

# ROCK COUNTY LONG TERM SUPPORT COMMITTEE

May 6, 2014

**Call to Order and Introductions:** Chairperson Fell called the meeting of the Rock County Long Term Support Committee to order at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at Rock County Job Center (Room K). Mr. Thomas was welcomed as a new member and introduced to other committee members.

**Committee Members Present:** Terry Fell, Terry Thomas, Donna Cavey, Joanne Foss, Ann Henning, Pat Hubbard, Mary Jane Patch, Linda Sanders, Jennifer Thompson, and Anne Weirich

**Committee Members Absent:** Michael Santucci, Angela Bouton and Jayanthi Mueller

**Staff Members Present:** Jennifer Anselmi, Melissa Kooiman, Michelle Muth, Mary Kate Tomczak, Jessica Pech, and Gay McRoberts.

**Others Present:** Marcy Berner-Reedy of Beloit Meals on Wheels, and Detective Darrell Knutson of Rock County Sheriff's Office.

**Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Thomas moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Patch. APPROVED

**Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Foss moved to approve minutes, seconded by Ms. Sanders. APPROVED.

**Citizen Participation** Ms. Berner-Reedy reports they had a record high client participation in their March fundraisers, supplementing insufficient financial support from government and other sources.

## **Financial/Statistical Information:**

### **Human Services**

#### • LTS Updates:

LTS gains two new staff on May 12<sup>th</sup>. One assumes a position vacated when someone retired; the second will take on CSP COP cases that were added, giving one worker too heavy of a case load.

#### • LTS Budget Review under the Summary page:

An annual HSD report will be shared with the HSD Board soon and available to view after that. The final 2013 LTS figures reflect 55% of COP dollars used for people living in CBRF homes, whereas other percentages of Cop and Waiver dollars hover around 25% to 30%. The higher CBRF figure than in the past was allowed by this committee last year to allow us to use money available for people who needed group home type living, with the promise we resume past allowances for all funds in 2014. [Figures exceed 100%, as some participants are eligible for more than one program.]

Our waiting list continues to drop to where we may have the lowest waiting list of the State's 13 non-Family Care counties. The 19 persons on the COPW/CIPII funds waiting list are only those waiting for CBRF care needing COP room and board funds, currently unavailable. Any others needing in home assistance only receive service immediately. Similarly, those awaiting CRI and NHD funds are waiting for additional room and board funds.

Rock County is lucky to have Waiver dollars, available because of the number of nursing home beds closed. Because we didn't have the people to serve, some funds allocated to us in 2013 had to be returned to the State, but we are allowed to keep \$115,000 of that in undesignated reserves, to tap into for use on high cost or other needs.

#### • CLTS Updates:

No update submitted or reported in absence of CLTS representative.

### **Developmental Disabilities**

Ms. Foss shared that the DDB reviewed its waiting list. From the report with information current through February, the waiting list shows 158, a decrease of 121. This is explained as being a result of consumers

moving, being found ineligible, or moving to being fully funded in slots below. [This waiting list is for COP funds and not to be confused with the waiting list for services, which still stands at about 8 years.]

- For CIP 1A amount spent \$14,952 (3 consumers served, unchanged from last report)
- For CIP 1B amount spent \$107,055 (40 consumers served, unchanged from last report)

