

Minutes of Langlade County Social Service Committee Meeting

Call meeting to order.

The meeting was called to order in the board room of the Health Services Center at 10:30 am on Monday, July 14, 2014 by Richard Hurlbert.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: Richard Hurlbert, Vern Cahak, Bob Benishek, and Richard Burby.

Member absent: Holly Matucheski.

Others present: Kim Van Hoof, Carlene Nagel, and Liane Blahnik. Debi McGregor, Carmen Leher, and Angel Zimmerman attended part of meeting.

Approval of agenda.

Motion by Cahak to approve the agenda as mailed. Motion second by Burby. Four ayes; one absent. Motion carried.

Approve minutes from previous meetings.

Motion by Cahak to approve the minutes as mailed. Motion second by Benishek. Four ayes; one absent. Motion carried.

Communications and Public Comment.

None.

Report from Boys and Girls Club.

Angel Zimmerman from the Boys and Girls Club in Langlade County reported on their Mentoring Program in Antigo, White Lake and Elcho. This is the program they requested funds from the county for them to provide. This program matches a high school student to mentor a younger school age student. Currently there are 11 mentoring matches; two in the Elcho area and the other nine from the Antigo area. Three mentoring matches are pending paperwork completion. The goal set by the Boys and Girls Club was to have between 20-25 mentors.

Angel reported that White Lake is an extension site. They average about 24 kids a day who get a snack, help with home work and an enrichment program. Angel reported they recently hired a person who will be out there 2 times a week, as funding only allows for 2-1/2 hours on two days a week. White Lake School also provided funding that goes into this program.

Angel reported that Elcho is just set up for mentoring now as they bus kids in and use this as a field trip day, but future plans could include an extension site there as well.

Angel reported the Boys and Girls Club have 3 full time staff members all the time, and during the summer they have 10 part time employees but go down to 7 part time employees during the school year.

Currently the Boys and Girls Club is having Summer Day Camp, so there are around 103

kids there. Angel reported that during the summer there is a gardening program with the Antigo Garden Club, where each week volunteers come in to show students how to garden.

Angel reported last year the Boys and Girls Club requested \$12,500, and received \$10,000 from Langlade County.

Report from Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Community Services.

Debi McGregor reported that Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Community Services' primary focus is on prevention work to help prevent child abuse and neglect. Through their primary work, they have a new on-going focus on child and family well being. The Community Response Program works directly with referrals from the Children and Family Services Unit of Langlade County Social Services. There were 38 families served in this program from January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014. Debi reported they can work with those who voluntarily want services for 12 to 16 weeks and the goal is to get them connected to services, resources, or programs they may be eligible for in the community. Debi reported that throughout the State there has been a significant decline in the rate of a re-report for those in this minimal intervention program; the state average is about a 20% engagement rate, but here in Langlade County it is higher, around a 30% engagement rate.

Debi reported that the Steward's of Children Program which focuses on providing information and resources for child sexual abuse, will be offered across the county. Debi reported this program offers a video component which Carmen was recently trained to present to individuals who request this information.

Motion by Burby to move information forward to County Board in August. Motion second by Benishek. Four ayes; one absent. Motion carried.

Approval to pay Per Diem for interview of MSW (Master – Social Work).

Van Hoof reported first interviews were held July 8th and Hurlbert participated on the interview team. Van Hoof reported second interviews will be held July 24th. Motion by Benishek to approve Per Diems for interviews of MSW. Motion second by Burby. Four ayes; one absent. Motion carried.

Update on Summer Fill Program.

Blahnik reported that the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) Summer Fill Program is based on an exchange of a payment made by the customer for a crisis payment to their propane vendor from the WHEAP agency. Langlade County had 102 WHEAP clients eligible based on the particular demographic set up by the State to participate in this program. Goal of the program is to assist eligible clients to purchase propane while prices are lower during the summer months.

Review payment of bills.

The Committee reviewed the bills paid in June 2014.

Review and approve the 2014 Budget Summary Report.

The Committee reviewed the 2014 budget summary report. Nagel reported the budget report shows the budget through June, except for Alternative Care. Nagel reported the Alternative Care budget was \$227,000, but will be over after June's payments, so remaining funds will come from the Alternative Care Risk Reserve. Van Hoff reported that this budget line is

being looked at carefully; starting with the structuring of the new position, every service needs to be offered before any child is placed in foster care. The agency will need to find ways to keep families intact in the community or budget a realistic Alternative Care amount. Motion by Benishek to approve the budget summary report, the Alternative Care Report and the Compensatory Time report. Motion second by Burby. Four ayes; one absent. Motion carried.

Review the Alternative Care Summary Report.

The Committee reviewed the Alternative Care Summary report.

Review Monthly Report for Compensatory Time.

The Committee reviewed the monthly report for compensatory time.

Review and approve the Training Report.

No training report was submitted to the Committee this month.

Director's Report.

Van Hoof reported starting the mid-year review of the 2014 budget and working on the full 2015 budget.

Updates from WCHSA (Wisconsin Counties Human Services Association) were shared with the committee. Van Hoof reported that Act 334 implemented the extension of out-of-home care to age 21 for youths with IEPs who are enrolled in school full-time.

Van Hoof reported the IM (Income Maintenance) funding for 2015 will be comparable to the 2014 funding. The ACA (Affordable Care Act) funding is set to expire in July 2015, but there has been some discussion about continuing with this funding as work is not going away. Van Hoof stated that information should come through the consortium lead.

Van Hoof reported the Department of Corrections (DOC) has made a push to have 17 year olds return as delinquencies to the Child Welfare system.

Van Hoof shared a copy of the revised job description for the Masters – Social Work (MSW). The MSW will provide child welfare job duties, but will have additional job duties with a goal to help save placement costs by providing services that will keep kids safely in the community.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2014 at 10:30 am. Meeting will be held in the Health Service Center board room. September's meeting was tentatively scheduled for September 8, 2014. Motion by Benishek to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 am. Motion second by Cahak. Four ayes; one absent. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Liane Blahnik, Administrative Assistant