminal justice system. Through the use of an evidence based risk assessment tool it is determined if someone is low risk to recidivate. Low risk individuals can be diverted out of the criminal justice system and charges are not on their record. Research shows the longer someone who is low risk is incarcerated their risk increases. Ms. Luster provided more detail on the pre-charge diversion process, and responded to questions.

There is a pilot related to Pre-trial and working to eliminate the lack of fairness with the money base system for bond and bail. There are individuals who are high risk to reoffend but have money so they can get out on bail, and there are individuals who are low risk to offend who do not have money and end up in jail pending court. Using evidence based decision making at the time of booking to determine risk, instead of money, to decide if someone is released or held before trial.

The Enhanced Deferred Prosecution Program takes individuals who are low to medium risk and gives them a chance to have charges reduced or dropped if they engage in treatment or education. Driving these pilots is criminal genetic data screening. A lot of work has been done on all these workgroups to advance these efforts. Ms. Luster responded to questions.

Due to the next meeting falling on the evening before Thanksgiving the Board decided to change the meeting to Monday, November 20, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 20, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., in the 3rd Floor Conference room at the Rock County Health Care Center, Janesville, Wisconsin.

Adjournment: Supervisor Thomas motioned to adjourn, seconded by Citizen Representative Kleven with unanimous approval at 5:10 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

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