

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

EOC

March 29, 2007

Board Members Present: Clarence Henkel, James Crandall, Ted Benson, Wayne Williams, Mary Podlesny, Pat Carver, Kenneth Jardine, Thomas Gordon, Delores Kittleson

Staff Present: Elizabeth Skulan, Denise Kontny, Jeanine Spuhler, Jan Karlen, Carrie Linder, Dianne Heapy

Call to Order and Introductions:

C. Henkel called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Review of the Tentative Agenda:

There were no changes made to the agenda.

Review of the February 22, 2007 Minutes:

W. Williams motioned to approve the February 22, 2007 minutes as presented. Seconded by P. Carver. Motion carried.

Program Presentation:

J. Karlen gave a presentation on out-of-home placements for children. Types of placements include foster homes, treatment foster homes, group homes, residential care centers, shelter care, secure detention and juvenile corrections. Currently, Bayfield County has five children in foster homes, and three children in treatment foster homes. Red Cliff Tribal placements include six children in foster homes and one child in a residential care center.

K. Jardine and T. Gordon entered the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

D. Kittleson entered the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Monthly Section Reports:

Aging & Disability Services

The state has made 150 new CIP II diversion slots available statewide on a first come, first serve basis. A & D staff are reevaluating clients on the waiting list to see if any are eligible for these slots.

The Senior Care waiver is set to expire on June 30, 2007. Indications are that it will not be reauthorized by the Federal government. Last year more than 108,000 Wisconsin seniors benefited from the program and lowered their out-of-pocket costs for drugs. Wisconsin is the last state in the country still running its own prescription drug program for seniors. Every other state has made the transition to Medicare Rx, which is not as beneficial for seniors as Senior Care.

Northwest Wisconsin Community Service Agency (NWCSA) will no longer administer the local food shelves. Faith based organizations in Ashland and Washburn are planning to provide this service in the future.

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

EOC

March 29, 2007

Economic Support

To date, 446 households have received Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) funds compared to 514 households this time last year. FEMA is being researched as a possible funding source to help clients with their additional energy costs.

The Business Services Team (BST) which is composed of private and public agencies from Bayfield, Ashland and Iron counties organized a Job Fair that was held on Saturday, March 31st at the WITC Ashland campus. Thirty-two area employers represented their businesses and their employment vacancies. Over 200 job seekers attend the event. Shirley Moran of NW CEP is the BST leader and the success of the Job Fair is the result of her hard work and continued commitment to helping strengthen employment in the community.

Future Quest students from the Washburn Area High School visited the Bayfield County courthouse on March 12th to learn about services offered by the county.

K. Ross continues to do well in her new position as an Economic Support worker.

Support Services

The 2006 final reporting requirements for long-term care services and the final financial claim to the Department of Health and Family Services were completed within the timeline requirements.

Support Staff morale is high.

Family Services

Jan Karlen met with Karen East, the new Red Cliff Human Services Administrator.

Shaken baby syndrome training is now required for all daycare providers. Training will be available on April 1st.

The second True Thought (errors in thinking) group for adolescents who have committed crimes will be held next week. Two staff from Northland Counseling facilitate the group. It is a 14-week program, with parents meeting once a week and the adolescents meeting twice a week.

Monthly Reports:

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

Collections / repayment:

The committee reviewed a PowerPoint presentation and handouts that will be used for presentations to the providers and possibly members of the Red Cliff Tribe to discuss the draft Collections/Repayment Policy. The provider meeting is scheduled for April 10th. There was some discussion regarding an alternative to payment in full. Jan Karlen agreed to conduct some research and will be prepared to propose another option at the April DHS board meeting.

2007 161 Agreement

The Red Cliff tribe has declined to enter a 161 Agreement that includes a funding cap. The committee reviewed letters from Tribal Chairwoman, Patricia DePerry and a response from Jan

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Karlen regarding a request and subsequent denial for funding of a residential care placement that the 161 Agreement specifically provides would be made only upon mutual consent. Jan's letter recommends that a joint letter be sent to the State requesting high cost funding for this placement and to emphasize mutual support for a direct funding arrangement between the State and the Red Cliff Tribe for out of home tribal placements.

Staffing Update

Jeanine Spuhler completed her first quarterly evaluation as a new manager and is doing well. Two individuals from the Family Services Section were out on family medical leave during March, one staff will return sometime in May.

Northwest Wisconsin-Long-Term Care Options (NW LTCO)

Polk and Barron Counties recently made a request to be allowed to join the consortium. Their request has been approved by the consortium members.

Local Human Services Directors will provide information to County Boards on an ongoing basis and will plan to seek commitment to the "plan to implement stage" by July 1st. If approved, the implementation stage will begin October 1st.

Date saver: LTC - County Board member meeting – May 7, 2007, Ramada Inn in Hayward.

Other

The WCHSA Conference is scheduled for May 9-11, 2007 in Milwaukee.

A "meet and greet" will be held in the future to offer Human Services staff an opportunity to meet board members.

Information on becoming a volunteer driver was distributed.

Future Meeting Dates:

The future meeting dates were scheduled as follows:

- April 26, 2007 - P. Carver will be excused
- May 24, 2007
- June 28, 2007

Adjournment:

M. Podlesny motioned to adjourn. Seconded by C. Henkel. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Kontny

Denise Kontny
Financial Manager