

## **Minutes of Langlade County Social Service Committee Meeting**

### **Call meeting to order.**

The meeting was called to order at the Health Service Center in the board room at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2012 by Richard Hurlbert.

Members present: Richard Hurlbert, Holly Matucheski, Vern Cahak, Pat McKinney-Rice, and Bob Benishek.

Others present: Kim Van Hoof, Patsy Rolo, Carlene Nagel, and Liane Blahnik. Robin Stowe attended part of meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Approval of agenda**

Motion by Benishek to approve the agenda as mailed. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Approve minutes from the previous meeting.**

Motion by Benishek to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as mailed. Motion second by Cahak. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Intensive In-Home Program Updates.**

Van Hoof reported the Intensive In-Home team continues to work with 8 families through the end of the year. One family they are working with recently had three children reunified, so they will continue to work with this family. Van Hoof reported that Nagel reported there are some reserves left from the 2011 contract. Nagel reported that our auditors suggested we ask for this \$27,000 from reserves. Nagel reported she will not have their 2012 contract audit report until June. Van Hoof reported we could have them continue to provide services or continue with services in some form after January 1, with the reserves amount.

### **Communications and Public Comment.**

Rolo shared an update on the WHEAP program reporting that 851 applications have been processed and appointments are currently being scheduled for early March.

### **Review and authorize payment of bills and review the Budget Summary Report, Juvenile Alternative Care Summary Report and approve Monthly Reports for Compensatory Time and Training.**

The committee reviewed the monthly bills. The committee reviewed the budget summary report, the juvenile alternate care summary and budget report, the compensatory time report and training report. Hurlbert questioned the balance on revenues. Nagel reported once she closes a month, she submits a claim, and it can take two or three months for that revenue to come in. The committee reviewed and discussed the comp time report. Motion by Benishek to authorize payment of the bills and approve the Budget Summary report, the Alternate Care Budget Summary,

compensatory time and training reports. Motion second by Matucheski. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Updates from the State Review for the Children and Family Services Unit.**

Van Hoof reported she has not received an official report back from the State from Robert Williams from the August review. Van Hoof will share the final document when it is received. Van Hoof received some preliminary things that they are working on. One of the suggestions from the review team was that the agency start working on a hands-on teaming approach with families instead of having the social worker be a central hub that everything comes through. The average case load throughout the State is around 12 families. Van Hoof reported our county case load is a little higher which may be a result of the demographics, economics and drug use in the county. The unit will receive team training at a staff meeting, and the trainers will come back a couple more times to provide additional onsite training. In the future when the agency focuses on safety and family services, the family will be the center of the team plan, the family will make decisions, and the family will identify people who they want on their team. Benishek asked how long on average is the time spent working with a family. Van Hoof reported usually one year or more. Van Hoof shared information on Wisconsin's Child Welfare Practice Model, which identifies the outcomes, values and principles, strategies and skills necessary to ensure child safety, permanence, and well-being. This was developed in partnership with local agencies and private partners, this practice model provides a common and consistent platform to guide mutual efforts, ensuring all children, youth, and families receive effective and responsive intervention, no matter where they live in the State. Van Hoof reported the other area that needed focus was supervision, as she is splitting her time between the Children and Family Services Unit, the Economic Support Unit, and agency business.

### **Discuss with possible action services in 2013 for the Children and Family Services Unit and Updates on Children and Family Services.**

Van Hoof reported she is waiting to see what arrangements can be made with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) first, but is looking at other options for service providers in 2013 since North Central Health Care will not have a Coordinated Community Services (CCS) Program up and running on January 1, 2013. Van Hoof reported that even if that service would be in place, not all families the agency works with would qualify for services in the CCS Program. Van Hoof asked LSS for an hourly rate for services. Van Hoof met with Finance to see where money could come from to provide these services; would this need to come from the current budget, or would we ask for additional funding based on the discussion with Robin Stowe at last month's meeting. Van Hoof feels that without providing services, when we take a child into custody, we need to provide documentation to the court that we are providing services to the child and the child's parents to help them get their child back. Stowe discussed funding mechanisms for Alternative Care Placements. The committee discussed that providing services should reduce Alternative Care placement costs.

**Director's Report.**

Van Hoof reported that in the upcoming month's there will be updates on the multi-county feasibility study. North Central Health Care will use funds to hire an outside consultant to facilitate the task force of the feasibility study for a multi-county Human Services.

Van Hoof reported that we have several children who have some exceptional needs that need to be addressed and are currently working with North Central Health Care on a high-cost placement for a child in La Crosse. Van Hoof reported teaming on this case will be important to figure out long-term options to keep the family, community, and child safe.

Van Hoof reported the agency will be contracting with Oneida County, as they have to license a Foster Care Home, which would be a conflict of interest for them. Langlade County will also be providing on-going case management services on that case.

Van Hoof reported the agency will contract with Marathon County, as we had a family move there from Langlade County. Marathon County would like us to contract directly with Lutheran Social Services for the family to receive services similar to ones being provided by our intensive in-home program.

**Adjourn.**

The next meeting is set for January 14, 2012 at 1:30 pm. Motion by Benishek to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m. Motion second by Cahak. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,  
Liane Blahnik, Administrative Assistant