

**Ashland County Health & Human Services Board Meeting
Sanborn Center
April 20, 2016 4:15 p.m.**

Members Present: Clarence Campbell, Joan Haukaas, Matthew Horning, A. Koeller, Laura Kruse, Ron Lockwood, Matt MacKenzie, Jim Oakley, Charles Ortman

Excused: None

Unexcused: J. Kabasa

Others: Linda Bailey, Terry Barningham, Jeff Beirl, Michael Cashman, Peter Herlevi, Bev Patterson, Terri Perry, 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 February 2016 Board Meeting were reviewed.

<p>J. Oakley made a motion to approve the February 2016 minutes. Seconded by M. Horning. Motion carried.</p>

PUBLIC COMMENTS

C. Ortman asked whether the county extension office could be notified when children are placed out-of-home to offer those children opportunities in 4H and similar organizations that might benefit the children. T. Perry responded that the children cannot be identified to the extension office due to confidentiality, but that ACHHSD workers could make the appropriate information about the various organizations available to the children who might benefit from it.

WRITTEN DEPARTMENT REPORTS / UPDATES

C. Zach reported that Public Health received a \$5,000 stipend to get a reproductive health “gateway” program started. The program will cover initial services such as contraceptive products, STI testing and treatment and pregnancy testing. Clients will then be enrolled in family planning only services for referral out to a private provider or health care clinic for ongoing consultation and/or treatment.

The Ashland School District has asked Public Health for assistance with its reproductive health and child development instruction. Public Health will begin assisting with teaching this curriculum in May.

Cyndi also distributed and gave a brief overview of the 2015-17 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for Ashland and Bayfield Counties, which was very recently completed.

The City of Ashland is considering rescinding the ordinance that prohibits the issuance of additional alcohol licenses in the city. Kwik Trip is potentially opening 2-3 stores in Ashland but has advised the city that it will not open stores unless those stores are allowed to sell beer. Cyndi requested the board’s support for a letter she will draft encouraging the city to

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maintain the existing ordinance, as rescinding it will have a negative impact on public health through increased access to alcohol. The CHIP data and goals will be cited for supporting documentation. Discussion ensued and the consensus was to urge the city council in a letter to consider not only the business perspective but the public health perspective as well due to grave concerns about increasing access to alcohol and consequently damaging the public health.

ADOLESCENT HEALTH UPDATES

T. Perry requested that Agenda Item 11 – Adolescent Health Updates – be moved up to this point in the meeting.

M. MacKenzie made a motion to move Agenda Item 11 up to this point in the meeting. Seconded by L. Kruse. Motion carried.

C. Zach introduced Michael Cashman as the newly hired Adolescent Health Grant Manager.

STAFFING UPDATES

Public Health Nurse Sara Wartman has accepted the position of Bayfield County Public Health Officer. The position in Ashland County that Sara is leaving will be advertised for and filled.

Economic Support/NIMC (Northern Income Maintenance Consortium) worker Kelly Maday has accepted a position with Ashland County Child Support in the courthouse. Kelly's position will be filled by Amy Picchietti. Amy has been with ACHHSD as an LTE for more than a year and has become a strong contributor to the Northern Income Maintenance Consortium. With Amy accepting this permanent full time position, the Economic Support Unit has no temporary employees at this time.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES UNIT PRESENTATION

T. Barningham, Children & Families Supervisor presented a high level overview of the unit. She stressed that with only 8 staff, each social worker has her/his main duties but multiple people are backing up multiple other people at any given time and so the workload is diverse. The unit has a cumulative total of 98.5 years of experience.

As the main intake/access worker for the unit, Jerry Esala, Social Worker II has the responsibility to be the first point of contact with possible child abuse or neglect situations. He gathers as much data as possible from the reporter in order to determine whether to send someone out to the scene and how quickly to get someone to that scene. For example, in the case of an injury a worker needs to get to the scene on that same day. Many factors go into determining a plan of action, including present danger, safety and the reporter's credibility. In addition, multiple statutes and standards must be reviewed to determine whether ACHHSD has jurisdiction to intervene in a particular case.

The information J. Esala has gathered and his recommendations then go through a supervisor. If it is determined that a Child Protective Services (CPS) investigator needs to go out to the scene, Alexa vanDonselaar, Social Worker I and Jennifer Frey, Social Worker I are

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the two primary CPS investigators at ACHHSD. The investigator will conduct interviews to determine whether or not abuse or neglect is presumed to have occurred. Great attention to detail is required as the investigator's reports are critical to the court proceedings.

The main ongoing worker is Janelle Moe. J. Moe, Social Worker III, works with families to try to eliminate any of the threats to the child and to carry out any court ordered actions or corrections. Whenever possible the goal is to safely reunify the child with the family. Options other than or leading up to reunification include establishing a guardianship, terminating parental rights or foster care.

The foster care coordinator is Erica Pydo, Social Worker, II. She licenses foster homes, conducts home studies and has monthly face to face contact with youth in out-of-home placement. E. Pydo is also a juvenile justice worker, basically serving as a probation officer for children under 17 years old who have committed crimes.

Abe Neuberger, Social Worker II splits his time between ongoing cases, juvenile justice work, and investigations. A. Neuberger is also a trained Service Facilitator for the Comprehensive Community Services program.

The in-home therapist at ACHHSD is Emily Ludwig, MSW, Social Worker II. Emily provides family therapy in-house, which is more cost effective than contracting with outside vendors and also increases access to therapy for families and reduces the likelihood of out-of-home placements. Much of Emily's time is spent in conjunction with families who have an ongoing or juvenile justice worker and helping to reunify families involved with out-of-home placements.

