

Aging and Disability Resource Center of Western Wisconsin

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, September 30, 2014

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Place: Vernon County Courthouse, County Board Room

Present:

Grady Gutnecht
Brian Logue
Jo Ann Nickelatti
Jim Rice
Dorothy Will
Richard Yarrington

Staff/Other Guests:

Dean Ruppert
Peggy Herbeck
Audra Martine
Pam Eitland
Todd Gunderson
Ron Hamilton
Jean Klousia
Sue Rettler
Beth Smetana
Jennifer Salisbury
Shelley Matson
Laura Groom

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Dean Ruppert, ADRC Director, at 1:05 p.m.

Election of New Chairperson:

As Daniel Beryl has ended his participation on the Advisory Committee, a new Chair was needed. Nomination of Grady Gutnecht was made and accepted. Full vote of committee; motion carried unanimously to establish Grady Gutnecht as Chair of the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Western Wisconsin Advisory Committee. Grady Gutnecht's acceptance of Chair created a need for a new Vice Chair. Nomination of Dorothy Will was made and accepted. Full vote of committee; motion carried unanimously to establish Dorothy Will as Vice Chair of the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Western Wisconsin Advisory Committee.

A replacement for Daniel Beryl's position on the committee will be sought by Monroe County as Vernon County did not have a suggested replacement at this time.

Grady Gutnecht took over chair of the meeting at this point.

IRIS Update – Ann Miller Holman and Michelle Olson

Ann Miller Holman and Michelle Olson presented updated information regarding the IRIS (Include, Respect, I Self-Direct) program. TMG (The Management Group) is the employer of the current IRIS certified program staff; it is expected that new programs will be certified to become IRIS providers in 2015 that will be an alternative option for consumers choosing the IRIS program, similar to the competition/choice that is offered in Family Care locally.

In the IRIS waiver program, self-direction is the goal/model. Members are given individualized budgets with which to consider their service options from; there is no specified provider network because consumers can purchase their services anywhere they choose. The budget granted through IRIS authorizes payment for service needs only (no cash is available). There are approximately 12,000 IRIS participants in Wisconsin. IRIS staff responded to questions from the ADRC Advisory Board regarding how an Independent Consultant is different from a Case Manager in the Family Care program. Also, explained how abuse and neglect is handled within a self-directed program model via education about rights and definitions of fraud.

In IRIS, any services authorized must be supported by needs identified by the Long Term Care Functional Screen. Denials for requests are given if the requested service isn't identified on the LTC screen so that appeals can occur. Personal care services can not be paid for by IRIS; if individuals need personal care services, TMG also manages the IRIS self-directed personal care services or an individual can hire personal care support through an agency. In IRIS, transportation services for medical services is only available through MTM, the state's chosen provider.

Recognition of Sue Rettler

Sue Rettler has been a Supervisor in the Sparta office of the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Western Wisconsin since the four counties merged to form one ADRC in 2008. Sue will be retiring from her role at the county and within the ADRC on October 31, 2014. Sue received thanks and appreciation from those in attendance for her years of service.

Review of Meeting Minutes from June 24, 2014:

Feedback was requested by Grady Gutnecht regarding the meeting minutes from June 24, 2014. There were no corrections or changes recommended by the committee. Minutes were approved as written.

Partner County Updates:

Vernon County commented that they have had an open case for a client wanting to transfer from an outside county since December; the individual has been unable to transfer as the local MCO has not been able to find a placement as of yet. Supervisor Jean Klousia shared that problem solving on difficult cases such as these among our group of four counties is very helpful. Jennifer Salisbury, Social Worker in the Viroqua ADRC office, shared a case example of someone who received options counseling regarding assisted living, financial eligibility and Veteran's assistance programs. Vernon staff also were pleased to thank the Aging Unit for good experiences in working together on finding solutions for some cases that have resolved well.

Jackson discussed a change that has brought Adult Protective Services under the Aging/ADRC section. One ADRC Social Worker will be changed to one-half time; the other half of this person's work will involve completing WATTS reviews. To assist with walk-in clients, the ADRC office will be adding a one-half time intake staff. October 16 is the deadline for this new position that will have shared functions elsewhere in the department such as doing WHEAP applications for the Aging Section. The ADRC duties will be added in January for this position. Pam Gearing has begun a job in the Jackson office as the APS worker.

Monroe County has 90 cases currently in process with the three ADRC social work staff. The nurse/screen liaison has been helping with improving clarification of assessments for the Long Term Care Functional Screen. Supervisors from La Crosse will be helping in Monroe while there is no local

supervisor due to Sue Rettler's retirement. Sue's final day will be October 31, 2014. The new ADRC supervisor for the Monroe office will be hired in January and will have expanded hours available for ADRC work. Sue Flock will also be retiring soon, so a replacement for Sue at the front desk of the office is being sought.

The La Crosse ADRC office has been presenting Living Well classes over the summer months. ADRC staff are also partnering with the Health Department to present a course called "Super Noggin". Many ADRC staff attended street drug awareness training course presented by the Onalaska Police Department. Plans are underway for all four counties to attend Motivational Interviewing training this fall/winter.

ADRC-WW Statistics

Handouts were provided that showed quarterly outcomes information regarding referrals, enrollments, and marketing efforts. Data shows that the number of people switching between long term care programs continues to grow.

VA Self Directed Support Waiver

Information about this new waiver was presented to the committee. This funding will be available for individuals enrolled at the Tomah VA center for their primary care. The budget amount per month varies between \$797 to \$2755, with the average amount provided being \$1489 per month. The expected enrollment for this waiver is 35 individuals in the first year with 55 being enrolled by the end of year two. Individuals wanting to be considered for this funding should contact the ADRC.

Statewide ADRC Conference

The statewide ADRC Conference will be held in La Crosse in 2015. We encourage Advisory Board members to attend the conference if possible. There are sessions available that are specific to ADRC Board members that help regions learn from another and receive information from the state on future plans. The dates of the conference are April 15 – 17. It will be held at the Radisson.

Committee Member Involvement and Feedback

One member had questions about the Affordable Care Act regarding recent information that Wisconsin residents may not get the tax refunds because we have a federal model of the program. Counties are awaiting further information on this issue.

Shelly Matson, Vernon County's Elder Benefit Specialist, reminded the committee that Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15 through December 7. Local Advantage plans have risen in cost \$20 or more per month. Data indicates that 75% or more of Medicare recipients are not in the Medicare D plan that is the best plan for them. Remind those you know to check their plan options annually.

The Nutrition Program Manager is seeing more frail people at home. Vernon is one of eleven counties chosen to work on revamping the senior meal program. Vernon's goal focuses on education and creating ambassadors of the current meal programs to help others understand the program.

Upcoming Meetings and Topics

The next meeting will be held December 16 in Sparta at 1 p.m.

The committee asked to receive information on Estate Recovery at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next Advisory Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:

Audra Martine