HEROIN AND OTHER ILLICIT DRUG TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES
April 27, 2017 (Onalaska City Hall, Council Chamber Room, 1:00pm)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joe Chilsen, Al Bliss, Todd Bjerke, Cheryl Hancock, Emily Whitney, Laura Runchey, Ted Thompson, Don Dominick, and Troy Harcey

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Gregg Cleveland, Steve Helgeson, Tom Johnson, Tim Candahl, Shawn Kudron, Dean Whiteway, Tom Tornstrom, Jennifer Kleven, Jen Rombalski, Monica Kruse, Vicki Burton, Scott Mihalovic, Jill Gustafson, and Regina Siegel

OTHERS PRESENT: Aaron Rasch, Mary Dahlby, Sue Bennett, Bob Ritger, Drew Kelly, Bill Oldenburg, Bill Haviland, Heather Schmidt-Knecht, Carrie Bailey, Anneliese Skoda, Ryan Cornett, Dean Peterson, Agnes Smith, Jackie Ortmein-Cronce, Kimberly Gutierrez, Joanna Reale, Michaela Burton, Ryan Andersen, Chandler Miller,

CALL TO ORDER
Joe Chilsen, Committee Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:10pm

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT
October meeting minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

UPDATES:

Guest Presenter:

Aaron Rasch from Project PROVEN of Western Technical College gave an overview of their program. Project Proven is a “re-entry” service program for incarcerated youth and adults. Learner support staff work closely with local law enforcement officials and agencies to provide instruction and services to formerly incarcerated individuals to help increase the likelihood of a successful transition from jail into the community. Services and focus include helping participants:

- Complete the GED/HSED and/or enroll in college or certification programming
- Improve and gain skills to assist in obtaining employment and maintaining a job
- Identify other useful community resources
- Develop budgeting and financial management skills
- Provide basic computer skills training

Mr. Rasch shared a video about Jordan Holter, a Project Proven participant and his success. Please see the attached link to watch the video:

[https://vimeo.com/195633922/ee774239a0](https://vimeo.com/195633922/ee774239a0)

Know of someone to refer to Project Proven or have a question for Aaron? Here’s his contact information!

**Rasch, Aaron**
Business & Community Coordinator
Phone: 608-789-5614
rascha@westerntc.edu
Project Proven
Academic Resource Center 100

Other Updates:

Drug related hospitalizations data from Gundersen and drug overdose data in La Crosse County – Joanna Reale, Health Dept. Intern presented on drug related hospitalizations and a “Burden” report. Drug related data was
collected from 2014-2016 on drug charges, hospitalizations, overdose deaths, narcan administration, CPS, and more! Al will email the complete Burden of Illicit Drug Report narrative and the Power Point to the task force.

Minnesota’s Rule 25 on Treatment – Cheryl Hancock, Coulee Council on Addictions. Cheryl explained how MN residents can get treatment coverage including up to inpatient treatment. MN also has federal block grant funds based on need VS on priorities. She also explained that many of the residential treatment beds in La Crosse were empty due to lack of funds to support it. Rule 25 also has a set standard of care based on the patient’s level of care they need. Rule 25 also covers cost even if the client does not have insurance or MA.

May 15 Community Drug Forums – Al and Bob provided additional details about both the day and evening event and continue to promote. Registration is still be accepted.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 25 from 1-2:30pm at Onalaska City Hall.

TRAVEL REQUESTS (INFORMATIONAL) AND TRAVEL REPORTS
None presented.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30pm. The above minutes have been approved. (2 page)
Al Bliss, Recorder