

**CHARTER OF TASK FORCE
TO STUDY OF REGIONAL APPROACHES TO PROVIDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES
(Child Protective Services and Juvenile Justice)**

A. TASK FORCE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION

The respective governing bodies for Lincoln, Langlade and Marathon Counties have adopted resolutions to establish this multi-county task force. The Task Force is composed of representatives of member counties (Lincoln, Langlade, Marathon) to the Joint County Contract for community programs and representatives of North Central Health Care. Since 1972, the counties have joined together to provide community services for mental health, developmental disabilities, and alcohol and drug abuse through North Central Health Care.

B. MISSION STATEMENT

Consistent with its enabling authority, the Task Force is charged to:

- (1) Conduct a feasibility study pursuant to Section 46.23 (3), Wis. Stats., to determine the feasibility of providing child welfare services on a multi-county basis.
- (2) Identify methods to more effectively or efficiently deliver child welfare services by means of intergovernmental cooperation and collaboration, such that children and families are better served.
- (3) Identify the impacts to the organizational structure of other social service programs in the event the method of delivering child welfare services is changed.

C. MEMBERSHIP AND TERM

Each County is responsible for appointing its own representatives to serve on the Task Force.

The Task Force will sunset on March 1, 2014.

D. MEETING NOTICES AND REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

In order to apprise the public of Task Force meetings, each County shall be responsible to post meeting notices within their respective counties.

Each County will develop its own procedures for reporting information regarding the work performed by the Task Force.

E. REPRESENTATION AND DECISION-MAKING

The Task Force shall designate a member to Chair the meetings. The Task Force shall also designate Vice-Chairmen to serve in the absence of the Chairman. The conduct of meetings shall follow the rules of parliamentary procedure.

The actions taken by the Task Force will be based upon a consensus or general agreement of its members. When a vote is required or requested, each County is entitled to one vote.

F. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- (1) Gather information about alternative models of intergovernmental service delivery in relation to cost and quality.
- (2) Actively solicit stakeholder participation in the study facilitating better understanding of the status quo, identifying alternatives and commenting on the relative merits of the organizational models under consideration.
- (3) Research the State's authority to approve or deny an intergovernmental services delivery model and the criteria the State agencies will apply when deciding to approve or deny a proposal for an intergovernmental service delivery model. (Agencies that may have approval authority include the Department of Health Services, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections).
- (4) Consider and report on the extent to which local control of human service policies can be maintained or may be lost under a service delivery model involving intergovernmental cooperation.
- (5) Prepare and present a final report of findings and recommendations which compares and contrasts the recommended new service delivery model with the status quo with regard to governance, fiscal implication and service outcomes.