

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

Activity	Program/ Section	Brief Description	Contact Person	Attach- ment
National White Cane Safety Day	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	More than 1,200 La Crosse County residents 18 and older have some degree of vision loss; five percent of the older adults (65+) in our community are blind or visually impaired. Pedestrian safety for people with impaired vision is an ongoing concern. In recognition of National White Cane Safety Day, the ADRC is partnering with the Wisconsin Council of the Blind & Visually Impaired to raise awareness among motorists and pedestrians of the White Cane Law. An October 11 press conference at 1 pm (location TBD) will share information and highlight a campaign displayed on the side of four MTU buses coinciding with National White Cane Safety Day on October 15.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
Dementia Summit	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	The ADRC and UW-Extension are hosting an experiential summit to learn about dementia and how it has and will impact our lives, our families, our agencies and businesses, and our community. La Crosse area leaders have been invited to participate in this summit on October 18 at 8 am, 11 am or 2 pm. To learn more, or to sign up for a session, call ADRC at 785-5700.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
National Drug Take-Back Day	Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)	Medications should never be flushed or poured down the drain. These potentially dangerous pharmaceutical substances can contribute to contamination of our water supply if not disposed of properly. Instead, drive through and turn in your unused or expired prescription and over-the-counter medication for safe disposal on Saturday, October 26, between 9 am and 12 pm in front of the Health & Human Services Building (300 4th St N). This event is sponsored by the La Crosse County Sheriff's Department, ADRC, Health Department and La Crosse County Prevention Network.	Carissa Pagel-Smith 785-6172 cpagel@lacrossecounty.org	No
Child Welfare and the Courts Conference	Family & Children's (FC)	A team from the agency attended the bi-annual Child Welfare and the Courts Conference in Wisconsin Dells September 25-27. The focus of this year's conference was on effectuating timely permanency for children. The keynote speakers and breakout sessions really centered around family engagement, evidence-based practices, and the importance of keeping children in their home whenever possible by wrapping services/supports around them to address the safety concerns.	Tracy Puent 785-6083 tpuent@lacrossecounty.org	No

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Foster Care Retention	Family & Children's (FC)	We are implementing a new foster parent mentoring program to support our new foster families and help them build connections. We have five experienced foster parents who have now been paired up with new foster families. This mentoring program matches up newly licensed foster parents with seasoned foster parents who can answer questions, give guidance, and support them through their first placement.	Lila Barlow 785-5539 lbarlow@lacrossecounty.org	No
BadgerCare Reform Waiver Amendment Initiatives	Economic Support (ES)	The Department of Health Services (DHS) has developed an implementation plan for a number of changes included in the BadgerCare Reform Waiver amendment. Under the Department's plan, Childless Adult BadgerCare members will be subject to several new requirements beginning February 1, 2020. Childless Adults with income between 50% and 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) will be charged an \$8 monthly household premium for BadgerCare. Healthy behavior incentives, including a health risk assessment and an optional health survey, may lower their monthly premium if a member demonstrates avoiding/actively managing health risk behaviors. Childless Adult BadgerCare members will also be subject to a copayment for non-emergent use of the Emergency Department after February 1, 2020. DHS's implementation plan is pending approval by the Joint Finance Committee (JFC). The Department has also requested a 90-day extension from the JFC for implementation of the Childless Adult community engagement requirement and residential substance abuse treatment coverage for full benefit BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid members.	Lorie Graff 785-6061 lgraff@lacrossecounty.org	No
Recruitment for Crisis Intake Unit Supervisor	Integrated Support & Recovery Services (ISRS)	The ISRS Administrative team has begun recruitment for the position of Crisis Intake Unit Supervisor. Donna Christianson, who has held that position for 16 years, will be retiring from La Crosse County as of October 11, 2019.	Christin Skolnik 785-6019 cskolnik@lacrossecounty.org	No
Appointment to Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission	Justice Support Services (JSS)	David Steinberg has been appointed to the Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission (GJJC) per Executive Order #43. The GJJC is Wisconsin's State Advisory Group required by the federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act. See link for full membership.	David Steinberg 785-5542 dsteinberg@lacrossecounty.org	No
Statewide Youth Assessment Roll-Out	Justice Support Services (JSS)	The Department of Children and Families announced that La Crosse County will be a part of Phase 2 of the statewide roll-out of the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI), with implementation set to take place yet in 2019. The state has chosen the same assessment tool that La Crosse County has been utilizing on its own for the last 10+ years. Because of this, La Crosse has had a great voice at the table of the state roll-out and is looked to, among select others, to provide insight and guidance to the state on supporting a smooth transition.	Phil Stegemann 785-6447 pstegemann@lacrossecounty.org Mandy Bisek 785-6216 mbisek@lacrossecounty.org	No

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Conferences	Justice Support Services (JSS)	<p>Justice Support Services leadership and staff took advantage of several worthwhile conferences in the month of September to enhance our knowledge of research and best practices and to learn from others in the field doing similar work. Conferences included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Association of Pretrial Services and Agencies (NAPSA) in San Diego, CA, attended by JSS-Adult Leadership and staff (grant funded) - Wisconsin Juvenile Court Intake Association in Wisconsin Dells attended by Youth Justice and Juvenile Detention leadership and staff - Child Welfare and the Courts in Wisconsin Dells attended by Youth Justice Supervisor along with Child Protection and other County leadership - Pretrial Assessor Training in Wisconsin Dells attended by all pretrial staff and leadership - Treatment Court Standards Training in Appleton, WI, attended by our new OWI Court Coordinator 	Mandy Bisek 785-6216 mbisek@lacrossecounty.org	No