FAMILY POLICY BOARD COMMITTEE
Monday, May 5, 2014
Health & Human Services Building – Basement Auditorium
12:00 p.m.


GUESTS: Al Bliss, Jason Larson and Teri Wildt

CALL TO ORDER
Pat Ruda called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and then asked for a motion to approve the April 7, 2014 meeting minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 04/07/14 MEETING

MOTION by Mary Kay Wolf/Ann Kappauf to approve the April 7, 2014 minutes as presented; Motion carried unanimously.

NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIR
Pat Ruda made the nomination for Catherine Kolkmeier to be the Vice Chair; there were no other nominations. Pat Ruda asked for a motion to approve the nomination.

MOTION by Jodi Widuch/Grace Jones to approve the nomination of Catherine Kolkmeier as the Vice Chair; Motion carried unanimously.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES:

- HHS Board Update/Family Policy Board Executive Committee: Monica Kruse
  - Monica Kruse was unable to attend today’s meeting so there were no updates.
- HS Director Update: Jason Witt
  - Jason Witt reports that tomorrow night is the first meeting of the Health and Human Services Board that reflects its new membership based on the most recent elections and appointments for this Board cycle.
  - Jason reports that he has three updates:
    1) We have been provided with increased funding for our Children with Special Needs Unit that will help them serve more children and youth with physical, developmental and severe mental health issues. There are currently 140 kids on the waitlist and we hope to significantly reduce or eliminate that. If the County Board approves the proposed resolution accepting this funding, there will be 3 new social worker positions, 1 supervisor position and a fiscal support position.
    2) New appointments to the Executive Committee will happen in June due to their terms being up.
    3) The trip to Madison to observe their Neighborhood Initiative is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2014 and we will get to see 9 sites and we will be leaving at 7:30 a.m. and returning at 6:00 p.m. If anyone is interested please contact Renee Weston or Jason Witt.
    4) Data regarding the (ACA) Affordable Care Act will be presented at our next Family Policy Board meeting by Trish Wavra and Lindsey Schwartz-Nichols as they will have numbers to report at that time.
- Family and Children’s Section Update: Nancy Pohlman
  - Nancy Pohlman was unable to attend today’s meeting so there were no updates.

AGENCY PRESENTATION: Couleecap: Grace Jones

- Grace Jones reports that Couleecap was created in 1966 to help people in poverty.
• Couleecap serves 4 counties: Crawford, La Crosse, Vernon and Monroe.
• They work to fill gaps in services for people in poverty.
• Their Board is made up of the following people: 1/3 County Board members, 1/3 low income people and 1/3 agency representatives.
• They own and rent affordable housing.
• They have their own realty company to help low income people buy homes.
• They have a weatherization program.
• They help people get loans for vehicles or money for repairs.
• They help people with food pantries, fuel assistance, etc.

HEROIN TASK FORCE UPDATE
Al Bliss provided a Power Point presentation with his update on the Heroin Task Force.
Al Bliss reports that in 2013 they had a meeting to address the heroin problem in our community.
Subsequently they developed the Heroin Task Force.
They learned that the youngest person using heroin was 9 years old and that child was shooting heroin.
They developed a needs assessment that is now on the County website.
They were asked to put together a Strategic Plan.
They are still meeting.
They were asked to come up with 4 to 6 Strategies and they did do this.
The number of people using heroin continues to go up.
Their recommendations are as follows:
• Reduce access to drugs
• Reduce inappropriate prescription drug use
• Installation of prescription drug drop off boxes
• Support MEG Unit Work
• Provide education to prescribers through medical facilities and prescription drug monitoring
• Neighborhood revitalizations
• Create funding/sustainability
• Substance abuse prevention
• Develop a website for information, FAQ's, resources, links, etc.
• Conduct K-12 drug education assessment of La Crosse County schools.

The Family Policy Board subcommittee on Mental Health and AODA will combine with the Heroin Task Force and Mike Desmond will be the chair of this committee so if anyone is interested in joining this group please contact Mike Desmond.
For more information about the Heroin Task Force go to the County website -

PLAN FOR NEXT FAMILY POLICY BOARD MEETINGS
• Jason Witt reports that in September we will be having a Strategic Planning meeting to look at what we want to work on. Roles of the Family Policy Board and the Executive Committee.
• Other ideas:
  • ACA (Affordable Care Act) outcomes.
  • Wages (minimum vs. living wage)
  • Collective Impact

WORK GROUP UPDATES:

1) Mental Health and Substance Abuse:
   Jason Witt reports that this group reported their recommendations to the Executive Committee on 03/24/14.

2) Economic Security:
   • Mary Kay Wolf reports that they are in a holding pattern right now and are taking some time off. This group presented to the Executive Committee on 04/28/14.
3) Safe and Healthy Environment:
   • Jodi Widuch reports that they will be sending out a survey and asked that everyone please complete the survey and they have created a checklist. This group reports to the Executive Committee on 06/23/14.

UPDATES:
   • Erin Behlen of Options Clinic reports that next week is National Women’s Health Week, May 11-17, 2014.
   • Majel Olson reports that Consumer Credit Counseling now has a Representative Payee Program in La Crosse. Consumer Credit Counseling has been in La Crosse for 15 years.
   • Beth Sullivan reports that the Job Center will be moving in June to the Century Link Building on East Avenue.
   • Troy Harcey wanted to remind everyone that the Rebuilding for Learning will be August 12, 2014 from 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and the topic will be Trauma Informed Care.

ADJOURN
Pat Ruda adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 2, 2014

Approved: June 2, 2014, Tammy Hoskins, Recorder