

WASHINGTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (HSD)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 16, 2009

Meeting called to order at 8:31 a.m. in Room 1023 of the Public Agency Center, 333 East Washington Street, West Bend, Wisconsin, by Chairperson L. Borman, who read the open meeting statement.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donald Berchem, Les Borman, Jim Core, Sarah Follett, Rick Gundrum, Carol Puerling, Jane Schultz, Paul Ustruck

MEMBER EXCUSED: Gregory Young

HSD STAFF PRESENT: Karen Alt, Michael Bloedorn, Debra DuFour, Sandy Hoefert, Sandy Potter, Ruth Reines, Angela Schickert, Jim Strachota, Sue Thornton, Kay Thuecks

Review of Minutes: J. Schultz made motion, J. Core seconded, to approve the HSD Board minutes from the June 18, 2009, meeting as distributed. Carried.

2009 Financial Update: The financial report distributed and explained represents information for the new divisions within the Human Services Department through May 31, 2009. There is County funding remaining of \$6,585,731. Discussion followed.

R. Gundrum made motion, seconded by J. Schultz, so accept the financial report as presented. Carried.

The Community Treatment Services area of HSD has an opportunity to purchase a used squad car from the Sheriff's Department for \$3,000 through the capital outlay fund. This vehicle would be used for client transportation.

Motion made by P. Ustruck, seconded by C. Puerling, to approve the purchase of this vehicle as stated. Carried.

Inter-faith Hospitality Network: This service, composed of a number of area agencies and churches, is working to alleviate homelessness for families with children. The plan is to incorporate as a non-profit organization and be renamed Family Promises of Washington County. A variety of area churches have volunteered to provide meals and sleeping arrangements for up to 14 people for one week at a time. If they are not working, parents of a homeless family will attend a "day center" to work on job seeking skills, receive crisis intervention services and counseling when necessary, apply for Economic Support services, and ultimately locate permanent housing. HSD staff are actively involved in this endeavor and will provide supportive services when needed.

Division Reports:

ACCESS AND OUTREACH--Sue Thornton was introduced as the new Supervisor of the Family Intake Unit and described her previous experience working for Washington County.

Acute Care Services (ACS) has been carefully examining the use of inpatient services and out-of-home placements, including the Youth Treatment Center and secure detention for children. Staff have been learning the admission processes at a variety of hospitals used for inpatient services and have been educating law enforcement personnel on the least restrictive placements for individuals needing services. Access services have been integrated, and the future focus will be on outreach.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH--ROSI (Recovery Oriented Services Inventory) surveys will be conducted annually, and the information gathered will be shared with the Behavioral Health Task Force and other consumer groups to be used as a tool in quality improvement efforts. These statistics are also used as a measurement tool with regard to the Mental Health Block Grant.

Of concern is the increased use of adult male and female AODA residential treatment placements so far this year. Funding currently allocated will probably be depleted prior to the end of the year.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES--Consideration of any out-of-home residential treatment placements of children is reviewed by HSD Children and Families supervisors prior to the rendering of services. The length of State Corrections placements are determined by State officials, and all placements are court-ordered. Current placements are running ahead of budget and are a concern. Discussion followed.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT--The Badger Care Plus Core Plan for Adults with No Dependent Children is a limited plan to cover basic health care services for the long-term uninsured aged 19 through 64. Because this program is administered by the State, the County Economic Support Adult Unit should see a reduction in the number of intakes it handles. Those staff will be transferred to the Badger Care Plus Family Unit. However, if caseloads get too high, customer service will suffer, resulting in a request for an additional Economic Support Worker.

Following discussion, R. Gundrum made motion, P. Ustruck seconded, to accept the reports as presented. Carried.

Director Report: Topics discussed include the PAC remodeling project, trauma training, an update on the State Quality Services Review, HSD fund balance update and Michael Bloedorn's appointment to the State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board by Governor Doyle.

The next HSD Board meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 20, 2009.

Motion made by J. Schultz, seconded by D. Berchem, to adjourn. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Ustruck, Board Secretary
Karen Alt, Recording Secretary

Copies of all non-privileged material pertinent to this meeting are available at HSD offices.