

FAMILY POLICY BOARD COMMITTEE

Monday, February, 2, 2015

Health & Human Services Building – Basement Auditorium

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Todd Bjerke, Janet Chaney, Chris Crye, Gloria Doyle, Melissa Fannin, Sheila Garrity, Sharon Hampson, Heather Hertzell, Amanda Jalensky, Grace Jones, Ann Kappauf, Jane Klekamp, Kim Knutson, Tracy Littlejohn, Lisa Luckey, Mary Meehan-Strub, Teresa Pierce, Joseph “Nerd” Pigott, Nancy Pohlman, Pat Ruda, Ruthann Schultz, Regina Siegel, Sarah Spah, Beth Sullivan, Trisha Wavra, Jodi Widuch, Jason Witt, and Mary Kay Wolf

GUESTS: Audra Martine, Lindsey Schwarz-Nichols

CALL TO ORDER: Pat Ruda called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 1/05/15 MEETING

Pat Ruda asked for a motion to approve the January 5, 2015 meeting minutes. **MOTION** by Beth Sullivan/Grace Jones to approve the January 5, 2015 minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Pat Ruda congratulated Sarah Spah on her new position as the Health Director for La Crosse County. Sarah will start her new position April 1, 2015.

New introductions were Tracy Littlejohn, Home School Coordinator, Ho Chunk, Teresa Pierce, Workforce Connection and Morgan Davis, Intern with The Parenting Place.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES

- **HHS Board Update/Family Policy Board Executive Committee: Sharon Hampson**
Sharon stated that the Family Policy Board Executive Committee met last week and she went over the changes that would be taking place with the FPB Executive Committee (member changes, bi-monthly meetings). The Family Policy Board Executive Committee will have less hands on and more of an over site of collaborative effort.
- **HS Director Update: Jason Witt**
Jason reported he has no new information this month. Just waiting for the governor’s budget.
- **Family and Children’s Section Update: - Nancy Pohlman**
Nancy Pohlman reported she has finished writing the grant for Safe & Stable Families. She also stated that 40% of children in out of home care are age 0-4 years old.

AGENCY PRESENTATION

- **Family & Children’s Center – Amanda Jalensky**
Amanda stated that FCC is a non-profit agency and is funded by donations. Amanda went over the services FCC provides as listed on the hand out. Those services are: Breakthrough Academy, Community Respite, Community Support Program (CPS), Day Treatment, Healthy Families, Hope Academy, In-Home Safety Services, Outpatient Counseling, Residential Treatment, Sandcastles, Stepping Stones Child Advocacy Center, Treatment Foster Care and Youth Home services.

- **Affordable Care Act Enrollment – Lindsey Schwarz-Nichols**

Lindsey Lindsay stated that she feels more people are starting to come in and enroll. The deadline for enrollment is February 15, 2015. Lindsey handed out information on the dates and times of walk –in opportunities located at all six counties. This handout also includes information individuals should bring with when going to an event. There is a special event at La Crosse County for ACA enrollment planned for Thursday, February 5, 2015 from 10 am – 7 pm. Everyone is required to have insurance and if people were uninsured for 3 months or more in 2014 they will have to pay a penalty when filing income taxes. Badger Care counts as insurance.

- **Community Access & Resource Section Updates – Audra Martine**

Audra stated that Community Access & Resource provides information to the public about services, resources and programs in the areas such as: disability and long-term care related services and living arrangements, health and behavioral health, adult protective services, employment and training for people with disabilities, transportation, home maintenance, nutrition, IRIS and family care. Community Access & Resource will provide to connect people with those services and also apply for SSI, Food Share and Medicaid as needed. Audra handed out a Community Services Directory which lists information and assistance in who to contact for the above listed services. Regina Siegel, La Crosse School District, stated that this directory has been very helpful. ADRC does a lot of presenting in the community and if anyone has groups you would like the ADRC to speak to they would be happy to go out and speak to a group.

AGENCY UPDATES:

- Tracy Littlejohn, Ho Chunk 3 Rivers, reported they also work with other communities in the area not just La Crosse.
- Grace Jones, Coulee Cap, reported that they have a new program Coulee Co. Starters that will be starting. It is a 9 week entrepreneur and educational program designed to educate and help people interested in starting a small business. They have received \$50,000 small business start up money.
- Jodi Widich, The Parenting Place, will send invite to The Parenting Place's February 25 Celebration.
- Lisa Luckey – YMCA, states they are still raising funds to expand both facilities. The plan is to break ground in March and be in by July.
- Kim Knutson, Great River 211, stated that the annual report would be out soon and that they have implemented CHAT and can text referrals now.
- Joe "Nerd" Pigott, BACA (Bike's Against Child Abuse), reported their next meeting is Sunday, February 8, 2015 (always the 2nd Sunday of the month) in the lower level of the Blue Moon. Shelia Garrity asked what BACA does and Joe read their mission statement. Jodi Widich commented that the web site for BACA is extremely impressive and Joe replied there has been a lot of growth to the agency especially in Wisconsin.

ADJOURN

Pat Ruda Adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 2, 2015.

Approved March 2, 2015, Tammy Bond, Recorder