

**Ashland County Health & Human Services Board Meeting  
Sanborn Building – Oredock Room  
November 20, 2013 4:15 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Clarence Campbell, Norman Couture, Joan Haukaas, Joyce Kabasa, Gary Kabasa, Laura Kruse, Jim Oakley, Pat Ortman

**Excused:** Ruth Johnson, A. Koeller, Charles Ortman

**Unexcused:** None

**Others:** Linda Bailey, Terry Barningham, Jeff Beirl, Dana Denker, Peter Herlevi, Bev Patterson, Terri Perry, Judy Putnam, Tami Tolliver, Cyndi Zach

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by C. Campbell at 4:15 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the June 2013 Board Meeting were reviewed as there was not a quorum at the September 2013 board meeting.

**P. Ortman made a motion to approve the June 2013 minutes. Seconded by L. Kruse. Motion carried.**

The minutes of the September 2013 Board Meeting were reviewed.

**J. Kabasa made a motion to approve the September 2013 minutes. Seconded by L. Kruse. Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**WRITTEN DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

None

**BIRTH TO THREE PRESENTATION – PRIMARY COACHING PLAN**

Dana Denker and Linda Bailey gave a presentation of the Birth to Three Primary Coaching Plan for Ashland County HHSD. Birth to Three is a federally mandated program that serves children who have been identified by their physician as needing physical, occupational or speech therapy. Children may be served through this program until their third birthday. Parents are taught in their homes how to interact and work with their children to best help them with their particular developmental needs. Each case is handled by a team of specialists but each family typically has a primary coach identified on their team.

Linda and Dana presented a case study illustrating the Primary Coach model. In addition, a handout was provided in the board folders further detailing this approach. J. Haukaas asked about how often the primary coach visits the home. Dana answered that the frequency varies based on the needs of the child and his or her family. P. Ortman and L. Kruse each shared personal experiences with the Birth to Three program and had high praise for the positive impact the program has had on the children in their cases.

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**FAMILY CARE UPDATES**

T. Perry reported that the new Managed Care Organization (MCO) serving Ashland County beginning January 1, 2014, Community Care of Central Wisconsin (CCCW), has reportedly hired all but one of the NorthernBridges (NB) staff in the Ashland hub and will be maintaining an office in Ashland.

T. Barningham stated that the transition from NB to CCCW has been quite seamless thus far and that the state has been closely tracking client transitions to avoid degradation of services to clients. Of the 150 people CCCW hired to serve the MCO region, 110 are former NB employees; this should allow for minimal disruption from the client's perspective as clients for the most part should initially be working with staff that they are already familiar with. This change in MCO is viewed as a positive by the Ashland County HHSD as CCCW appears to be very member-centric, has a track record of high performance, and offers additional services beyond the required benefit package in cases where a member could benefit from these additional services.

**FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES GRANT**

C. Zach gave an update on the Family Planning Services Grant. The current grant cycle ends in 2015. Applications are submitted in 2014 for the next grant cycle. C. Zach believes that Ashland County Public Health can provide better service and outreach than the current provider is delivering in Ashland County. The need for these services appears great: Ashland County has one of the highest teen pregnancy rates in the state and the number of unwed mothers and cases of Chlamydia are on the rise in the county. The grant will fund approximately 15% of the operating cost of the program with the balance being billable, in large part to Medicaid.

T. Perry added that this program would tie in well with other existing Public Health programs and outreach activities such as prenatal care coordination and communicable disease follow up. Dr. Koeller and Dr. Dryer have voiced strong support for Public Health delivering these services. P. Ortman asked to what extent abortion services would be required. C. Zach replied that Public Health will be required to provide information, but no different information than Public Health is already required to provide.

<p><b>J. Kabasa made a motion that Public Health move forward with the process. Seconded by L. Kruse. Motion carried.</b></p>
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**PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION PROGRESS**

C. Zach reported that a Public Health Infrastructure Grant has been applied for but not yet awarded. This grant would provide \$10,000 for Public Health to continue forward with the accreditation process.

