

Human Services Director's Report
To the Health & Human Services Board
 June 2016

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
Office Space	Administration	Progress on the Human Services building addition is very visible now from the outside with the brickwork now being completed. We understand that they are sheet rocking and even painting certain areas in that addition. Collaboration continues with IT and Facilities on the existing building's space that is being remodeled and the corresponding staff moves that are necessary. All will be pleased when the new addition and remodeling is completed towards year end.	Dean Ruppert 785-6108 druppert@lacrossecounty.org	No
2017 Budget	Administration	Our 2017 budget request is due July 22 nd for review by County Finance and the County Administrator. Planning and discussions are occurring around personnel related items, program changes, program resources, etc.	Dean Ruppert 785-6108 druppert@lacrossecounty.org	No
IT Planning	Administration	Due to the volume of IT support our Human Services Department requires, regular meetings are being held with John Parshall, IT Director, and our leadership on organizational structure, needs, priorities, etc.	Dean Ruppert 785-6108 druppert@lacrossecounty.org	No
Contract Unit Supervisor	Administration	Chris Sander has assumed the vacant Contract Unit Supervisor position. She has 20 years of experience within our Department and will be a great asset to this position.	Dean Ruppert 785-6108 druppert@lacrossecounty.org	No
Staff Travel	Administration	A team of staff from our Department and the Finance Department were engaged in a process improvement team to relook at our travel ordinance, procedures, and practices. They have modified and improved several areas to make this process of necessary travel approval and claiming easier and more efficient.	Dean Ruppert 785-6108 druppert@lacrossecounty.org	No
Western Region Integrated Care (WRIC) <i>Pilot Project Update</i>	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	<p>Pilot Project: Implement shared services approach for a core set of mental health/substance abuse services across partner counties by the end of 2016.</p> <p>Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 Core Benefit services are operating within the consortium. • 10 Core Benefit services have been approved for implementation in 2016. • 5 Core Benefit services slated for 2016 are still being designed. • 2 services are on hold until the Division of Long Term Care clarifies their future. • Significant work continues to develop program specific and overall business model design elements for efficiencies and support of consortium operations. 	Matt Strittmater 785-6156 mstrittmater@lacrossecounty.org	No

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National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Iris Awards	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	<p>Each year the La Crosse chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) selects individuals to receive Iris Awards for the impact they have in our community. Two individuals associated with ISRS services were chosen for awards in 2016 and honored at a reception on May 17th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Katie Fassbinder (ISRS Medical Director) • Anita Walker (Crisis Responder) 	<p>Matt Strittmater 785-6156 mstrittmater@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No
Mental Health Awareness Walk	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	<p>ISRS Outpatient Clinic employees facilitated the 5th annual Mental Health Awareness Walk on May 26th. Approximately 100 people gathered outside the Administrative Center to hear a proclamation by Mayor Tim Kabat and a brief speech by a consumer. A walk through the downtown area then occurred with individuals carrying informational signs.</p>	<p>Matt Strittmater 785-6156 mstrittmater@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No
Foster Care Event	Family & Children's	<p>The Permanency Resource Unit sponsored the third annual Brat Barn for Kids in Foster Care event on May 20, 2016 at the La Crosse Festival Foods on Copeland Avenue. This event was a success, adding \$440.21 to our foster care donation account. This account helps pay for additional enrichment activities that kids in foster care do not always have access to. Past funds have paid for things such as: prom attire, sports shoes, bikes, class rings, and glasses for example. There were staff, foster parents, and a board member that joined us to grill brats, work the stand, and hand out brochures to those interested in learning more about our foster care program.</p>	<p>Tracy Puent 785-6083 tpuent@lacrossecounty.org</p> <p>Lila Barlow 785-5539 lbarlow@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No
Foster Care Event	Family & Children's	<p>The Foster Family Picnic will be held on June 14, 2016 at the Clearwater Farm in Onalaska from 5-7:30pm. At the farm there is an 1890's barn to tour, animals to pet, and beautiful gardens to explore. There will also be games for all ages. This event is one way in which we are able to thank, and show our appreciation to, our foster parents and respite providers for all of the work that they do for the children and their families in our community. It also serves as a way for foster families to network and get to know each other. The picnic is a fun yearly event and we welcome anyone on the board to join us!</p>	<p>Tracy Puent 785-6083 tpuent@lacrossecounty.org</p> <p>Lila Barlow 785-5539 lbarlow@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No
Pre-Trial Services	Justice Support Services (JSS)	<p>JSS has two pre-trial social workers who are funded entirely by a Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Grant. We are in a competitive grant year for 2017 funding. A good number of hours in the month of June will be spent drafting and polishing this grant so as to secure funding to keep these services and as well, keep our two pre-trial services social workers employed.</p>	<p>Rukmini Vasupuram 785-5547 rvasupuram@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No
La Crosse Area Family Collaborative (LAFC)	Justice Support Services (JSS)	<p>La Crosse County Human Services Director recently visited Chippewa County, where their equivalent of the Criminal Justice Management Council indicated an interest in creating an initiative similar to LAFC. A link to media about the visit is available here: http://www.weau.com/content/misc/Chippewa-Co-works-to-address-problem-communities-380720551.html</p>	<p>Rukmini Vasupuram 785-5547 rvasupuram@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No

