

## **FAMILY POLICY BOARD**

Monday, July 1, 2019

Health & Human Services Building – Basement Auditorium

12:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tita Yutuc, Jason Witt, Catherine Kolkmeier, Ann Kappauf, Liz Evans, Nicole Brei, Ashley Santolin, Jodi Widuch, Teresa Pierce, Bridget Todd-Robbins, Elizabeth Wright, Heather Quackenboss, Karolee Behringer, Jane Klekamp, Sharon Hampson, Isaac Hoffman, Kristi Arenz, Tracy Puent, Hetti Brown, Barbara McPeak

### **GUESTS/OTHERS PRESENT**

Bethany Their (Better Together) and Hannah Feest (Mayo Clinic Health Services)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Tita Yutuc called the meeting to order at 12:00pm

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Jane Klekamp and Jodi Widuch to approve the May 6, 2019 and June 3, 2019 minutes as presented.

**MOTION** by Hetti Brown to approve the 2019 - 2020 Strategic Priorities and Desired Actions, motion seconded by Sharon Hampson. **Motions carried unanimously.**

### **HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES**

**HHS Board Update:** No updates per Sharon Hampson

#### **HS Director Update: Jason Witt**

The Southside Mom's United group facilitated by Bridget Todd-Robbins was awarded a grant from the Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse. Southside Mom's United was formed in December 2018 as a result of conversations between Bridget Todd-Robbins and neighborhood mothers. There are consistently a dozen or more mothers coming together to support each other, advocate for their children in the school and community, and to have a bigger voice and community representation. The group consists primarily of African American and Caucasian mothers of African American and mixed-race children.

The Family Policy Board website is now active <http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/humanservices/familyPolicy.asp>. The website will include agendas, minutes, handouts and other materials.

#### **Family and Children's Section Update: Tracy Puent**

The Family and Children's Section has done some restructuring within their management team. Diane Gates will be retiring in January 2020 so recruitment will begin to fill her ongoing supervisory position. Kari Heal will also be transitioning in to the role of Ongoing Supervisor, which will then form a 3<sup>rd</sup> ongoing unit, and Lila Barlow will return to the role of Perm Unit Supervisor/Assistant Manager.

### **FOLLOW-UP FROM JUNE LEGISLATIVE MEETING**

Below is a list of the Joint Finance State Budget Actions

1. Home Visiting - Provide an additional \$500,000 Temporary Assistance to Needy Families in Fiscal Year 2020 and \$1,500,000 Temporary Assistance to Needy Families plus \$1,000,000 General Purpose Revenue in Fiscal Year 2021 to increase funding for the Family Foundations statewide home visiting program.

2. Child Protective Services - Increase funding for Children and Family Aids by \$25.5 million beginning in calendar year 2020.
3. Homelessness - Many provisions deleted with funding in lesser amounts moved to Joint Finance Committee supplemental appropriations.
4. School Mental Health – Added 3 million each year to the Governor’s request.
5. Returning 17-Year-Olds to the Juvenile Justice System – This item was deleted

The Governor’s proposal to fully fund some crisis services, inclusive of dementia services was accepted. More information to come in this area as it has a requirement for counties to work in tandem to provide the services.

### **Suggestions for follow up by the Family Policy Board**

Follow up with a thank you letter to Jennifer Shilling and Jill Billings. Follow up with a thank you to Governor Evers after his final vetos are in. Advocate for the legislators to author stand alone legislation to address moving 17 year olds to the juvenile system.

### **FAMILY POLICY BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2020**

Review of the purpose, priorities and desired actions. We need to move forward from learning about trauma informed care to being trauma responsive agencies. Refer to handout provided by Jason Witt.

### **COLLABORATION PRESENTATION: Better Together – A Resilient and Trauma-Informed Care Community**

The program is guaranteed funding until 2024 and is using 3 strategies to encourage improved mental health for youth:

- 1) Building resilience skills and positive social connectedness among youth ages 12-18
- 2) Building the capacity of adults who support youth
- 3) Increasing knowledge and awareness of youth and family needs through data sharing and improved communication

The heart of the project is to connect schools, faith organizations and social service agencies to a resilient and trauma informed community frame work. The project is now in the process of adding parents and care takers to the group. It takes 2 to 4 years to explore the topic of what it means to be trauma informed and then to build the infrastructure to support the approach. Better Together is still in the process of building that infrastructure.

Feedback from Foundation 1 trainings showed that 82% of participants learned something new about trauma, 90% can apply the content to their work, and 95% felt they can apply the content presented to *their life*.

Foundation 2 is being held on July 24<sup>th</sup> at Central High School and can be registered for at <https://bettertogetherlacrosse.org/#events>. Foundation 1 is being repeated in August and dates can be found at the same site.

### **ADJOURNMENT TO THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2019, AT NOON**

Chairperson Tita Yutuc adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm.

**Approved** September 9, 2019, Rachel Klistau, Recorder