FAMILY POLICY BOARD COMMITTEE
Monday, October 3, 2016
Law Enforcement Center – Room 1815
12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Todd Bjerke, Kim Cable, Mike Desmond, Megan DeVore, Gloria Doyle, Sheila Garrity, Lorie Graff, Sharon Hampson, Grace Jones, Ann Kappau, Lacie Keelhut, Jane Klekamp, Kim Knutson, Kathie Knoble-Iverson, Catherine Kolkmeier, Lisa Luckey, Kathryn Mayer, Mary Meehan-Strub, Roberto Patarrieu, Tracy Puente, Pat Ruda, Ruthann Schultz, Regina Siegel, Beth Sullivan, Jimmy Westland, Jodi Widuch, Jason Witt, Elizabeth Wright, Tita Yutuc

Guests: Stephany Stordahl, La Crosse Tribune, Jill Billings, Noel Griffiths, Keith Lease

CALL TO ORDER: Catherine Kolkmeier called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 8/1/16 MEETING
Catherine Kolkmeier asked for a motion to approve the August 1, 2016 meeting minutes. MOTION by Grace Jones/Tita Yutuc to approve the August 1, 2016 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES

HHS Board: Monica Kruse/Kim Cable
Kim Cable announced that the Health Department has become a Nationally Accredited Health Department; the Health Department has entered into an MOU with Mayo Clinic Health Systems and University Health System; resolution was passed to accept SOAR funding.

HS Director Update: Jason Witt
Jason Witt reported that the JJ Youth MOU has been signed; Bridget Todd has been hired as System of Care Administrator; Mandy Bisik will be the interim JJ's Manager; and updated on the Rebuilding for Learning Summit.

Family and Children's Section Update: Tracy Puente
Tracy Puente reported that Family & Children's is still recruiting for the Manager position and also recruiting for more foster homes.

FAMILY POLICY BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:
Catherine went over the upcoming meeting dates and what the tentative focus of each meeting will be:

   November 7 – Strategic Planning

AGENCY PRESENTATION: Workforce Connections – Second Chance Program
The Second Chance Program aims to give persons coming from jail/prison a second chance to gain employment and/or become educated. There are currently 72 participants in this program. Beth Ann reported that potential coaches are recruited and trained to help with obtaining ID, clothing, resume building and other life skills needed. Drawbacks are addiction; limited access to jail; roadblocks to accessing COMPAS and meeting “thru the glass”. Beth Ann went over a success story.
MONTHLY FOCUS AREA: Income Supports & Basic Needs

County Services Related to Income Supports and Basic Needs — Lorie Graff
Lorie reported that the county energy assistance program is based on the last 3 months of income; the food share numbers have gone down; most services are done over the phone and the number of referrals has not gone down.

Family Policy Board Economic Security Workgroup Update — Keith Lease
Keith went over power point which updated on the community needs which are housing affordability; job opportunities; community resources; the poverty level in the community. Keith also went over the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) report which he handed out. This report shows Wisconsin specific data from 2014 on poverty levels, housing, child care, food, transportation and health care.

There was discussion on 1) where does your agency fit in the continuum; 2) from your perspective, what are the biggest barriers of challenges in the continuum; and 3) what more support or communication would be helpful for your agency from members of the family policy board.

AGENCY UPDATES:
-Mike Desmond reported on November 10, 2016 there is an open house at Erickson House and the Boy’s & Girl’s Club are close to posting another mental health position.

ADJOURN
Catherine Kolkmeier adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting. Tammy Bond, Recorder.