

Human Services Director's Report
To the Health & Human Services Board
March 2015

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
Human Services Department Safety Training	Administration	To keep you updated on our progress, we are continuing to deploy more supports to staff regarding safety while at work. Several items have recently been deployed: 1. The HHS Building now allows entrance only via the front door except by badge access; 2. Polices around what to do and report when safety concerns arise have been developed; and 3. Training sessions have been mandated for all to attend to learn about the policies and how to minimize safety risks.	David Steinberg 785-5542 dsteinberg@lacrossecounty.org	No
Leadership Training	Administration	We continue to train new staff from our resource materials that focus on evidence based leadership from the "Results That Last" text. We are beginning to explore reward and incentive options as a new area of leadership development.	Jason Witt 785-6095 jwitt@lacrossecounty.org Dean Ruppert 785-6108 druppert@lacrossecounty.org	No
Avatar Milestone	Administration	On February 23 rd we conducted an all day session where Human Services Department Super-users demonstrated four different work flows to Netsmart staff. Netsmart staff were pleased with our knowledge, work flows, and upcoming training plan for our staff.	Dean Ruppert 785-6108 druppert@lacrossecounty.org	No
Western Regional Adolescent Services DCF Inspection	Family & Children's	On February 24, 2015 our shelter care licensor from the Department of Children and Families (DCF) conducted a drop-in visit to inspect our facility. The Western Regional Adolescent Center received a very good review with only one minor noted non-compliance issue related to fire drill frequency. The issue has been addressed.	David Steinberg 785-5542 dsteinberg@lacrossecounty.org Nancy Pohlman 785-6060 npohlman@lacrossecounty.org	No
Community Partnerships	Justice Support Services	The Parenting Place initiative to implement parenting programs in the jail remains in the planning stages. There is no set date to begin. The mentorship plan to reach community members in the criminal justice system also remains in the planning stages. There are meetings with Workforce Connections to keep apprised of the progress. At this point there is nothing new to report other than collaboration and planning is continuing.	Jane Klekamp 785-5547 jklekamp@lacrossecounty.org	No

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Deferred Prosecution/ Diversion Agreements	Justice Support Services	The Diversion Program is established within Justice Support Services. Assessments are happening on a daily basis to determine services and programs which include testing and referrals to services based on the risk and needs.	Jane Klekamp 785-5547 jklekamp@lacrossecounty.org	No
Evidence Based Decision Making	Justice Support Services	La Crosse County has been accepted as a pilot county to implement Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) as of February. There is ongoing communication with the Circuit Court Judges, Department of Corrections, District Attorney's Office and the Defense Bar regarding the importance of using EBDM and what is the best approach to implementation. The plan is to keep everyone on board and vested in following through with the decision making process to assist community members involved with the criminal justice system. Evidence based practice provides a means to determine who is high risk to reoffend versus low risk. Our efforts will be designed to separate those who are high risk requiring increased intervention from low risk who will self-correct with appropriate attention to their level of criminal justice involvement. Guidance from the State of Wisconsin's Supreme Court, Department of Corrections, and Department of Justice will make this a likely achievement.	Jane Klekamp 785-5547 jklekamp@lacrossecounty.org	No
Marketplace Enrollment Period Extended	Economic Support	The end date of the most recent Marketplace open enrollment period was extended from February 15 to February 22. The extension was prompted by longer than normal wait times for the Marketplace Call Center, and a technical issue preventing income verification within the online Marketplace application, the weekend before the February 15 deadline. There will also be a special enrollment period in 2015, from March 15 – April 30, for people who owe the ObamaCare tax for 2014 and were confused about enrollment for 2015. It provides an extra opportunity for these individuals to avoid the fee for the rest of 2015. The Western Region Enrollment Network (WREN) will be holding additional enrollment events in each of the eight counties during the special enrollment period as well. During the enrollment events, Certified Application Counselors (CACs) will be available to assist people to enroll in health care coverage through the online Marketplace. There will be two enrollment events held in La Crosse County on April 22 from 1-5 pm and April 29 from 2-6 pm. Both events will be held at the La Crosse County Health and Human Services Building.	Lorie Graff 785-6061 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No

