

**Kewaunee County Human Services Committee
County Board Room
810 Lincoln Street
December 10, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

Present for the meeting were Human Services Committee Chairperson Virginia Haske. Committee members, Linda Teske, Doak Baker, Joanne Lazansky, Mary Ann Szydel, Julie Janicsek, Matthew Piesler, Mark Buchanan, and Rose Quinlan virtually. Kewaunee County Administrator Scott Feldt. Department Managers Sue Norton, Corrine Konkol, Melissa Annoye, Brian Johnson, and Program Assistant Lynn Clark.

Absent/Excused – Paul Ravet, Tim Kinnard

This meeting was called to order by Chairperson Virginia Haske at 8:00 a.m.

A motion to approve the agenda as submitted was made by Doak Baker and seconded by Mary Ann Szydel. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2020 minutes was made by Julie Janicsek and seconded by Doak Baker. Motion carried.

No public comments.

Behavioral Health Unit Update - Department Manager Sue Norton began by reviewing her monthly report of program statistics noting that they would not be quite as accurate due to this committee meeting being held earlier in the month than usual. She also stated that the monthly stats were affected because of some staff members having to quarantine due to Covid. Sue went on to give updates on new Medicaid benefits regarding AODA (Alcohol and other Drug Abuse) Residential Treatment and card covered services, noting that this is a positive in the AODA world and will improve services to consumers. Also discussed was the status of consumers currently in residential treatment facilities, and the affect crisis placements have on the budget. There was also discussion on the increasingly negative impact the Covid pandemic, quarantines, increased isolation, etc., is having on people living with mental health issues. Sue reported that her program is working with local law enforcement and the Sheriff's department to try to collaborate on the response to individuals with mental health issues. The hope is to work together to work out a plan on how to best support these individuals to try to avoid hospitalizations whenever possible. Sue is also looking into possibly collaborating with Door County on some suicide prevention and education programs to try to stem the increased rate of suicides occurring in both counties.

Family and Community Unit Update – Department Manager Melissa Annoye began by giving a detailed review of the APS (Adult Protective Services) program. This was followed up with her review of the monthly program statistics handout provided. Melissa reported on the success of the recent financial audit completed for the CLTS (Children's Long Term Support) Program noting that there were no penalties issued. The CLTS Program is also continuing to work on the Waitlist Elimination Initiative. At this time, all of the consumers on the waitlist have been assigned to a case manager which puts caseloads at capacity. There is great concern regarding caseload within the unit because new referrals continue to come in. In the Birth to 3 Program, referrals are slightly down so things there are status quo. There is some campaigning happening through DHS at the State level to increase awareness of the program. Early in 2021, Melissa will be working on the annual program review for the Birth to 3 Program. In the CST (Coordinated Service Team) Program, there is some unused funding due to Covid, which will be utilized to fund a virtual training called Interviewing Child Victims with Disabilities available to all agency staff. For the Transportation Program, things are status quo and we continue to run at about half capacity with drivers and riders due to Covid. Melissa also noted that she, with the assistance of Director Feldt, is looking into a grant with the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation, in the hope of obtaining funding to support the cost of transportation for consumer needs being unmet through our program because of Covid. After Melissa finished her updates, Sue Norton addressed this committee regarding Melissa's staffing concerns, noting

that currently four of her staff are also assisting and trying to support the CLTS staff due to their workload being at capacity. She acknowledged that Melissa's staffing concerns are legitimate as we are already tapping into other unit supervising services and as the waitlist continues to grow.

Child Protection and Juvenile Justice Unit Update - Department Manager Corrine Konkol reviewed the monthly program numbers and case contacts for her unit noting that they have had their highest number of referrals in a month since the beginning of the pandemic, causing increased workloads for her staff. Contacts are down somewhat due to staffing because of Covid. Since September her staff has been reduced by at least one and a half if not two on a regular basis. As to out of home placements, Corrine is hoping to be down to two by the end of the month. Corrine has also submitted for the Promoting Safe and Stable Families, as well as the Targeted Safety Services State reimbursement. Corrine hopes to receive funding for respite and case management. She also noted that for Promoting Safe and Stable Families, her unit has made a bit of a switch and is focusing more on parenting. She believes that in order to keep placements down, we have to continue to enhance services for parents, targeting parent education. Corrine noted that funding for these goals is not guaranteed and she will continue to keep this committee updated on the status of the funding.

Human Services Financial Unit Update – Financial Manager Brian Johnson provided printouts and reviewed the monthly reports for general finance, billing, contract status, state aid, and vendor reports and also provided clarification to committee member queries when requested. Following Brian's presentation, there were committee comments and case manager input regarding the State's push to eliminate waitlists, funding provided for adding consumers to programs, and the ability of current staff to support case management services for these additions. There was also additional discussion on the issue of hiring contracted employees versus county employees, and the concern of how employee turnover of contracted employees affects current staff, budget, time spent on training, and also consumer outcome. Legal considerations were also discussed with Corp Counsel, Jeff Wisnicky.

Contract Reviews –. There was a motion made to approve the contracts as listed by Doak Baker and seconded by Joanne Lazansky. Motion carried.

In-Service - Cathy Ley, Director of the ADRC of the Lakeshore (Aging and Disability Resource Center) of Kewaunee and Manitowoc Counties, along with Corp Counsel, Jeff Wisnicky were present at this meeting to discuss the consolidation of the ADRC Committee and the Council on Aging Committees. Cathy provided information on the history of ADRC's, the State statues governing them, and how things are changing. She was notified in April that these two committees can be merged and would like to go ahead with that process. It was noted that there would be no change in services provided but would have a positive financial impact.

Approval of recommendation to merge Manitowoc County ADRC Committee with Kewaunee County Council on Aging Committee was made by Doak Baker and seconded by Linda Teske. Motion carried.

Human Services Director Update – Director Feldt reported that he would be beginning recruitment of a Human Services Director during the first quarter of 2021.

Other Items as Authorized by Law – None

The next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Joanne Lazansky and seconded by Doak Baker. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Clark
Program Assistant