

**Human Services Director's Report**  
**To the Health & Human Services Board**  
 April 2019

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
DCF Secretary Visit	Administration	On Tuesday, March 26, the Department of Children & Families (DCF) Secretary-designee Emilie Amundson visited La Crosse County Human Services. The visit encompassed most of the day and, during the morning, she was joined by Representative Jill Billings. During her time with us, Secretary-Amundsen met in separate "town hall-like" sessions with Child Protective Services and Youth Justice staff. She also met with stakeholders of the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative (LAFC) at its northside office within the building owned by Trinity Lutheran Church. To close out her visit, Secretary-designee Amundson toured Human Services' juvenile detention and shelter facilities. It was a great opportunity to provide information and have discussion on caseload size, mandates, staff turnover and secondary trauma, along with the impact of the drug epidemic on children and their families. We were also able to discuss the items La Crosse County and the Wisconsin Counties Association are advocating for in the 2019-21 State Biennial Budget.	Jason Witt 785-6095 <a href="mailto:jwitt@lacrossecounty.org">jwitt@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
Human Services Day at the Capitol	Administration	On Tuesday, April 2, it was Human Services Day at the Capitol. Jason Witt, Mandy Bisek, David Steinberg, Christin Skolnik, and Tracy Puent from Human Services along with Tara Johnson and Doug Weidenbach from the County Board participated in the event. The La Crosse County team had an opportunity to meet directly with Senator Jennifer Shilling as well as staff from the offices of Representative Billings and Representative Doyle. We were able to advocate for the areas in the Governor's budget that directly impact our programs and the services we provide to children and families. Regarding Child Protective Services (CPS), we advocated for an additional \$15 million in the Child & Family Aids allocation to address the child welfare crisis along with the need for legislative oversight every budget cycle to review the needs and resources within the child welfare system.	Jason Witt 785-6095 <a href="mailto:jwitt@lacrossecounty.org">jwitt@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
Community Conversations	Administration	On Wednesday, March 20, Jason Witt made a presentation over the noon hour as part of the monthly Community Conversations hosted by English Lutheran Church. The subject was how Wisconsin's opioid and meth epidemics have created a crisis for Wisconsin's families and the child protective services system. A recording of the presentation can be found here: <a href="https://www.interfaithleaders.org/past-events.html">https://www.interfaithleaders.org/past-events.html</a>	Jason Witt 785-6095 <a href="mailto:jwitt@lacrossecounty.org">jwitt@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No

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ADRC Walk-In Appointment Hours	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Effective March 25, ADRC walk-in appointment hours changed from 8:00 AM-4:30 PM to 8:30 AM-3:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The lobby will remain open, and ADRC Professionals will continue to accept phone calls, between 8:00 AM-4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Scheduled appointments are encouraged. Accommodations and after-hour appointments are always available upon request.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 <a href="mailto:cpagel@lacrossecounty.org">cpagel@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
NEW! Brain & Body Fitness Program	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	The ADRC, in collaboration with the YMCA, began a new group exercise program for people living with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease and their caregiver, proven to improve physical exercise and mood in people living with dementia. Classes are free, occurring twice weekly for three months. A free YMCA membership is also included.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 <a href="mailto:cpagel@lacrossecounty.org">cpagel@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
Volunteer Recognition	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	April is volunteer appreciation month. In 2018, the ADRC utilized 166 volunteers to provide a total of 14,892 hours of service in support of the senior nutrition program. A volunteer banquet will be held April 10, 2019, at All Star Banquets from 2:30 to 5:00 PM. Volunteers will be acknowledged, including the <i>Top Volunteer of the Year</i> who provided 712 hours of service at our Carroll Heights meal site.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 <a href="mailto:cpagel@lacrossecounty.org">cpagel@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
2019-2021 State Biennial Budget	Economic Support (ES)	The Governor's budget changes the family income eligibility level to up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level for BadgerCare, making an additional 82,000 Wisconsin residents eligible for healthcare coverage through Medicaid. Unfortunately, the Governor's budget provides no increase in the Income Maintenance (IM) administration allocation to cover the workload increase that IM Consortia would experience with Medicaid expansion. Counties will be working with the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) and Wisconsin County Human Service Association (WCHSA) to ask that legislators, if they approve Medicaid expansion, provide adequate administrative funding for its successful implementation.	Lorie Graff 785-6061 <a href="mailto:lgraff@lacrossecounty.org">lgraff@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
Community Support Program	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	The Family and Children's Center was recently awarded a 5-year contract for the Western Region Integrated Care's (WRIC) Community Support Program (CSP). The CSP is designed to help adults with mental health or substance use challenges to live independently in the community within La Crosse, Jackson and Monroe Counties.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 <a href="mailto:cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org">cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
Crisis	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	Our Crisis Unit was recently informed by the Department of Health Services (DHS) that our Collaborative Crisis Intervention Services to Youth (CCISY) grant due to end June 2019 will be extended for another year through June 30, 2020. This grant is in partnership with our Western Region Integrated Care's (WRIC) Consortium, serving La Crosse, Jackson and Monroe Counties.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 <a href="mailto:cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org">cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No

