

**Human Services Director's Report**  
**To the Health & Human Services Board**

January 2023

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
Transportation Services	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	<p>The ADRC is an annual recipient of Specialized Transportation Assistance funds as authorized by Wisconsin Statute 85.21. Any unspent funds are held in a trust for future expenses or the acquisition or maintenance of transportation equipment. Like previous years, the ADRC sought applications/requests from local non-profit, service providers to assist with the purchase or maintenance of equipment used for specialized transportation. As a result, the ADRC was pleased to grant funds to three local agencies in 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3,200 to Benedictine Living Community for bus stair repair</li> <li>• \$12,565 to Creative Community Living Services, Inc. (CCLS) for lift and various equipment/maintenance</li> <li>• \$8,648 to VARC, Inc. for various equipment/maintenance</li> </ul>	ADRC Manager Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 <a href="mailto:cpagel@lacssecounty.org">cpagel@lacssecounty.org</a>	No
Senior Nutrition Program	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Thanks to La Crosse County employee jeans day funds, 195 emergency meal kits were assembled and distributed to home-delivered meal participants for use on day(s) service is cancelled due to weather. Kits contain shelf-stable packages of tuna, chicken, applesauce, crackers, granola bars, mixed nuts, and apple juice.	ADRC Manager Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 <a href="mailto:cpagel@lacssecounty.org">cpagel@lacssecounty.org</a>	No
2023 Federal Omnibus Spending Bill	Economic Support (ES)	The 2023 Federal Omnibus Spending Bill, passed by Congress on December 23 <sup>rd</sup> , de-links the Food Share and Medicaid unwinding plans from the federal Public Health Emergency. The additional Emergency Food Share benefits that have been issued under the Public Health Emergency will end after February 2023. The bill also sunsets the continuous Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage requirements on April 1, 2023. At that time, states may begin initiating Medicaid and CHIP eligibility redeterminations.	ES Manager Lorie Graff 738-2410 <a href="mailto:lgraff@lacssecounty.org">lgraff@lacssecounty.org</a>	No
Foster Care Event	Family & Children's (FC)	The Foster Care Holiday Party took place on December 15, 2022, from 5:30-8:00pm at Bethany Evangelical Free Church. Approximately 20 foster/relative care families attended the party. In total, there was roughly 140 people, which included staff from La Crosse County Human Services Department and church volunteers, who helped to make the event a success for the children and families. Santa also made a surprise visit and handed out gifts to each child. There was bingo and an entire game room set up for the children and families to play together in. An anonymous donor from the church also paid for everyone to get drinks from the café they have inside the church.	FC Manager Tracy Puent 792-5507 <a href="mailto:tpuent@lacssecounty.org">tpuent@lacssecounty.org</a>	No

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		We would like to recognize the Valley View Rotary Club who again donated gifts to every child in out-of-home care this holiday season. They provided gifts to 73 children.		
Grant funding related to State Opioid Response Grant (SOAR)	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	<p>The ISRS section is in the process of re-applying for State Opioid Response Grant (SOAR) funding through the Department of Health Services. We have received this funding for the past 4+ years and are excited to have an additional opportunity to receive this funding. The grant funds are to be used to increase access to FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder and to support prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services for opioid use disorder and other co-occurring substance use disorders. The SOAR grant also supports the continuum of care for stimulant use disorders, including cocaine and methamphetamine.</p> <p>Once awarded, the SOAR grant will run from September 30, 2022 through September 29, 2023.</p>	<p>ISRS Manager Christin Skolnik 785-6019 <a href="mailto:cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org">cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org</a> ISRS Assistant Manager Anneliese Skoda <a href="mailto:askoda@lacrossecounty.org">askoda@lacrossecounty.org</a></p>	
Community Development Block Grant Awarded (CDBG)	Justice Support Services (JSS) La Crosse Area Family Collaborative (LAFC)	The City of La Crosse awarded La Crosse County Human Services and La Crosse Area Family Collaborative a two-year grant starting April 1, 2023. \$42,009 per year was awarded to support program expansion and the development of the Schuh/Mullen Homes neighborhood social worker position.	<p>JSS Manager Tonya Van Tol 785-5815 <a href="mailto:tvantol@lacrossecounty.org">tvantol@lacrossecounty.org</a> Isaac Hoffman <a href="mailto:ihoffman@lacrossecounty.org">ihoffman@lacrossecounty.org</a> Youth Justice Supervisor Phil Stegemann 386-6048 <a href="mailto:pstegemann@lacrossecounty.org">pstegemann@lacrossecounty.org</a></p>	No