

APPROVED MINUTES

Health and Human Services Committee WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. *Health and Human Services Community Room* 303 W. Chapel Street.; Dodgeville, Wisconsin

lowa County Wisconsin

Item	
1	Chairperson Nankee called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2	Roll Call:
	Members Present in Community Room: Chairperson Dan Nankee, Richard Rolfsmeyer, Joan Davis, Justin
	O'Brien, Kimberly Alan
	Others Present in Community Room: Larry Bierke, Nikki Mumm, Steve Deal, Bruce Paull, Cecile McManus,
	Barry Hottman, Tom Slaney, Mel Masters
	Others Present Remotely: Echo Bristol, Cheryl Knapp
3	Approval of the December 8, 2021 Agenda:
	Chairman Nankee changed the order of the agenda to have Social Services present at number 10 and UW
	Extension present at number 11. Motion by O'Brien and seconded by Davis to accept the agenda with
	proposed changes. Aye: 5; Nay: 0. Motion carried.
4	Approval of the October 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes:
	Motion by Davis and seconded by Rolfsmeyer to accept the meeting minutes. Aye: 4; Nay: 0; Abstain: 1.
	Motion carried.
5	Reports From Committee Members and an Opportunity for Members of the Audience to Address the
	Committee. No action will be taken.
	Nankee- He shared the article from the Veterans Newsletter regarding the veteran identifier on your driver
	license or ID card, which can help veterans receive discounts. He also pointed out multiple articles in the
	News & Views, including, volunteer opportunities, SUN employment and volunteer opportunities, and an
	article on the benefits of cinnamon.
	O'Brien- He shared that Katie Batton, with the ADRC, has come up with a list of where to donate things and
	places to volunteer.
	Davis- She shared that she put a letter to the editor in the paper this week asking community members to
	volunteer as SUN drivers.
6	Discussion on Third Quarter Financial Reports:
	Committee members looked through the financials and discussion was had. Slaney shared that budgets
	were created prior to any Departments being notified of ARPA funding so revenues may end up being greater than budgeted.
7	Consider UW Eau Claire Administrative Residency Student for 2022:
	Bristol shared background information regarding her request as well as the value the position will add to
	Bloomfield. Motion by O'Brien and seconded by Alan to move the UW Eau Claire Administrative Residency
	Student for 2022 to the full County Board. Aye: 5; Nay: 0. Motion carried.
8	Senior United Nutrition Update:
	McManus gave report. This is a very busy time of year for them. They are currently renewing food contracts
	for 2022. Betsy's Café in Highland has informed them that they will no longer be providing meals for
	Highland and Avoca clients January 1, 2022 so she is working on finding a new provider. She anticipates
	increases in raw food costs as well as shipping issues for their cooking sites stating that she has been able
	to come up with substitutions so far when these issues arise. The 2022 contracts and their budget will be
	approved at their December Board meeting. There is still a vacancy for a Dodgeville Meal Site Manager, and
	they have recently created and hired someone for a part-time assistant position at the Dodgeville Meal Site
	to help out where needed. Jay Loop, Financial Administrator, has resigned his position, but will continue to
	work until a replacement has been hired. The Salvation Army recently gave them two \$500.00 Walmart gift
	cards that will help them purchase cleaning supplies and some food items. They are currently working on
	packaging their emergency meals. These are meals that are sent to anyone who requests them, generally
	home delivered clients, and are the equivalent of two non-perishable meals to ensure clients have a meal

on days that SUN may need to be closed due to bad weather. They have received assistance putting them together by the ADRC, and have packaged about 100 so far. She shared the both O'Brien and Davis have been assisting with the Annual Appeal this year. They are doing an insert of the letter in the Shopping News, which is new this year. It will be in the December 21st issue, and will be printed in the paper next week telling readers to look for the insert the following week. The insert will have a form that can be cut off to send the payment in, and it will go to every household in Iowa and Lafayette counties, roughly 13,500 homes. They will also be doing a direct mailing to those who have donated in the past. She thanked the committee for the County Board's approval of allocating \$30,000.00 of their ARPA funding to the SUN program. GWAAR, their funding agency, has agreed to prepay them some of their 2022 funding as their finances are getting tight. Nankee inquired the cost to SUN for the meals versus the requested donation amount. McManus discussed the costs to SUN and stated that the government funds they receive are meant to fill in the gap between the suggested donation and the actual cost. The suggested donation will be increasing in 2022 by \$0.50 per meal for both congregate and home delivered. Davis gave a shout out to Deal for his generous donation to the Annual Appeal.