Laura Compton, Social Worker II is the Coordinated Services Team (CST) coordinator as well as a Service Facilitator for Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program. The CST program strives to help children with severe emotional/mental health diagnoses by coordinating the multiple care systems these children are involved with, keeping all parties on the same page with the children's treatment utilizing a teaming approach that prioritizes natural supports. CST primarily provides coordination of services, while CCS actually provides the mental health services.

ADRC/DEMENTIA FOLLOW-UP

L. Bailey reported that ACHHSD has completed the dementia-friendly business training. Decals have been placed on the entrance doors indicating that ACHHSD is a dementia-friendly business.

Linda has drafted a letter of endorsement intended to encourage other Ashland area businesses to go through the dementia-friendly business training also. This letter is signed by C. Campbell and was sent to the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber mentioned the training in its newsletter and sent the letter of endorsement to all of its members.

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2015 YEAR END EXPENDITURES

P. Herlevi briefly reviewed the 2015 full-year expenditures and revenues. ACHHSD finished the year approximately \$49,000, or 3%, below its levy budget.

WHEAP UPDATES

T. Tolliver distributed the latest WHEAP statistics. The current heating season comes to an end on May 15. This heating season 853 applications have been processed so far, which is down approximately 150 applications from last heating season. Using data from the state, Economic Support staff did a survey of households that applied last heating season but did not apply this heating season. Many households had moved, and others were able to afford LP at the lower prices of this heating season as compared to last.

Approximately \$17,000 was reallocated by the state for ACHHSD to use specifically for natural gas and electric heat clients at risk of being disconnected. The full allotment was used in helping these clients.

ADRC/IM INTEGRATION UPDATES

T. Perry shared that in 2015 the Wisconsin Department of Health Services was mandated to do a feasibility study of integrating Income Maintenance Consortia with the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) around the state. The results of the study have been released to the legislature and the determination is that a full integration is inappropriate but DHS is looking at possible ways to integrate technology and/or find efficiencies.

ADOLESCENT HEALTH UPDATES

This agenda item was moved up on the agenda and addressed earlier in the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH UPDATES

C. Zach reported that she, T. Perry and C. Campbell met with the Mayor, the City Administrator and the City Planner regarding the bedbug situation discussed at the February ACHHSD Board Meeting. The city administrative staff were apologetic for the city's initial response to the situation and wanted to improve future responses. A discussion was held regarding how to improve future handling of this type of situation and it appears that responses going forward will be appropriate.

Ashland County Sanitarian Ken Tuckwell will be retiring around Labor Day 2016. Internal discussions have begun regarding recruiting to fill the Sanitarian position.

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
- Income Maintenance Timeliness Dashboard
- Income Maintenance Ongoing Caseload Monitoring
- Income Maintenance On-Demand Statistics
- Income Maintenance Performance Snapshot

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- Children First State News Release
- CCCW Board Meeting Minutes – 2/24/16
- Methodology Summary Regarding Dementia in Wisconsin
- Methadone and Buprenorphine Use During Pregnancy
- WCHSA Executive Board Meeting Minutes – 3/3/16
- DCF Update for WCHSA Executive Board – 4/7/16
- DHS Update for WCHSA Executive Board – 4/7/16

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES/AGENDA ITEMS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

The Sanborn Center lobby has been reconfigured to comply with the statewide ADRC standards: a partition wall now separates the lobby into two distinct spaces, creating what amounts to a separate entrance to the ADRC office.

In a separate change, any cloth chairs in the lobby have been replaced with plastic and vinyl chairs in response to recent cases of bedbugs in the City of Ashland.

The slide-open customer service window has been replaced with a bullet resistant fixed glass window with a speak-through and pass-through tray. This improves receptionist safety as well as client confidentiality.

ACHHSD is developing a policy for workers making in-home visits to clients. The intent is to ensure worker safety to the extent possible in these situations. Discussion took place and board members provided input for this policy. An ad hoc committee is being formed and the policy will be distributed to the board when it is complete.

J. Oakley had heard that the attic of the courthouse – which currently is used for storage and houses some information technology equipment – may contain asbestos. J. Oakley's understanding is that the city building inspector has been made aware of the situation. J. Oakley asked whether anyone else in the meeting had any more information regarding this situation. J. Beirl mentioned that the courthouse building is old and is known to contain mostly encapsulated asbestos in some places, e.g. between the elevator doors and in some floor tiles. Jeff had heard about the attic and is in the process of identifying an appropriate organization to do a walkthrough of the courthouse.

T. Perry explained that ACHHSD and Bayfield County Department of Human Services are working thorough a disagreement with New Horizons North (NHN) the provider of services for the Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program for both counties. CCS is a program that reimburses 100% of allowable costs. NHN bills Medicaid (MA) for service hours and MA pays the counties a statewide standard rate per hour which is unrelated to the actual cost of any individual county. In 2015, this standard rate per hour was then passed through to NHN by the counties. Despite being told numerous times as the program was being implemented, as well as numerous times after implementation, that CCS was a cost-based

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program and any monies received in excess of costs would have to be returned, NHN is making the argument that it is entitled to more. ACHHSD has recouped the 2015 overpayment from NHN by withholding that amount from year to date 2016 CCS payments. ACHHSD is passing through 75% of 2016 MA payments to NHN to more closely approximate NHN actual costs. At this point this disagreement has not been resolved and the board will be kept apprised as the situation develops.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

<p>C. Ortman made a motion to approve the bills presented. Seconded by L. Kruse. Motion carried.</p>

NEXT MEETING DATE

June 15, 2016 at 4:15 pm: Ashland County Courthouse
Public Hearing & Organizational Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Recorded by Peter Herlevi