

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

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
Legislative Advocacy	Administration	<p>Since 2001, there has been a 160% increase in reported elder abuse in Wisconsin. The former Attorney General's Task Force on Elder Abuse worked to create solutions that combat this increase as well as protecting seniors from financial, emotional, and physical abuse. Human Services Deputy Director Audra Martine was a member of this Task Force, which helped develop the concepts included in recently introduced legislation. The proposed bills would strengthen protection for seniors by increasing penalties for abusers, enhancing options for financial security, and providing accommodations that increase elders' ability to participate in trial settings. Co-sponsorship of these bills was being sought until August 30. The press release regarding these proposed bills can be found here: http://www.thewheelerreport.com/wheeler_docs/files/0820testin.pdf</p>	<p>Jason Witt 785-6095 jwitt@lacrossecounty.org</p> <p>Audra Martine 785-6108 amartine@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No
Public Charge Rule	Economic Support (ES)	<p>The Western Region for Economic Assistance Consortium is starting to receive calls from customers with questions and concerns over the Public Charge Rule published by the Department of Homeland Security in mid-August. The rule will go into effect on 10/15/19. The Public Charge Rule will change how the Department of Homeland Security determines whether immigrants—when seeking admission to the U.S., an extension of their stay, or status change to become a legal permanent resident—are “likely at any time to become a public charge” (i.e., dependent on the government for financial support). If an individual is deemed to be likely at any time to become a public charge, they will not be allowed to legally enter the U.S., extend their stay or become a legal permanent resident. The rule broadens the programs of assistance that the federal government will consider in public charge determinations to include Food Share, Medicaid and certain housing programs, all of which were previously excluded. A legal immigrant who receives Food Share or Medicaid for more than 12 months in the aggregate within any 36-month period (receipt of 2 benefits in one month counts as 2 months) will count in determining that a legal immigrant is a public charge; thereby denying their ability to enter or stay in the U.S. legally.</p>	<p>Lorie Graff 785-6061 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No
Dementia Caregivers: Self- Care Series	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	<p>The ADRC is hosting a self-care series for caregivers! A variety of events ranging from a backyard bonfire to canvas/board painting offer opportunities for caregivers to relax, take a break from caregiving, and connect with other caregivers. For a list of events, or to register, check out the ADRC website or call ADRC at 608-785-5700.</p>	<p>Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org</p>	No

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Aging Mastery Program (AMP)	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Inclusa, in partnership with the ADRC of La Crosse County, National Council on Aging and Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, is bringing the Aging Mastery Program (AMP) to our community! AMP is a 5-week program that empowers participants to take key steps to improve their well-being, add stability in their life and strengthen ties to the community. The first AMP session will launch on Tuesday, September 17, 2019, at the Holmen Public Library. Class will meet every Tuesday from 1:30 - 3:30 pm through October 15, 2019. For more information, or to register, please contact Carla Lundeen of Inclusa at 608-785-6271 or carla.lundeen@inclusa.org	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
Foster Care Event: First Day of School Family Dinner	Family & Children's (FC)	The Foster Care Unit sponsored the third annual "First Day of School Family Dinner" on September 3, 2019. Foster families were given pizza from Dominos and soda donated from Coca-Cola Corporation to help families with the transition back to school.	Lila Barlow 785-5539 lbarlow@lacrossecounty.org	No
Foster Care Event: Torch Light Parade	Family & Children's (FC)	We will be participating again in the Torch Light Parade on September 26, 2019, to increase awareness of Foster Care in La Crosse County. All are welcome to join us in walking in the parade and handing out candy and foster care information.	Lila Barlow 785-5539 lbarlow@lacrossecounty.org	No
Trauma Informed Parenting Training	Family & Children's (FC)	We are continuing to partner with the La Crosse School District in providing Trauma Informed Parenting to staff, birth families, and members of the community. We are scheduled to have upcoming trainings at Logan High School starting in September 2019, Hamilton Elementary School in October 2019, and Hintgen Elementary School in January 2020. This is a great start in getting all schools across the La Crosse School District educated in Trauma Informed Parenting. Our goal is to branch out to the surrounding school districts in the future. These trainings are open to the public. Please contact Rhonda Rude at 789-4834 to register if interested.	Lila Barlow 785-5539 lbarlow@lacrossecounty.org	No
Legislative Pretrial Tour	Justice Support Services (JSS) - Adult	<p>On August 12, the Criminal Justice Management Council sponsored a Legislative Tour of La Crosse County's Pretrial Process. It was a successful day, attended by Senator Shilling and Representative Billings, along with representatives of the Criminal Justice Management Council, and County Board (thank you!). Numerous local media outlets attended the tour and provided community coverage. The intention of this day was to provide local representatives, stakeholders and our broader community an inside view of the pretrial process and the elements that go into making bond decisions. Justice Support Services was highlighted for those on the tour with information regarding the assessment and monitoring processes provided by JSS.</p> <p>Media Coverage: 8/12/19 La Crosse legislators tour pretrial circuit court system La Crosse Tribune 8/12/19 Criminal Justice Management Council hosts pretrial tour for area legislators WXOW 8/12/19 Local Legislators tour La Crosse's criminal justice system News 8</p>	Mandy Bisek 785-6216 mbisek@lacrossecounty.org	No

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Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Quality Assurance Team	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	<p>ISRS would like to highlight our Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver quality assurance (QA) team. Below is a snap shot of the detailed work our QA staff (comprised of one full-time and one part-time staff) tackle each month as it relates to the intricate behind the scenes infrastructure that keeps both programs running, and in compliance with State and Federal requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide quality assurance reviews for Children's Long-Term Support Waiver enrollments, yearly recertifications and 6-month reviews assuring that state requirements/timeframes are being met • Prepare for yearly state audits including file review; gather needed items for auditors; implement needed changes/training after audit has been completed with Children's Long-Term Support Waiver staff • Run reports out of Electronic Health Record (AVATAR), Program Participation System (State Database PPS), and the Eligibility and Enrollment Streamlining portal (EES) Systems to ensure accuracy of Children's Long-Term Support Waiver waitlist, current Children's Long-Term Support Waiver children enrolled/closed, Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Master list, and that systems match • Running monthly Children's Long-Term Support Waiver authorizations and sending to Wisconsin Physicians Service (WPS) provider agencies; this process is completed every few days to catch new authorizations to make sure billing is efficient and providers are prepared • Implement changes in Children's Long-Term Support Waiver forms and processes for La Crosse County as statewide changes are made • Assist Children's Long-Term Support Waiver workers/the unit in day to day operations 	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org	No
New Assistant Manager	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	Anneliese Skoda was offered and accepted the Assistant Manager position for the ISRS Section. Anneliese has worked for La Crosse County Human Services in various sections and roles for the past 15 years including Family and Children's, Justice Support Services and most recently within the ISRS section's Outpatient Clinic. She began the Assistant Manager position on July 29.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org	No