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Participation Requirements for Food Share Program	Economic Support	Effective April 1, 2015 adults 18 through 49 who do not have minor children living in their home will only receive 3 months of Food Share benefits in a 36-month (3 year) period unless they meet work participation requirements or are found exempt from the work requirements. Western Region for Economic Assistance (WREA) staff will receive training from the Department of Health Services (DHS) on the new work participation requirements for the Food Share program in March. If they don't meet the work participation requirements through employment, another way that affected Food Share recipients can meet the work participation requirements is by enrolling in the Food Share Employment and Training (FSET) program. Wisconsin will have new regional FSET service providers beginning April 1 st as well. Workforce Connections is the new FSET service provider for La Crosse County, which is in FSET Region 9.	Lorie Graff 785-6061 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No
Western Region Integrated Care (WRIC) <i>Pilot Project Update</i>	Integrated Support & Recovery Services	<p>Pilot Project: Implement shared services approach for a core set of mental health/substance abuse services across partner counties by the end of 2015.</p> <p>Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 of the 32 Core Benefit services that will be delivered through this project are operating within the consortium. • An additional 9 of the 32 Core Benefit services have been “approved” by the Division of Quality Assurance to operate, but implementation is on hold until Medical Assistance determines how we should bill as a regional entity. We anticipate this being answered within weeks. • Significant design team work continued on 8 additional Core Benefit services slated to begin in June of 2015. Most notable is a renewed effort to work with another state division to develop a regional model for Children with Long Term Support Waivers. The Western Region DHS office devoted numerous hours facilitating a new design framework that was agreed upon by WRIC and the Division of Long Term Care. • A new Comprehensive Community Services Advisory Council was created and met for the first time. Regional representation consisting of county staff, consumers, advocates, and providers is required by administrative code to provide significant oversight of this program. 	Matt Strittmater 785-6156 mstrittmater@lacrossecounty.org	No

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La Crosse Community Foundation Grant	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	Leilani Powell (ISRS Supervisor) and Nicole Milliren (ISRS Clinical Therapist) applied for and were awarded La Crosse Community Foundation grant funds to offer a Circle of Security Informed Training for community clinicians in 2015. Funding in the amount of \$16,735.00 was received and will allow our agency to fully cover the cost of training that builds upon the recent Trauma Informed Care project content and increases our community's ability to work with children and families with significant trauma related needs.	Matt Strittmater 785-6156 mstrittmater@lacrossecounty.org	No
BRACE (Building Resilience Against Climate Effects)	Community Access and Resources Section	Human Services is involved in a community collaborative effort focusing on how precipitation changes, winter weather changes, and increasing heat changes will impact the public, especially those with chronic conditions or who are elderly.	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No
Updated Community Services Directory	Community Access and Resources Section	A revised and updated Community Services Directory has been created. This publication is available in paper format through Human Services and is also posted on the Human Services website.	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No
Regional Community-Building Discussion Meeting	Community Access and Resources Section	A pilot program sponsored by the Statewide Associational Leaders Group is beginning in Viroqua (includes communities in a 50 mile radius). Goal is to build strength in local relationships in order to solve/work on local community issues.	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No
Disability Services Collaborative Meetings	Community Access and Resources Section	The Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) is participating in community meetings regarding challenges experienced by people with disabilities in our community and creating opportunities for improving these situations. These meetings are being mentored by Forward Community Investments.	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No
ADRC Statewide Conference in La Crosse – April 2015	Community Access and Resources Section	The Statewide Aging and Disability Resource Center Conference will be held at the La Crosse Center on April 15 – 17, 2015.	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No