

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

CALL TO ORDER:

The Manitowoc County Human Services Department Board met at 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, September 28, 2023 in open session at the Manitowoc County Human Services Department, Hamilton Street Location, 808 Hamilton Street, Conference Room 130, Manitowoc, WI.

Board Members Present: Agnew, Baumann, Brey, Bruns, Burke, Naidl, Shimulunas

Board Members Excused: Ruggirello

Board Members Absent: Klein

County Board Members Present: None

County Staff Present: Fure, Huss, Johnson, Kubec, Ziegelbauer

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER PERTAINING TO THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT:

Darian Kaderabek is a Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) contracted Service Provider at the Production Farm. She came today to express concerns about the length of time it takes our CCS quality assurance team to credential new workers. She states the time frame is longer than other counties. She also expressed concern about The Production Farm staff receiving documentation templates from staff at Human Services that are not usable.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BAUMANN, SECONDED BY SHIMULUNAS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 24TH MEETING. MOTION WAS CARRIED.

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS FOR AUGUST, 2023 – Jessica Huss

As year-end approaches she took a deeper dive into projections. CLTS is slower to bill and CCS always takes a few months to get reimbursements. We submitted \$1.9 million to WIMCR so are projecting we will receive about \$1.6 million. If there are no unanticipated expenses, we should be close to on budget.

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

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON AGENCY OPERATIONS: Lori Fure

Most numbers remain fairly stable. There have been significant increases in individuals seeking voluntary treatment for substance use disorders and other behavioral health concerns. Crisis contacts continue to be higher than last year, but involuntary hospitalizations remain lower than last year. Having day-time staff that specialize in crisis work is having an impact on keeping people safe in lesser restrictive environments thus avoiding involuntary hospitalizations.

Partners for Community Development has taken over the WHEAP (Heating) Program. Everyone who received heating assistance last year was notified by mail of this change. They do not have a local office They have energy assistance applications that can be completed by phone, online or they can be printed, completed and mailed. They can be reached at (833)646-0823 or www.partners4cd.com. As part of this contract Partners for Community Development will be providing space heaters for people during emergencies. If someone loses heat or a furnace stops working, our crisis staff have partnered with law enforcement to distribute space heaters until Partners for Community Development can provide a more permanent solution.

Economic Support continues to have a high workload due to the unwinding process. In the month of August East Central Consortium took nearly 17,000 calls, which is the highest volume we've seen since 2020. We have been able to use ARPA funds to help with overtime expenses.

EDUCATION TOPIC: Building Tour – Amanda Miller

Amanda gave a tour of the building except the Visit Center area as visits were taking place. There will also be an Open House on October 27th from 11:00 – 1:00 for staff, board members can also attend if they would like.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Human Services Department Board will be held on October 26, 2023 at 4:15 p.m. The meeting will be held at Manitowoc County Human Services, 801 Jay Street.

ADJOURNMENT:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BAUMANN, SECONDED BY AGNEW TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT BOARD AT 4:34 P.M., MOTION CARRIED.