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ADRC Contract Compliance	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	The 4 county ADRC partnership continues to work on contract compliance due to the many updates in this year's contract. We are focusing our effort on the physical space requirements, specifically parking availability/accessibility and building signage and room requirements in each of our 4 locations. The group has also discussed having fewer "open-office" available days per week in the Black River Falls, Sparta and Viroqua offices in order to allow for more satellite or outreach efforts in each county. Additional funding from Department of Health Services (DHS) has been requested to pay for remodeling in one office, signage updates across the region, and one new staff position (La Crosse).	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No
Dementia Crisis Grant Event	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	On June 15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., the initial community partner meeting for our new Dementia/Crisis grant project will occur at the Black River Beach House. Professionals from many sectors have been invited to meet to discuss our community approach to individuals with Alzheimer's and to develop strategies to improve the community's crisis planning response and stabilization planning for those living with dementia.	Cheryl Neubauer 785-5708 cneubauer@lacrossecounty.org	No
Partnering	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	The ADRC is collaborating with The Center: 7 Rivers LGBTQ Connection as they present training for professionals working in local facilities on strategies to provide inclusive and supportive environments that are welcoming to all who request service. On June 7, The Center is presenting "A Caring Response for LGBTQ Clients, Cultural Competency Training" from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Myrick Park Center.	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No
Family Care Update	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	The Legislative Fiscal Bureau released a paper regarding DHS's Family Care 2.0 Concept Paper on Thursday, May 26. The full document can be found at the following link: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/misc/100_family_care_iris_2_0_concept_paper_5_26_16.pdf . Now that this document has been created/released, the Joint Finance Committee may meet to consider the future of the proposed changes. No date for this meeting, if it is scheduled, has yet been announced.	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No
Disaster Preparedness	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	The ADRC will represent Human Services as we work with the Health Department to provide to community partners information about Family Assistance Centers during the month of June.	Audra Martine 785-6172 amartine@lacrossecounty.org	No
Welcome Home Veterans Pilot Program	Economic Support (ES)	La Crosse County will administer the Welcome Home Veterans program this summer. The program is designed to assist veterans experiencing homelessness with first month's rent, security deposit and/or utility expenses. Referrals to the program can only be made by the Department of Veteran's Affairs Outreach and Recovery program, the County's Veteran's Service Officer or Couleecap.	Lorie Graff 785-6061 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No

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Summer Fill Program – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	Economic Support (ES)	This program targets homeowners who receive Social Security Retirement or Veterans income types, and whose primary heat source is propane or fuel oil. A \$50 client contribution is required to receive up to \$300 for propane customers and \$400 for fuel oil customers.	Lorie Graff 785-6061 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No
Public Benefit Crisis Benefits – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	Economic Support (ES)	La Crosse County received additional Public Benefit funding to assist persons whose electricity has either been disconnected or who are facing a disconnect. The County’s LIHEAP Crisis Plan policies, state minimum client contribution requirements and rules around the source of any client contributions can be waived in determining eligibility for these additional funds.	Lorie Graff 785-6061 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No