

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Emergency Operations Center, Courthouse Annex Bldg.
December 2, 2008

Board Members Present: Tom Gordon, Kenneth Jardine, James Crandall, Pat Carver, Lona Schmidt, Clarence Henkel, Wayne Williams, Ted Benson, Dee Kittleson

Others Present: Elizabeth Skulan, Denise Kontny, Jeanine Spuhler, Anita Haukaas, Carrie Linder

Call to Order and Introductions

K. Jardine called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Review of the Tentative Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

Review of the October 23, 2008 Minutes

Motion by T. Gordon, seconded by C. Henkel to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Program Presentation

C. Linder gave a presentation on adult family homes. An adult family home is a residence in which care is provided to four or fewer individuals. Homes that provide care for one or two individuals are certified by the county, while homes that care for 3-4 adults, also known as corporate homes, are certified by the state. Bayfield County currently has 16 certified adult family homes.

Monthly Section Reports

Support Services

Support Service staff will continue to provide up to four hours per day temporary support coverage in the Forestry Department until further notice.

The 2009 provider contracts and individual service plans are currently being processed.

Aging & Disability Services

Most of the 2009 A&D provider rate increases that have been received to process the contracts and individual service plans.

Pam VanKampen, Registered Dietician with the Northern Area Agency on Aging performed an on site review of nutrition program operations for 2008. While we received praise for being innovative in expanding congregate meal site opportunities throughout the county, suggestions for improvement include: medical emergency procedures for congregate sites, home delivered

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meal and congregate meal site consumer satisfaction surveys, annual congregate on-site assessments, and adding nutrition advisory council roles and responsibilities to the Aging and Disabilities Advisory committee by-laws.

Economic Support

The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) began on Oct 1st. To date, more telephone applications are being processed compared to previous years. One outreach site has been conducted with the next one scheduled in January.

It has been publicly announced that a dental clinic will be opening in Iron River in 2009. This clinic will provide a much needed service and cut transportation costs for individuals in that area.

Family Services

Due to budget constraints, approvals for requests for voluntary mental health and alcohol/drug services will be suspended for the remainder of 2008. Exceptions include court-ordered services, services that have a dedicated funding source, psychotropic medications, and other exceptional or extenuating circumstances made on a case-by-case basis.

Family Services staff provided child abuse and mandatory reporting training to many of the area school districts.

A set of Bayfield County adoptive parents were recently presented the first Outstanding Adoptive Parent Award in the state at a luncheon at the governor's mansion in Madison in November. The social worker and the family had lunch with Jessica Doyle the afternoon the award was presented.

One staff member in the Family Services Section will be out on family medical leave for 12 weeks beginning December 1, 2008.

The Criminal Justice Coordinator is currently pursuing grants to be used for treatment court.

Monthly Reports

The monthly financial, training, and waiting list reports were reviewed and placed on file.

Staffing Updates

As stated earlier, Support Staff are continuing to provide part-time coverage in the Forestry Department. With the rollout of Family Care, one Support Staff position is at risk.

There are currently two disciplinary actions that will be administered in DHS.

Four DHS employees have interviewed for positions with NorthernBridges to provide regional managed care services. NorthernBridges plans to issue letters with offers of employment to potential employees in late December.

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2008 Budget Resolution

The committee reviewed the 2008 budget adjustment resolution requesting expense and offsetting revenue line item adjustments in the amount of \$170,000. This resolution was approved by the full County Board on November 12, 2008.

BadgerCare Plus CA

Governor Doyle's press release on BadgerCare Plus dated October 31, 2008 was reviewed. BadgerCare Plus will expand health care to those who are uninsured and who do not have dependent children in their households. More information is available at BadgerCarePlus.org.

Regional ADRC Application

The final draft of the ADRC application was completed and mailed to the state on November 18th. The state now has 60 days to review it. A copy of the application is available at bayfieldcounty.org.

Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

The five-county group is continuing to move forward in the regional ADRC planning process. It is anticipated that the State Department of Health Services will schedule a telephone conference with the regional partners to discuss concerns or questions regarding the plan to provide regional services in the next 60 days.

NorthernBridges

A copy of a letter issued October 31st to NorthernBridges from the County Administrator and Human Services Director was reviewed. The letter primarily documents concerns relating to the MCO wage and benefit scale, the employee recruitment process, timely and accurate communications, and provider reimbursement rates.

Care Management Meetings

NorthernBridges has hosted two meetings in the past month to discuss the recruitment and hiring of care managers. The meetings were held on November 12th and November 19th.

Human Resource Meeting

NorthernBridges facilitated a meeting with county human resource staff and human service directors on November 13th to discuss the recruitment and hiring process for staff currently working in county human service departments. A copy of the hiring schedule was reviewed.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

A memorandum of understanding between each county and the Managed Care Organization (MCO) is required in order for state certification to be issued to the MCO. A copy of the draft agreement has been reviewed by the County Administrator and Corporation Counsel. The agreement will then be reviewed with all eleven counties and the MCO on December 3rd via teleconference.

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Long-term Care District Board

To date, the MCO has hired eight management employees. The letter to NorthernBridges from Bayfield County dated October 31st regarding the MCO wage and benefit scale was reviewed by the long-term care district board at their last meeting.

Other

No other business was discussed.

Future Meeting Dates

Future meeting dates were scheduled as follows:

- January 22, 2009
- February 26, 2009
- March 26, 2009

Adjournment

Motion by T. Gordon, seconded by C. Henkel to adjourn. Motion carried.
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The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Submitted by Denise Kontny, Financial Manager