

FAMILY POLICY BOARD

Monday, January 7, 2019

Health & Human Services Building – Basement Auditorium

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jason Witt, Tita Yutuc, Kristi Arenz, Sue Mathison, Heather Quackenboss, Tracy Puent, Jenni Loging, Ann Kappauf, Ashley Santolin, Lisa Duncanson, Stacy “Sassy” Smith, Isaac Hoffman, Mary Kay Wolf, Chris Crye, Sharon Hampson, Bridget Todd-Robbins, Jake Erickson, Catherine Kolkmeier, Hetti Brown, Barbara Mc Peak, Katie Berkedal, Jodi Widuch

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Tita Yutuc called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Lisa Duncanson and Stacy “Sassy” Smith to approve the December 3, 2018 minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES

HHS Board Update: Sharon Hampson

The Health and Human Services board approved the addition of a half time position to help address the opioid abuse epidemic locally. The January issue of the Wisconsin Counties Association magazine is titled, “A System in Crisis: Wisconsin Child Protective Services.” The issue features a series of articles about the state of Wisconsin’s child protective services system as told from multiple counties’ perspectives, including the viewpoint of caseworkers. The issue can be found online at <https://www.wicounties.org/publications.iml>.

HS Director Update: Jason Witt

Over 300 children have been enrolled in Children’s Long Term Supports programs and there is currently no waiting list. La Crosse County has more than doubled the number of children being served.

A book club has been started as an additional tool for La Crosse County staff to build their skill set as a trauma-informed community. The first book for recommended reading is Trauma Stewardship subtitled An Everyday Guide to Caring for Self While Caring for Others by Laura van Dernoot Lipsky. <https://www.amazon.com/Trauma-Stewardship-Everyday-Caring-Others/dp/157675944X>.

Family and Children’s Section Update: Tracy Puent

Tracy will be able to supply the final 2018 numbers in terms of families and children served in 2018 at the next meeting. Family and Children’s section continues to provide services to families who have multiple and high needs.

SMALL GROUP BREAK OUT SUGGESTIONS for 2019-2020 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The remainder of the meeting was spent in small groups with the intent of identifying 2019-2020 Strategic Priorities and Activities. The Mission of the Family Policy Board and the 2017-2018 Strategic Priorities and Activities were reviewed and a handout was provided for reference. A summary or compilation of the small group recommendations will be shared at the next Family Policy Board meeting.

QUARTERLY DATA DASHBOARD & AGENCY ROUNDTABLE

United Way: The United Way campaign is concluding at the end of January and they are currently 2 million dollars short of the amount they have promised to beneficiaries. All Family Policy Board members and agencies were asked to spread the word and encourage donations.

Coulee Cap: Coulee Cap has launched Project Recovery, a community-based program providing outreach, crisis counseling, and support to communities impacted by severe storms, flooding, land-slides, straight-line winds, and tornadoes in the summer of 2018. The program deploys outreach workers to nine counties designated for federal disaster assistance: Crawford, Dane, Juneau, La Crosse, Marquette, Monroe, Richland, Sauk, and Vernon. The full Crisis team which includes licensed social workers and crisis responders is trained and on the ground providing services already. <https://www.couleecap.org/project-recovery.html>

Parenting Place: The Parenting Place is hiring a Strong Families Consultant. This is a new position for the agency and is intended to assist families who are having difficulty meeting their basic needs.

La Crosse Community Foundation and the Franke Fund: The deadline for February grants is January 15. Contact Katie Berkedal to discuss your request.

Bikers Against Child Abuse: The Big River chapter meetings have relocated to the Mirage Bar at 4329 Mormon Coulee Road on La Crosse's south side. Chapter meetings are held at 1:30 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month.

In conclusion Sharon Hampson made a request that the committee pursue more environmentally friendly alternatives to using styrofoam and bottled water during the meal that accompanies the committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT TO THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4 , 2019, AT NOON

Chairperson Tita Yutuc adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm.

Approved: February 4, 2019, Rachel Klistai, Recorder