**WHEAP PROGRAM STATUS (ENERGY ASSISTANCE)**

T. Tolliver distributed the final statistics for the 2012-13 heating season. Applications for the current heating season (2013-14) are being submitted at a high rate – the number of applications received is already at approximately 50% of the number of applications received for the entire 2012-13 heating season. The Federal government shutdown delayed energy

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assistance payments – the first batch of payments for the current heating season was processed just last week. This delay resulted in high call volumes at Ashland County HHSD.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES TEAM GRANT UPDATES**

T. Perry explained that this grant allows families to develop their own teams to help them help their children with (mostly mental health) diagnoses, rather than relying solely on Ashland County HHSD personnel.

Ashland County has been one of nineteen counties in the state receiving this funding; now the funding will be made available statewide. This expansion will not affect Ashland County HHSD funding for this program in 2014, but funding for 2015 and beyond has not yet been decided. It is estimated that ACHHSD could lose up to \$18,000 of this funding if the decision is made to distribute funds evenly across all counties for 2015 and beyond.

L. Kruse shared that she is seeing an increasing number of mental health issues at the high school and the middle school and wondered if this is an identified trend. C. Zach replied that yes it is; it crosses socioeconomic lines and the causes are difficult to identify.

**WYALUSING PLACEMENT TRANSITION**

T. Perry reported that Wyalusing Academy, a residential care facility that Ashland County HHSD has contracted with, closed on November 8. A Wyalusing resident developed serious health issues after being restrained. The state investigated and notified counties with residents staying at Wyalusing. The capacity at Wyalusing was 80 residents and they lost 40 residents in 10 days after counties were notified and so could not generate the revenue to continue operations. An ACHHSD client was a resident at Wyalusing and has been moved to another residential care facility.

**COORDINATED COMMUNITY SERVICES**

T. Perry communicated that the state is still planning to expand the Coordinated Community Services (CCS) program statewide. Ashland County HHSD has formed a consortium with Bayfield County as this is a condition for eligibility for this funding. New Horizons North has been included as the provider of the mental health services for our CCS program. There are some concerns about the adequacy of funding for this cost based statewide expansion. Funding is to be available July 1, 2014.

CCS is a mental health program similar to the Community Support Program (CSP), but for clients with less significant mental health issues than those who qualify for CSP. T. Barningham added that CCS is an excellent program for keeping mental health clients stable who don't rise to the level of CSP.

**J. Kabasa made a motion that ACHHSD move forward with the process in conjunction with Bayfield County. Seconded by P. Ortman. Motion carried.**

**DRUG ENDANGERED CHILD PROGRAM MOU AND PROTOCOL**

J. Putnam recapped a situation from earlier in 2013 that involved young children living in a home where methamphetamine was being manufactured. Many local entities cooperated in

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addressing this situation, including removing the children from the home. Much was learned but it became clear that Ashland County had no real protocol for these types of instances.

In moving toward a defined protocol, Ashland County HHSD co-sponsored a day of training on November 7 entitled Drug Identification and Drug Endangered Children (DEC.) The three presenters were content experts from throughout Wisconsin. The training was well attended by representatives from multiple local entities.

This MOU and protocol are still a work in process, but goals include:

- Establish clearly defined roles and responsibilities for these situations for all entities involved, e.g. ACHHSD, law enforcement, medical personnel and hospital, Public Health, etc.
- Organization and education across agencies and functions
- Coordinated responses moving forward including documentation appropriate for moving for conviction of the responsible parties

**COMPAS ASSESSMENT USAGE IN JUVENILE JUSTICE**

J. Putnam introduced COMPAS, a computer-based assessment tool that the ACHHSD Children & Families Unit will be using for juvenile justice cases. Ashland County will incur no cost for the tool or for training on the use of the tool.

**PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGIC PLAN**

C. Zach included the Public Health Five Year Strategic Plan in the board packet. The plan is also available on the Ashland County website and on the Public Health facebook page.

**ECONOMIC SUPPORT CONSORTIA UPDATES**

T. Perry reported that the rollout of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) has not gone smoothly thus far. Information coming to the consortium workers is inconsistent and changing frequently. Policy changes at the state level regarding BadgerCare have caused confusion and unforeseen complications with computer system functionality.