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Outpatient Clinic	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	Planning has begun for the 8 <sup>th</sup> annual Mental Health Awareness Walk to be held on May 29, 2019, at 12:00 pm. The Outpatient Clinic is collaborating with Gunderson Health Systems this year to host the event, and La Crosse City Mayor will be presenting a proclamation. See the community event schedule and links to further details in agenda item 1F of the April HHS Board Packet.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 <a href="mailto:cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org">cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
Unit Name Change	Justice Support Services (JSS) – Juvenile Justice	Coinciding with the 2019 budget cycle, Juvenile Justice changed their name to “Youth Justice” in order to more appropriately coincide with the Department of Children and Family’s title and philosophy.	Mandy Bisek 785-6216 <a href="mailto:mbisek@lacrossecounty.org">mbisek@lacrossecounty.org</a>  Phil Stegemann 785-6447 <a href="mailto:pstegemann@lacrossecounty.org">pstegemann@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
Implementation of New Assessment Tool	Justice Support Services (JSS) - Pretrial	On March 25, 2019, Justice Support Services implemented a new pretrial assessment tool, the Public Safety Assessment. This takes the place of the COMPAS pretrial assessment that had formerly been used. La Crosse is among six other pilot sites in the State of Wisconsin working to standardize pretrial assessment and supervision within the state. Implementation of this tool was a piece of the pilot requirements. Much time and effort has gone into educating criminal justice stakeholders and decision makers on implementing this change, interpreting the results, and applying the results to a release condition matrix. The Public Safety Assessment is a product of Arnold Ventures, formerly the Laura and John Arnold Foundation. It is a free tool that is available online nationwide.	Mandy Bisek 785-6216 <a href="mailto:mbisek@lacrossecounty.org">mbisek@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No
Letter of Interest Submission	Justice Support Services (JSS) – Juvenile Detention / SRCCCY	On March 28, 2019, La Crosse County Juvenile Detention submitted a “letter of interest” to the Department of Corrections SRCCCY Grants Committee to comply with the legislative due dates that had not yet been changed, in regards to potentially applying to become a SRCCCY (Secure Residential Care Center for Children & Youth). This letter is in no way binding, but simply allows for La Crosse County to continue to pursue this grant opportunity if we so choose. Much analysis continues internally to determine if pursuing this opportunity is a positive choice for us as a county.	Mandy Bisek 785-6216 <a href="mailto:mbisek@lacrossecounty.org">mbisek@lacrossecounty.org</a>  David Steinberg 785-5542 <a href="mailto:dsteinberg@lacrossecounty.org">dsteinberg@lacrossecounty.org</a>  Jason Witt 785-6095 <a href="mailto:jwitt@lacrossecounty.org">jwitt@lacrossecounty.org</a>	No