

**Aging and Disability Resource Center of Western Wisconsin**

**Advisory Committee Meeting Notes**

**Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2015**

**Time: 1:00pm to 3:00pm**

**Place: Jackson County Dept. of Health & Human Services**

**Present:**

Jo Ann Nickelatti  
Dorothy Will  
Jim Rice  
Grady Gutnecht  
Richard Yarrington  
Ole Yttri  
Beth Smetana

**Staff/Other Guests:**

Jessica Jandt  
Katie Penkert  
Audra Martine  
Cheryl Neubauer  
Jennifer Solfest  
Brook Duncan  
Todd Gunderson  
Jean Klousia  
Sue Rettler

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Grady Gutnecht at 1:02pm.

**Review of Meeting Minutes from March 24, 2015:**

Feedback was requested by Grady Gutnecht regarding the meeting minutes from March 24, 2015. There was one correction recommended by Jean Klousia. Pam Eitland's name is replaced with Pat Peterson, Aging Unit Director throughout the minutes. This correction was approved by the committee.

**Monroe County Updates:**

Sue Rettler, Supervisor, introduced Jessica Jandt, newest Social Worker hired in Monroe County. Monroe County has 64 cases in process with the three ADRC social work staff and 11 new cases this week. Sue Rettler commented that Monroe County is happy about the added Troubleshooter position.

**Vernon County Updates:**

Jean Klousia, Supervisor, discussed the number of open cases has declined over the past few months. This has allowed Vernon time to catch up. Vernon County has 60-64 open cases in process with the two ADRC social work staff; Jean is working on four of those cases. Jean feels the cases are increasing in complexity. Anne Schreier is all trained in and working cases independently; no longer job shadowing. Vernon County is very appreciative of the RN's intense training with Anne.

**Jackson County Updates:**

Todd Gunderson, ADRC/APS Supervisor, introduced Jennifer Solfest, Program Assistant to the committee. Jennifer has taken on a variety of roles (walk-ins, triage phone calls to the appropriate unit) and is a wonderful addition to the team. Jennifer works 50/50 with the ADRC and Aging Unit. Katie Penkert, SW was introduced to the committee. Katie's last day will be July 1, 2015. Katie decided to

move her family back to her home town and was very appreciative of the knowledge and experience gained while working for the ADRC. Katie shared a success story concerning a client who received options counseling. During the options counseling, Katie assisted the client with housing options and financial eligibility/divestment concerns. This client was able to stay in the home through the winter because of Katie's communication with the Ho-Chunk Nation. This client did not enroll in services but with the assistance of the ADRC, the family was able to navigate through the systems and use private funds to support the client.

#### **La Crosse County Updates:**

La Crosse County commented on the restructure consuming a lot of energy from the Supervisors/Manager and being a challenge. Peggy and Cheryl have shifted which employees each of them supervise. Furthermore, how the call center is supervised has been altered. The call center is fully staffed and doing well with one worker primarily taking a majority of the walk ins. Recruitment of a social work staff has been demanding and unsuccessful. RN has resigned effective July 2. ADRC of WW will be advertising immediately.

Budget season of 2016 includes construction and planning where Aging/ADRC will be co-located. Discussions are being had about Aging/ADRC merging or not merging. Meetings have been going on for the past several months and continue to go on in attempt to decide on how to work together or separate.

#### **ADRC-WW Statistics:**

Handouts were provided that showed quarterly outcomes regarding ADRC-WW contact data, referral volume, outreach activities, enrollment, disenrollment and met/unmet needs. Audra facilitated conversation about the data presented and future presentation of the data. The committee was asked for insight on statistics. What does the Committee find interesting? What is the most valuable to report on? Grady stated that she likes the statics to be compared to previous years. Dorothy Will shared that it is beneficial to know the enrollment and disenrollment statistics. Additionally, Dorothy found the phone data interesting; but she is not sure if the committee needs to know that data.

Audra mentioned the State is concerned about overlapping duties of this committee. State would like to see the ADRC of WW look like one entity and not like different entities operating separately (siloe). The ADRC of WW should be seen as a region. We are looking at options to shift staff when we experience staffing shortages in one county vs. another county. Beth inquired, "Are each County board ok with getting four County/Region data combined?" Ole mentioned that each of our four Counties have their own County offices. "How are the ADRCs set up around the State?" Audra responded that the State thinks it is more important how people access the ADRCs.

#### **Governor Walker's Proposed Budget:**

Discussion took place about legislative updates on LTC programs. Handouts were provided about the Governor's 2015-2017 Biennial Budget Process.

Dementia-Capable Wisconsin ~ dementia friendly communities were discussed. Handout was provided on Dementia Care Guiding Principles. ADRC staff will be trained with Dementia Care Guiding Principles. All staff will be using dementia friendly language. Outreaches to the community will be provided. UW-Oshkosh is putting on a 3 hour online training opportunity for Caregivers of people with dementia. The State is providing 600 vouchers throughout the State to be used to pay for this training. Our ADRC received 20 of these vouchers. The vouchers will be available the first week of July and the vouchers are

good through December.

**Program and Eligibility Updates:**

Audra presented information on financial eligibility. July 1<sup>st</sup> people with higher incomes will have an easier time applying for and enrolling into the program.

New Quik Links were provided to each board member per the county the board member is from.

**Thank You:**

Jean acknowledged Audra's hard work for advocating for our clients. Jean stated that Audra has been amazing about communicating updates and changes.

**Upcoming Meetings and Topics:**

The next meeting will be held September 29, 2015 at Vernon County.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Brook Duncan