Unified Community Services Update:

Knapp gave report. She shared information from the report submitted for the packet. O'Brien inquired if the SOR3 award was a grant and stated it will be useful to help them add staff. He said it was good news to hear that the individual transitioned from Winnebago as that is costly, and inquired what services they were able to provide to the high school. Knapp stated that counseling was provided by at least two clinicians. The clinicians spent more than a day in the school district assisting students, staff, and families. O'Brien inquired the cause of the increased referrals. Knapp stated that she is unsure of the reason but suspects the referrals were decreased in 2020 due to Covid-19, and stated the majority of the clients have developmental disabilities.

Social Services Department Update:

10

Slaney gave report. He shared information on the statewide summit held by WCHSA on complex needs for youth in Wisconsin that he attended last week. There is a crisis in the state serving these children as counties are having problems finding facilities to serve these children and are often having to send them to out-of-state facilities. WCHSA contracted with an organizational effectiveness facilitator to analyze the problems and possible solutions discussed at this conference to put a plan into action. He stated that there will be some quick wins, but there will also be solutions that will take a longer time and may require legislative change. There is a shortage of facilities that also provide treatment to children, who have more complex mental health needs now than ever before. The requirement of our agency is to have permanency for the children so it is important to get them back home. This is a problem that has been going on for some time and is currently at a crisis level for many counties. There are more than 256 youth in 46 counties that are placed in out-of-state facilities along with a total of \$9 million spent last year statewide placing youth in out-of-state facilities. The WCHSA Fall Conference was held virtually last Thursday and Friday. He participated in a breakout session on success in county collaboration; stating that LaCrosse County does an excellent job collaborating with their community. The schools, law enforcement, health care professionals, and county Human Services Department regularly work together on multiple county collaborations. They have a goal for schools and County Human Services to act together as one versus separate entities. They have achieved this through a better understanding of what each of those areas can and cannot do versus finger pointing. Nankee stated that he enjoyed the session regarding Walworth County Sherriff's work with their emergency detention facility. Bierke stated that he attended a session where Eau Claire County is working on recognizing cultural diversity and planned on taking what he learned to help implement something for Iowa County. Slaney shared that he budgets money for HHS Committee members to attend this conference, and that he will share information regarding the spring conference when he receives it. Davis inquired whether we are connecting with UW-Platteville as she believed the colleges in LaCrosse and Eau Claire have something to do with all of the great changes happening in those areas. Slaney stated that a culture created by leaders will do it and it needs to be personnel proof so that not one person is driving it so when they leave, the next person steps up and you continue on. Last year Biddick, Inc. had a food drive competition for their employees and donated to our emergency food pantry, and have chosen to do the same this year. He wanted to recognize them for this generous donation. The taxi service is changing to three days per week for the City of Dodgeville and two days per week for Rural. The City of Dodgeville does

have a cost share for the City taxi and were excited about increasing services. We are currently providing free rural taxi rides through the end of the year; saving resident's money and encouraging them to ride the rural taxi. Nankee inquired about Energy Services handling 5% of cases. Slaney shared the three ways to apply for Energy Assistance and stated that is new this year to have Energy Services handle online applications. Nankee reminded everyone of the Holiday Project. Slaney stated that we work with the Lioness Empty Stockings and Santa Cop to ensure families are served. He shared that Hidden Valley Church contributes baskets with household goods that people cannot purchase with their FoodShare, and SWCAP donated their basement for us to use to house the gifts.
UW Extension Department Update:
Hottman gave report. He shared that Lynn Perkins, their new Director, would be attending the meetings and giving the report. Gene Schriefer has left UW Extension as he was appointed by the Biden Administration to be the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Farm Service Agency. As Ag Agents have retired and positions have been vacated, UW Extension has been looking at Regional positions. Perkins, in coordination with the UW Extension Ag Institute Director, has put together a meeting for County Administrators, Board Members, and Ag Educators in District 17 to discuss these possible changes. Nankee shared the meeting will be December 21st. They are interviewing for the open FoodWise/Nutrition position next week. Nankee mentioned that the statewide Extension committee met Monday and discussed concerns over how things will work for the counties if there are regional Ag Educators. Alan asked whether they had several people apply for the nutrition position. Hottman stated this is the second go around and it sounds like there have been several applicants. Davis asked if other counties wanted to copy what Hottman did for the broadband survey and thanked him for his services. Hottman said that Wood County has contacted him so far, but that he had shared information with counties when he did his presentation. O'Brien inquired about the LightSpeed grant funding and whether it is in addition to what the county is providing funding for. Hottman said this is the same project. There is this grant funding, the county funding,
and LightSpeed will pay the balance of the cost of the project.
Wednesday, January 5, 2022: Approved for the next HHS Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m., HHS Center, Community Room, Dodgeville. Suggested to have Southwest Wisconsin Community Action Program

Motion by Roflsmeyer and seconded by Alan to Adjourn. Aye: 5, Nay: 0. Meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

11

12

13

(SWCAP) added to the January agenda.