

**MANITOWOC COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Manitowoc County Human Services Department Board met at 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, 2020 in open session at the Manitowoc County Human Services Department, 801 Jay Street, Manitowoc, WI.

Board Members Present: Agnew, Baumann, Burke, Cavanaugh, Geimer, Ruggirello, Williams.

Board Members Excused: Henrickson, Nasep

Board Members Absent: None

County Board Members Present: None

County Staff Present: Randolph, Ledvina, Fure, Joas, Kubec, Dodge, Ziegelbauer

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY BAUMANN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

EDUCATION TOPIC; KIDS AT HOPE – POWER OF HOPE EVENT – YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES STAFF:

Stacy Ledvina is very excited about the new “Kids at Hope” philosophy and the up-coming events. We are trying to shift from the practice of kids at risk to kids at hope.

- We have received grant funds and 23 people have been trained in our community.
- There are three main themes: Believing that all kids can succeed – no exceptions. Connect - kids need meaningful relationships, and Time Travel – kids seeing a future including education/careers, home/family, etc.
- The Power of Hope event will be held on Thursday, March 12th and Friday, March 13th. Friday afternoon will be two speakers at Lincoln High School. There will be national speakers as well as 6 local people discussing their successes. Professional videos of virtual tours will be made.
- 500 people will be attending the Friday event at Lincoln High School, with people coming from 27 counties in Wisconsin and 1 from out-of-state.
- With the grants received, 1 of the local speakers will be selected to attend the conference in Arizona.
- Videos of the events will be available for board members to view.

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORTS THROUGH JANUARY, 2020:

We started our new computer system in January. The costs for Winnebago and Mendota were particularly high for January. Financial projections only have one month of data in so we are not projecting higher costs yet.

QUESTIONS AND INPUT FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON THE STATUS OF THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT:

A question on how the energy assistance program is going this year? The numbers are down a little from last year, possibly due to the warmer weather or lower energy costs. There have been more new people applying and less that had applied previously. We will be starting Outreach soon, and should get feedback then on why some of the past recipients are not applying now.

Also a question on how the hiring has been going for open positions. Many of the positions are being filled, there are two open positions still being worked on.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF AGENCY OPERATIONS:

One of our goals this year is to look at enhancing the crisis program and potentially creating a "warm line" to direct repeat callers to. This may include using peer support specialists for after-hours calls. We'll contract for 6 months with Northwest Connections and then work on lowering the amount of known non-crisis calls which would save money.

Patricia attended a meeting last week regarding flood planning. Human Services and the Health Department are responsible for setting up shelters or congregate care centers if people need to be evacuated. Attendees were from law enforcement, first responders as well as the Highway Department. Last spring there were a few people that had to be evacuated from their homes and there was a lot of miscommunication so this is an attempt to be better prepared for emergencies. On April 16th there will be a day-long event regarding what happens after a disaster. The Red Cross, Health Department, Emergency Management and Human Services will participate in the exercise.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Our workers will be involved in activities during the month.

There was a change from Holy Family to Rehab Resources for Birth – 3 therapies. An RFP was sent out for proposals for services and Rehab Resources was awarded the contract. All families were notified that as of March 1st the change would take effect. The therapists at Holy Family can apply at Rehab Resources. The 3rd floor conference room will be converted into offices for the therapists.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Human Services Department Board will be held on Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 4:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BAUMANN, SECONDED BY AGNEW TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT BOARD AT 5:20 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.