T. Tolliver shared that call volume has been lower than expected to date but is expected to spike after the first of the year. Consequently, previously denied vacation days are being granted and full time Ashland County ES workers who volunteered to work 40 hours per week rather than 35, are being temporarily cut back to 35 hours per week until call volume increases.

**REAPPOINTMENT OF LAURA KRUSE, COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE**

**J. Kabasa made a motion to reappoint Laura Kruse for another term on the ACHHSD Board. Seconded by J. Oakley. Motion carried.**

**BOARD MEMBER RECRUITMENT – MEDICAL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE**

T. Perry reported that Ruth Johnson will be finishing out 2013 and then resigning from the ACHHSD Board. A medical community representative replacement will be recruited.

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**RECOGNITION OF JUDY PUTNAM AND RUTH JOHNSON**

C. Campbell read two resolutions recognizing Judy Putnam and Ruth Johnson and thanking them for their years of service to Ashland County HHSD.

**J. Kabasa made a motion to approve the resolution re Ruth Johnson. Seconded by J. Haukaas. Motion carried.**

**J. Kabasa made a motion to approve the resolution re Judy Putnam. Seconded by G. Kabasa. Motion carried.**

Resolutions were signed by present board members.

**STAFFING UPDATES**

- Alison Spaude-Filipczak is now the BIRT coordinator.
- Kerrey Poole has been hired to manage the mentoring program.
- Carol McAuliffe is resigning as GAIN administrator for the drug court programs effective December 8. Diane Heapy may have an interest in filling this position.
- Mary Ann Maple will be moving from part-time to full-time in Child Support as budgeted in the 2014 budget.
- Joslin Anderson has been hired as a .5 FTE Clerical LTE to support the Northern IM Consortium.

**BOARD MEMBER MINING UPDATES**

T. Perry discussed the Human Health Hazard Ordinance vis-à-vis the ability to stop the mining process. T. Perry and C. Zach do not believe that the ordinance gives the Public Health Officer the authority to stop mining operations unless and until it can be shown that the operations are causing a public health hazard. The ordinance has been submitted to The Network for Public Health Law, which will not render a legal opinion but will provide talking points for discussion with corporate counsel.

The Wisconsin Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health has been contacted and feel it is doubtful that the ordinance is sufficient to be able to halt bulk sampling operations. The DNR is likely in the best position to stop these operations if appropriate. Rob Thiboldeaux and Mark Werner from the bureau have been invited to attend the February 2014 board meeting.

T. Perry, C. Zach and Ken Tuckwell from Public Health are scheduled to visit the mine site on December 4.

**WRITTEN MATERIALS**

The following written materials were provided to the Board. Please contact T. Perry if additional information is desired or follow up at a Board meeting requested.

- Children in Substitute Care
- Children & Family Access Statistics

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- Northern Income Maintenance Consortium Call Center Statistics – October
- ES/Consortium Supervisors Meeting Minutes – 10/22/13
- Public Nuisance Ordinance
- CCCW (Community Care of Central WI) Press Release – 11/5/13
- Chapter 51 – WI Mental Health Law Overview
- Future of Health Insurance in Wisconsin
- WI Death Rate Press Release – 10/14/13
- WCHSA Executive Board Meeting Minutes – 10/3/13
- DCF Updates for WCHSA Executive Board – 11/7/13
- DHS Updates for WCHSA Executive Board – 11/7/13
- ACHHSD Financials through September 2013

**BOARD MEMBER UPDATES/AGENDA ITEMS**

L. Kruse mentioned a Daily Press article from today's edition reporting that JC Moon is under federal investigation.

B. Patterson shared that fraudulent tax returns are on the rise and that Child Support has recently experienced the first case of this to affect a child support situation in Ashland County.

P. Ortman asked whether recent "home alert" phone calls being made to local residents was a scam. T. Barningham replied that yes, calls were being made recently by someone purporting to sell Lifeline-type services but that it has been determined to be a scam.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

<b>Vouchers were not available. P. Herlevi will coordinate with J. Beirl to have the vouchers approved by the county finance committee tomorrow.</b>
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**NEXT MEETING DATE**

February 19, 2014: General Board Meeting – Sanborn Building 4:15 pm

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Recorded by Peter Herlevi