
GUESTS: Jeff Murawski (Big Brothers Big Sisters), Roberto Partarrieu and WKBT News Channel 8

CALL TO ORDER: Pat Ruda called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 1/05/15 MEETING
Pat Ruda asked for a motion to approve the March 2, 2015 meeting minutes. MOTION by Catherine Kolkmeier/Jodi Widuch to approve the April 6, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES

- HHS Board Update/Family Policy Board Executive Committee:
  Nothing to report.

- HS Director Update: Jason Witt
  Jason gave his update that the Family Care Resolution which the Family Policy Board approved at the last meeting will be sent to the Governor and legislature.

- Family and Children’s Section Update: - Nancy Pohlman
  Nancy Pohlman. Reported that May is foster care awareness and recruitment month. Family & Children’s will be running the Brat Barn at Festival Foods on the Causeway, Friday, May 8, 2015 raising money for kids in care to help with their needs above what we have funding for. The Brat Barn opens at 11:00 a.m.

AGENCY PRESENTATION

- La Crosse Warming Center – Roberto Partarrieu
  Roberto Partarrieu was present in place of Mary Fitzpatrick and reported that the La Crosse Warming Center closed on April 30, 2015 and had an average of 40 people per night. The Center provided breakfast and dinner. The Center was very successful. Roberto also reported that on July 1, 2015 there will be a day center opening with the help from the Franciscan Sister’s Perpetual Adoration. The Center will be name Franciscan Hospitality House and will be located at 5th & State Streets in La Crosse. The hours will be Monday-Friday from 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm and provide basic needs such as hair care, food services, basic health needs (showers), job resources and to receive guidance. The day center will be open year round.

United Way Venture Grants & Community Council COMPASS Process

- Mary Kay Wolf reported that the Community Council COMPASS for education and community basics are now complete on the web site and the health and community basics web site will be completed by October 2015.
Mary Kay Wolf explained that the Venture Grants are time-limited, non-renewable grants intended to provide short-term support to assist in the development of new strategies or programs and/or to enhance the existing capacity of agencies. The grant process is now open until May 22, 2015 and the funding must be utilized by December 15, 2015. This year there is $100,000 available in the Great Rivers United Way Service area. For more information regarding the grants you can visit the website at www.greatriversunitedway.org.

Update on Comprehensive Community Services/Children’s Long-Term Support Expansion

- Wade Welper went over his handout on the Children’s Case Management Model Comparison between the Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) and Children’s Long Term Support Waivers (CLTSW) programs. Wade explained that CCS services are available to children with Medical Assistance (MA) who have mental health and/or substance challenges that impair function. CLTSW services are available to children with Physical Disabilities (developmental disabilities, Autism, spectrum disorders and severe emotional disturbance). Currently there is not a waiting list for either of these programs.

Children, Youth & Family Collaboration Inventory

- Jason Witt reported that there are 3 sub-committees. There is also a lot of great work and initiatives going on outside in the community. What is happening with youth and family collaboration is in draft form.

AGENCY UPDATES:

- Mary Kay Wolfe – Letter carrier food drive is this Saturday, May 9, 2015.
- Jodi Widuch – The Parenting Place is doing a reset of the children’s room
- Shelia Garrity – There are 180 homeless youth in La Crosse School District and Avenues from Minneapolis, MN came to La Crosse to discuss their program for homeless youth
- Mary Kay Wolf – There will be 2 community conversations with people from the community in need of service or are already receiving services.
- Lacie Ketelhut – Handed out a flyer for a 8 week parent program “Parents Raising Resilient Children” which starts June 2, 2015. The program is free and child care will also be provide free of charge. The training will be offered again in the fall.
- Mary Meehan-Strub introduced Susan Taylor. She has been hired as a financial coach in UWEX. Susan will be working with anyone who is challenged with financial problems. There is no cost for her services. A handout was also given out.
- Heather Hertzel – Beth Hartung is no longer at Options and Options will no longer be doing the needle exchange program.

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

NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 1, 2015.

Approved June 1, 2015, Tammy Bond, Recorder