



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, November 10, 2021 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the hybrid meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, in the Boardroom, at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center, Janesville, WI.

Committee Members Present: Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; J. Russell Podzilni, Supervisor; Pam Bostwick, Supervisor attended in-person. Shirley Williams, Supervisor; Stephanie Aegerter, Supervisor; Ashley Hoffman, Citizen Representative; and Angelina Reyes, Citizen Representative attended virtually.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Katherine Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Mark Stevens, Business Services Manager; Jennifer Thompson, Aging Disability Resource Center/Adult Protective Services (ADRC/APS) Division Manager; Jennifer Peck, Adult Protective Services (APS) Supervisor; Jackie Poitra, Child Protective Services (CPS); Kami Williams, CPS Supervisor; Kristin Kath, Children's Long Term Support (CLTS); Melissa Dybas, Economic Support (ES); and Julie Studinski, Job Center.

Others Present: Terri Carlson, Rock County Risk Manager. Patrick Singer, Rock County I.T.

Approval of Agenda: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Podzilni. The agenda was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on October 27, 2021: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Bostwick. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Public Comment: None.

Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: Supervisor Williams reminded that the Freedom is not Free fundraiser will be held tomorrow, November 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Darrell Williams will be the keynote speaker. This will be a virtual banquet. Please contact Supervisor Williams on the County website if you have questions. The cost is \$35, and this includes a one-year membership to the Beloit NAACP chapter.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: None.

Review of Bills: Mr. Stevens responded to questions regarding the Social Security Administration entry.

October Employee Impact Award Recipient: Ms. Luster introduced Jackie Poitra, the October Employee Impact Award recipient. Ms. Luster read the nomination. Jackie is the perfect example of what a social worker should be. She is an advocate for clients, an educator, a helper, and a true teammate. She is someone that is looked up to and the definition of a team player who is willing to help anyone whenever they need it. The co-worker that nominated Jackie had an extremely difficult case and Jackie immediately jumped into help. It was a case that was overwhelming and the worker would have had a hard time getting through the case without Jackie's support. Every case the co-worker has had that Jackie was previously the worker, the clients have nothing but praise and thanks to Jackie. Ms. Poitra thanked everyone.

Resolutions and Committee Action:

- **Resolution Amending the 2021 HSD Budget to Accept Additional APS Funding*** – Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter. Ms. Peck explained that the government gave states extra funding for adult protective services due to covid. They recognized that the cases are more complex as clients have been in isolation due to covid. Funds will be used to clean and improve living conditions for clients and increase technology for APS workers. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

Reports and Update:

- **Holiday and Family Needs Committee (HFNC)** – Ms. Dybas explained the HFNC provides Christmas gifts for children/families who have case workers working with Human Services, and for YSC youth and Derrick's House youth. In 2020 the HFNC provided gifts for 220 families. Ms. Dybas is coordinating families with adopters. She explained she has received 60 referrals from case workers so far. Last year we were able to achieve 100% adoption for all referrals and hope to reach that again this year. She explained that the HFNC is very happy that there was a room designated at the DWRC to provide a space for all the donations that have been received, which has been very helpful. Ms. Dybas responded to questions.
- **Report from CORE Policy Workgroup:** Ms. Luster explained that she is rotating through the CORE subgroups to present to the HSD Board. She invited the Policy Committee and introduced Kristin Kath, Julie Studinski and Sara Mooren. The purpose of this committee is to provide a forum for staff to play an influential role in development and review of policies that affect them. Ms. Studinski started by explaining the group dynamics. There are nine members, and each provides a special skill. The members collaborate very well together. She provided the mission statement. She provided more detail regarding creating a framework to be more user friendly. Ms. Mooren provided information regarding writing policies with consistent language, workflows, policy review workflow and policy template. Ms. Kath provided information regarding staff engagement and how the CORE structure has enabled staff to have a voice. She explained how the group is reviewing current policies and how policies are received by the group through ambassadorship. She advised that the committee is working on getting policies more accessible to staff through Relias. The committee's focus is on the following:
 - Usage of Relias for policy tracking
 - Rolling out policy development guidelines and template
 - Address feedback after rollout
 - Use our new tools to continue to revise and review current policies

Committee Requests:

- **Requests for Future Agenda Items or Information:**

- Supervisor Podzilni requested getting the screen in the Boardroom raised.
- Supervisor Schulz asked for a report regarding domestic violence agencies referrals and wondering about impact on childcare.
- Supervisor Williams reminded that she requested a report regarding suicides in the community.
- Supervisor Schulz reminded she requested an item regarding dialogue when the public attends meetings regarding agenda items.
- Supervisor Schulz requested a report regarding homeless shelters and cold weather. Chair Knudson advised he would forward emails with homeless shelter information he receives from Emergency Management to the Board. Supervisor Aegerter provided information regarding volunteering for the homeless outreach that occurs on the third Wednesday in January and July at midnight.

Next Meeting: TBD Monday, **November 22, 2021** at 4:30 p.m. – may possibly cancel or will be hybrid meeting via zoom and in-person at the DWRC, Boardroom, 1717 Center Avenue, Janesville, WI.

Adjournment: Supervisor Bostwick motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Podzilni with unanimous approval at 5:31 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

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