

FAMILY POLICY BOARD

Monday, November 8, 2021

Meeting Held via Zoom

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kristi Arenz, Karolee Behringer, Chris Crye, Isaac Hoffman, Ann Kappauf, Lacie Ketelhut, Jane Klekamp, Audra Martine, Sue Mathison, Vie Matty, Heidi Odegaard, Roberto Partarrieu, Heather Quackenboss, Bridget Todd-Robbins, Tina Tryggestad, Jodi Widuch, Jason Witt, Tita Yutuc, Lurch-BACA

GUESTS/OTHERS PRESENT

Michelle Burkhardt (E3 Works), Amy Kuester (Great Rivers 2-1-1), Denise Lorenz (Aptiv), Diane McGinnis (City of La Crosse), Kelly Norsten (Workforce Connections), Anna Pedretti (Head Start)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ann Kappauf called the meeting to order at 12:02pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Vie Matty and Chris Crye to approve the September 13, 2021 minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES

HHS Board Update: Tina Tryggestad

The County Board accepted the Youth System of Care Grant funds in September. The grant period goes through August 2023. This month, the Health and Human Services Board Committee approved the acceptance of the Drug Free Communities Grant Program, which creates new positions in the Health Department including a Health Educator and Administrative Assistant. This is a \$650,000 grant over five years. The committee also approved the acceptance of Supplemental Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPTBG) funding in the amount of \$147,000, as well as the acceptance of Supplemental Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (CMHSBG) funding, both of which go through 2023. These will go to the County Board this evening for final approval; the County Board will also vote on the 2022 budget. There will be a hearing before tonight's meeting on the redistricting maps that have been developed.

HS Director Update: Jason Witt

Regarding Coronavirus related funds, the Coronavirus Relief Act provided federal funding which as part of Wisconsin state plan is being allocated to County human services programs. There is increased mental health (\$90,362) and substance abuse prevention and treatment funding (\$147,451) for La Crosse County Human Services which the County Board will take action on accepting this evening. These funds will strengthen the services offered for substance abuse and mental health, including peer support and education around women in recovery, case management supports of individuals in transitional housing programs, increased funding for residential services, and strengthening the CSP program. Tonight the County Board will be considering the 2022 La Crosse County Budget, which will determine the level of funding and positions for Human Services. More information on the 2022 Human Services budget will be presented at our January meeting.

Section Update – none at this time

Presentation:

PLANNING AND DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN RESCUE ACT (ARPA) FUNDING

Jane Klekamp, La Crosse County Associate County Administrator

Jane shared the ARPA Update, which can be found here:

<https://www.lacrossecounty.org/humanservices/docs/Family%20Policy%20Board/11%2008%202021%20Jane%20Kleka%20PowerPoint.pdf>

Diane McGinnis, City of La Crosse Community Development Administrator

Diane shared that the City of La Crosse will continue to seek out how to distribute the funding, which is about \$22 million, and is asking the community to provide input on where the funds should be allocated. The City's goal is to be able to look back in 10 or 20 years and see the impact that was made through this funding. City Council has identified adequate, safe housing within the city as the largest priority, which includes looking at the trades industry. The second area for funding is childcare. They will look at increasing childcare which may include new providers and childcare expansion. The mayor is committed to the homelessness issue in La Crosse and the Council has appropriated about 10% of the total allocation to the Planning Department. They will partner with La Crosse Community Foundation with a focus on project-based requests for non-profits to recover from the Covid pandemic. This application totals \$2 million and the proposal is due December 8, 2021. There are no restrictions on what to apply for, so it is encouraged to submit ideas for projects. On November 11, 2021, there will be a resolution with the City Council for \$700,000 for unsheltered folks to get indoors for the Winter. This contract has been awarded to a collaborative group of community partners and it would start on November 15th if approved. Another item in focus on the funding will be environmental cleanup of the marsh. Distribution of funding has not been fully determined but they are looking for projects that focus on equity and collaboration. Many opportunities are coming down from the state level as they are receiving federal funds from ARPA and other sources. The City of La Crosse will receive about \$1 million of additional home funds with a focus on homelessness. The anticipation is the funding will be available by 2022. There is a very tight timeline for turnaround for these state-level applications around housing, childcare, tourism, and other impactful projects, so the community is encouraged to submit ideas through the website while they make plans for the funds.

AGENCY CHECK-INS & ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Lurch (BACA) shared that their annual fundraiser is this Saturday, November 13th, at All-Star Lanes Banquet Center, which includes a soup cookoff, silent auction, face painting, and live entertainment. There is a \$10 requested donation; ages 12 & under are free.

Denise Lorenz (Aptiv) shared that they are running their Miss Remarkable Pageant for women with disabilities. It will be virtual, and they will have television coverage of the candidates. Contestants have to apply; there are five applicants thus far (usually 10-12 applicants). Aptiv also has their Remarkable Citizen of the Month, and people can recommend anyone with a disability for this acknowledgment.

Ann Kappauf shared that New Horizons will be putting on their Galentine's Day Brunch on February 12, 2022. Information for this in-person event will be coming soon.

ADJOURNMENT TO THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD JANUARY 2022 – DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

Chairperson Ann Kappauf adjourned the meeting at 12:36pm.

Approved February 7, 2022, Connie Bublitz, Recorder