

Multi-County Human Services Model
Task Force Discussion Meeting

November 20, 2012 9:00AM
Merrill, WI

Task Force Attendance:

X	Jim Alber	X	Nancy Bergstrom	X	Gary Bezucha
X	Bruce Giese	X	Paul Gilk	EXC	Gary Gisselman
X	Dick Hurlbert	X	Brad Karger	X	Bob Lussow
X	Mike Nelson	X	Ron Nye	X	Gary Olsen
X	John Robinson	X	Randy Scholz	X	Toni Simonson
X	Robin Stowe	X	Vicki Tylka	X	Kim Van Hoof
X	Bob Weaver	X	Patsy Woller		

Purpose of a Multi-County Human Services Model Task Force

- Exploration, to make a decision on whether to transition to a Human Services delivery of care.
- To provide information to county boards so they can make informed decisions.

Background

- Two models:
 - Chapter 51.42 community programs
 - Social Services Department
- Chapter 46.22 allows for a human services model where the two models are combined.
- 60 of 72 Wisconsin counties have a human services model; none of the 60 are multi-county.
- There are only three multi county community service providers in the state; NCHC is one of them.

Questions

- Where does privatization of health care fit in?
 - All entities involved (NCHC, Langlade County, Lincoln County & Marathon County) are public entities, so there is no movement toward privatization.
- How it will improve what we have with, for example, a DD person, an elderly person who needs home care services? How does it take care of single people?
 - If we don't believe it will improve services, there would be no need to proceed.
 - We believe access and services will improve.
- Will we save money, are we going to lose staff, are our clients going to be better off?
- Who are the stakeholders?
- Should we first determine what services we want to include? We would prefer not to include income maintenance.

- What are the options open to us as far as program design?
- We need to maximize services and maximize funding.
- Who will do the feasibility study? People in the room, or do we hire someone to come in and do it?

Process

- A feasibility study to – determine whether it makes sense or not, and make a recommendation to county boards. Public hearings are part of the process.
- If it is determined it is a good idea to move forward, at that time a plan is developed, and approval must be received from all three counties, and three state agencies (Department of Health Services, Department of Children and Families and the Department of Corrections).
- The task force needs to formulate answers to questions the county board will ask.

Task Force Composition

- Chair of social services committees
- Social services directors
- County representatives on the NCHC board
- Corporation counsels
- County Administrators

Resolution

- It may take upwards of a year to conduct a feasibility study.
- Suggested changes/additions to the draft resolution presented:
 - It should make it open to all mechanisms, not just to look at a human services model.
 - Add the reason we are looking at doing this – NCHC is always looking for ways to improve services, to improve access to services, and to do so in a cost-effective manner.
 - Add language to add there may be a cost for a facilitator.
 - Perhaps look for a third party to facilitate the feasibility study process from another state that may already be doing multi-county human service models.
 - Range of costs associated with a study would be helpful.
 - This may not be possible to estimate at this time.
 - Add language to use the three county reserves to cover the cost of a facilitator, with counties only paying additionally per diem and mileage.

Future Meetings

When all three counties approve looking at a feasibility study, we would meet again in January, after January 15th (when Lincoln County Board would approve the resolution).