## **New Business**

### **Sheriff's Department Investigations**

Ms. Muth introduced Det. Knutson, who was asked to talk about the role of the Sheriff's Department in an elder abuse investigation. He worked with her on a financial exploitation investigation that resulted in positive outcomes and Det. Knutson began by stating the only case he can comment on is that one. He credited banking officials on going over and above in efforts to protect the client from fraud. He credited Ms. Muth's work in obtaining the client's records quickly, avoiding an otherwise lengthy court process and helping to build the basis for their involvement in the investigation. Alerts went out for an elder abuse referral when the client had substantial withdrawals in a five-month period. Subpoenas allowed review of multiple personal accounts of others involved. The investigation went back four years, when the client was originally deemed competent, but dementia was now a factor in the client's credibility. He had voluntarily given away so much money he was now unable to cover expenses. Some turned his gifts down. Using money 'gifted' to him, a Power of Attorney set up a personal account from which he paid the client's bills; Beloit Township Police, who initially received the referral, were concerned about the client's name not being on the account, and demanded he change that, although he legally couldn't be made to. Also not bound legally, a personal caregiver, upon learning client's financial status, chose to return the gift. A charge of obstruction of justice may have been possible, but financial exploitation was not provable, so no arrests were made. Committee members offered that if the caregiver were hired through an agency, there could be the added protections of a criminal background check and agency policies regarding receiving gifts. In this case, since the worker was not prosecuted, a background check would only show the name mentioned on an investigative report. Law enforcement can do their own background check of any police contact, with their computer system showing any contact, and if they were a witness or a suspect, but this information may not be readily available to others seeking it.

### **Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program**

Ms. Tomczak is case manager for this program, which has a goal to serve and assist to alleviate stresses of caregivers of clients with dementia. The requirement is that clients have a dementia diagnosis, live in Rock County, and make less than \$40,000 a year. We serve about 30 clients and provide funding to the Alzheimer's Support Center for outreach purposes. A \$2,000/year maximum fund per client is provided by AFCSP for services as it relates to caring for someone with dementia such as AFH, legal advocacy, CBRF, adult day center, respite care, meals, adaptive equipment, transportation, and outreach services. For some, the maximum goes entirely for a facility, while some clients' families withhold requests for this until needed to provide care for their family member while the caregivers go on vacation. The \$2000/year is available in each subsequent year as long as the client remains eligible.

### **Demential Care Specialist**

Ms. Thompson shared that an \$80,000 grant was awarded the ADRC for a new position there, serving individuals and families with dementia through 2015, with potential to expand. It is part of an initiative to make Wisconsin "Dementia Capable" and is composed of three main parts: 1) Training all ADRC staff to be Dementia Capable, 2) Creating a Dementia Friendly Community, and 3) Creating more opportunities for people to stay at home with dementia.

## **Old Business:**

### **Speakers**

Chairman Fell recommended committee members seek out speakers who can share their expertise.

### **Success Story**

Ms. Pech shared about a referral she received where a client's home environment with family was deemed unsafe and client was assisted in a move to a CBRF. In a visit yesterday, client shared she is "finally able

to live my life the way I should.” Mr. Thomas recommended sharing these success stories with the HSD Board as well.

**Elder Abuse / Adults At Risk**

Ms. Muth reports many referrals that have come in have been referred to co-workers due to the time involvement for each case and number of cases she has received. In March she investigated eight cases, two physical abuses and six financial exploitations. In April, Ms. Muth investigated seven: one financial abuse, four self-neglects, one physical abuse, and one a neglect-by-others. Referrals are up since opening the ADRC and informing more people on where to call with referrals.

**Family Care Update**

Ms. Thompson spoke on recent news that Gov. Walker plans to expand Family Care into seven counties in northern Wisconsin, leaving the eight without Family Care including Rock County. She noted that one of three candidates for Rock County Administrator to replace Craig Knutson upon his retirement is from a county that has Family Care. Committee members recognized that, while Rock County has been ‘ready’ since 2011 with the ADRC opening in 2013, further planning for Family Care is still three or more years.

**Committee Member Comments**

Ms. Berner-Reedy shared that Ms. Thompson had given an excellent presentation to the Council on Aging Committee. Ms. Thompson added that, due to time constraints, she is returning to complete this talk.

**Future Meeting Dates:**

The next meeting is July 1, in Room D/E. Because it falls so close to a holiday, call if unable to attend to ensure we have a quorum. Other meetings are September 2, and November 4, 2014.

**Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m., on a motion by Ms. Cavey, seconded by Ms. Weirich. APPROVED.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gay McRoberts, Administrative Assistant

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE