

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

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
Healthy Aging	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Join us for an event celebrating healthy aging in La Crosse County! Friday, May 17, from 1:00 to 2:00 PM at the La Crosse Wellness Center (2839 Darling Court, La Crosse) we will showcase all the programs and initiatives happening in the La Crosse community as well as provide a 30-minute Tai Chi demonstration class. For more information or to register, call the ADRC at 608-785-5700.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
National Senior Health & Fitness Day	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Our second annual National Senior Health & Fitness Day will be held Wednesday, May 29, from 12:00 to 4:00 PM at the Onalaska United Methodist Church (212 4th Avenue N, Onalaska). A number of activities and demonstrations will be offered, along with health and fitness related information/presentations and variety of free health screens. For more information or to register, call the ADRC at 608-785-5700.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
Drug Pick-Up Program	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	The ADRC's Senior Nutrition Program, in collaboration with the Sheriff's Office, successfully piloted a drug pick-up program. Deputies traveled with meal delivery drivers to pick up unused and expired medications from home delivered meal participants living in West Salem, Town of Onalaska, Town of Campbell and one route in the City of Onalaska. Additional routes will be scheduled due to success.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
Child Protective Services (CPS) Advocacy	Family & Children's (FC)	On April 15 Jason Witt, Tracy Puent, Lila Barlow, CPS Initial Assessment Social Worker Vincent Loera, County Board Member Monica Kruse, and Foster Parent Maxine Jacobs travelled to River Falls, Wisconsin, to testify at the budget listening session with the Joint Finance Committee. Our group specifically spoke to the need for \$30 million in the state budget to begin to adequately address the child welfare crisis.	Jason Witt 785-6095 jwitt@lacrossecounty.org Tracy Puent 785-6083 tpuent@lacrossecounty.org	No
Foster Care Event	Family & Children's (FC)	On May 10 the Permanency Resource Unit is sponsoring the 6th Annual Brat Barn for Kids in Foster Care Event at the La Crosse Festival Foods on Copeland Avenue. This event is held every year in May which coincides with May being National Foster Care Awareness Month. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness about our continuing need for foster homes as well as to raise money for our foster care donation account. This account helps pay for additional enrichment activities that kids in foster care do not always have access to.	Lila Barlow 785-5539 lbarlow@lacrossecounty.org Tracy Puent 785-6083 tpuent@lacrossecounty.org	No

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Division of Medicaid Services Crisis Stabilization Innovation Incentive Award	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS) – Crisis Unit	Our Crisis Unit was recently informed by the Department of Health Services (DHS) that we have been awarded a Division of Medicaid Services (DMS) Crisis Stabilization Innovation Incentive Award. DHS received a total of 15 applications and our Crisis Unit stood out as one of the top applications. The award will be focused on collaboration with a residential provider in the La Crosse area to establish a crisis diversion facility which would be accessible regionally or possibly state wide to individuals with complex behavioral needs to reduce Institutions for Medical Disease (IMD) admissions.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org	No
8 th Annual Mental Health Awareness Walk	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS) – Outpatient Clinic	The Outpatient Clinic will hold its 8 th Annual Mental Health Awareness Walk 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.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org	No
Media Attention - Fresh Start Re-Entry Program	Justice Support Services (JSS)	<p>The Fresh Start Re-Entry program, a collaborative program between Justice Support Services, Integrated Support and Recovery Services, and the Sheriff’s Department, received positive media attention mid-April. Fresh Start focuses on those in our local jail with persistent mental health and substance abuse issues and creates a true wrap around team to assist them in connecting to supportive services within the community. Fresh Start contracts with Family and Children’s Center therapists and the Peer Association peer support specialists to create this wraparound approach. The ultimate goal of the program is to successfully connect individuals to the services they are in need of while also meeting their basic needs to reduce the revolving door through the Criminal Justice System.</p> <p>This program is made possible through a Second Chance Act grant focused on re-entry of those with co-occurring disorders. We are thankful for this opportunity to spearhead such an important and needed program.</p> <p>April was also deemed “Re-Entry Month” by Governor Evers, therefore the timing of this media attention was perfect.</p> <p>The link to the news story is below: New program helps former inmates stay out of jail https://www.news8000.com/news/new-program-helps-former-inmates-stay-out-of-jail/1069982716</p>	Mandy Bisek 785-6216 mbisek@lacrossecounty.org	No

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National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Include, Respect, I Self-Direct (IRIS) Award	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	Therapist Sam Seefeld will be awarded the NAMI IRIS award of excellence on May 29 for his work in supporting the recovery of those who are or have been involved in the correctional system and transitioning back into the community.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org	No
Human Services Day at the Capitol	Justice Support Services (JSS)	Justice Support Services Manager Mandy Bisek and Western Regional Adolescent Services Superintendent David Steinberg traveled with several other leaders from La Crosse County to participate in Human Services Day at the Capitol. There David and Mandy advocated in support of the return of 17-year-olds to the Youth Justice System, as well as shared our concerns and potential opportunities around the state's regionalization of Juvenile Corrections through the county run Secure Residential Centers for Children & Youth (SRCCCY).	Mandy Bisek 785-6216 mbisek@lacrossecounty.org	No