

# ROCK COUNTY AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) ADVISORY COMMITTEE April 14, 2021

<u>Call to Order and Introductions</u>: Mr. Wilkinson called the meeting of the Rock County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Advisory Committee to order at 1:00 p.m. on April 14, 2021 via Zoom.

<u>Committee Members Present</u>: Carrie Glover, Pam Bostwick, Gregg Schneider, Harold Luther, Rob Wilkinson, and Tom Moe.

**Committee Members Absent:** None

<u>Staff Members Present</u>: Jennifer Thompson, Director of the ADRC, Melissa Kooiman, Supervisor of the ADRC, Ann Howell, I&A Specialist of the ADRC, and Vicky O'Donnell, I&A Specialist of the ADRC, ADRC.

**Others Present:** None

**Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Moe moved to approve the agenda and seconded by Mr. Luther. APPROVED.

<u>Approval of Minutes:</u> Ms. Bostwick moved to approve the minutes from January 13, 2021 and seconded by Mr. Schneider. APPROVED

Citizen Participation: None

## **Old Business:**

- A. Integration Planning Efforts
- Ms. Thompson highlighted the following points:
  - O Aging Director, Paula Schutt, and Jennifer Thompson created a list of questions to ask 5 integrated counties. These question were shared with staff who also gave input into the final 10 questions. Counties interviewed were: Kenosha, Eau Claire, Winnebago, La Crosse, and Brown. Ms. Schutt, Ms. Thompson, supervisors and staff of ADRC and APS were invited to attend the meetings. A combined spreadsheet of the questions and each county's response will be compiled and shared with the Advisory Committee.
  - Ms. Schutt and Ms. Thompson have also began work on a project management tool which includes a workplan and actions steps. Five area's have been identified that require some form of integration:
     Budgets, 2) Policies, 3) Marketing/Outreach/Communication, 4) Board, and 5) Team/staff. Each of these area's will have an identified action plan to include feedback from staff who are involved in that particular area.
  - OMr. Moe asked what the response was from the staff; specifically if there was any resistance. Ms. Thompson stated the ADRC staff recognize there are changes but know this is a move in the right direction. Administrative Assistant, Sage Duval, stated she recently worked one-on-one with the Aging EBS and feels that any hesitancy could just be that Aging staff do not fully know what ADRC staff do. Ms. Thompson also mentioned that the Aging Director and herself will be working on team building as we progress towards integration. One goal will be to create a new mission statement that encompasses both all three units, Aging, ADRC and APS.
  - As we move forward we will communicate the action steps to the board and seek out input and participation.
- B. New Building Update
- Ms. Thompson highlighted the following points:

- o Progress continues on the new building and completion is still the end of summer with HSD staff moving into the building potentially in September 2021.
- O Administration is looking to host a public / community day (sometime in August) to walk through the building after furniture is placed but prior to our confidential documents being moved.
- o The Human Services Board is taking a tour this evening.

#### **New Business:**

- A. Continuing Skills Test for I&A Staff
- Ms. Thompson highlighted the following points:
  - o All Information and Assistance staff at the ADRC passed their test! This is great news! This means everyone can continue to administer the Long Term Care Functional Screen without limitations.
- B. ADRC Grant award for Homebound
- Ms. Thompson highlighted the following points:
  - The ADRC of Rock County Received \$28,082 to assist individuals how are homebound and have a difficult time leaving their homes to obtain the vaccine.
  - The ADRC is working with the Aging Department; specifically covering the costs of mileage and staff time to transport people to vaccine appointments. The ADRC is also working with RSVP and also covering the cost of mileage and providing incentives to volunteer drivers who work additional hours to transport people to vaccine appointment's.
  - o Individuals who need a free ride, can call United Way of Rock County-211 and will be connected to someone who will schedule a ride. Ms. Thompson will let the ADRC Advisory committee know when this service is up and running.
  - o Ms. Thompson continues to meet weekly with others from the community to form partnerships to help get people vaccinated. There is still money left to spend!

#### **Statistical Information\*:**

- Ms. Thompson reviewed the quarterly Incoming-call report noting the call volume is starting to increase
  again. The phone system, Grasshopper, has been working properly and calls are coming through to staff
  without any issues lately.
- Ms. Thompson also reviewed the quarterly Agency Call Report and noted that the ADRC is receiving more calls related to lack of housing and/or homelessness. It's also understood the eviction moratorium will be ending soon; this will likely mean an even larger increase in homelessness. Additionally, those who have been evicted may find it even hard to find housing as they will now have an eviction on their record. Rock County is receiving over \$31 million dollars to support the county in areas that have been financially affected by COVID; HSD may recommend using some of those funds to support low income housing resources. However, it's recognized there is great need across the entire county; ultimately, the county board will be involved in how the funds will be spent.

## **Complaints and Appeals:**

• None received in this past quarter.

#### **Success Stories:**

• Ms. Thompson shared two notes from individuals/families who received an Alexa for their family member. Both were thankful for the device and the new opportunity to see and speak to families during the pandemic. Ms. Thompson also shared another note from a woman whose parents participate in Cori's caregiver support groups; she stated that Cori "changed their lives" as they learned how to approach her grandma's care with respect, dignity and love.

## **Committee Member Comments:**

• Mr. Wilkinson advised the committee that the Aging Department is seeking input on its 3-year plan from the community and encouraged Ms. Thompson to work on this jointly with Aging-especially now that integration of the two departments is occurring in 2022.

## **Next Meetings:**

• July 14, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Job Center Conference Room D-E 1900 Center Avenue, Janesville, Wisconsin or via Zoom.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Glover, seconded by Ms. Bostwick. APPROVED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Thompson, ADRC Division Manager

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE