

IRON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

July 26, 2012

1. Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Opal Roberts. Members present: Innes, Koski, Matson, Prospero, Roberts, Smith and Tarro. Staff member present: Kolson-Janov, Peck, Saarnio-Wyka, Tijan. Public Present: Donna Reinerio, Highline Corporation.
2. Kolson acknowledged the meeting was properly called and posted.
3. Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Prospero, seconded by Innes. All in favor.
4. Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting by Tarro, seconded by Mattson. All in favor.
5. Public Comment – None
6. The Director presented information regarding the purpose and history of the CSP (Community Support Program) in Iron County. The current staffing patterns include a clinical coordinator who is employed by Northland Counseling (Master's Degree with 1,500 hours of supervised clinical experience in a Community Support Program) and two case managers who are employed by Highline Corporation. It was noted that the staff have done an exceptional job in serving the chronically mentally ill and assisting them with their needs.

The administrative standards for the CSP are a staffing ratio of one staff person not to exceed 20 clients. At this time, there are 20 individuals in the program. Due to funding constraints, there will be a reduction in staff. Highline recently had a staff resign from their position and it is recommended that the position not be replaced at this time. The current staff will be managed by the Clinical Coordinator employed by Northland Counseling who will be located in the Human Services Department and will live in Iron County. This position will also serve as the alcohol and drug counselor in the future. Highline Corporation will maintain the B.S. level position. Both individuals will share the CSP caseload.

7. ADRC (Adult and Disability Resource Center) and Adult Services presentation by Bill Peck, local manager and Amy Saarnio Wyka.

Bill & Amy presented the history of the ADRC in Iron County. The ADRC is a five county consortium including Ashland, Bayfield, Iron, Price and Sawyer Counties and Barb Peterson is the Administrative Coordinator. Each county also maintains a site supervisor and Bill Peck holds this position for Iron County. Primary functions include: Information and Assistance, functional eligibility determinations for Family Care or IRIS, Prevention Services, and Working with youth that age out of children's services. As of June 2012, the State of Wisconsin has an open enrollment for Family Care and Iris Programs which will increase the work load for the ADRC staff.

The Board also had an opportunity to view the web site to the ADRC of the North. It was noted that since 2009, the ADRC needed to develop policy and procedures and ensure that all five counties operate in the same manner. In addition, a Resource Directory is available on line for the entire ADRC area. The Web Site can be located at adrc-n-wi.org. The toll free number for the ADRC-North is 1-866-663-3607.

8. TeleHealth Equipment and Computer Equipment. The Director informed the Board that Iron County submitted a grant proposal to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and was informed that they were awarded \$18,373 for the purchase of a new Cisco System which includes a new monitor and equipment. The current equipment will be moved to the County Board Room and will be available for training session or meetings.

The current file server in Human Service needs to be replaced. The approximate cost will be \$13,000 to \$15,000. The Financial Manager and Director are working on securing some funding through various programs. The balance must be paid for through the current budget. The board also reviewed some concerns regarding the problems associated with the current system.

9. Director's Report:

- Income Maintenance Funding: The Board is aware that the 15 county consortium does not have sufficient funding and there are concerns regarding the ability to provide timely services in the future. The Northern Consortium is working through WCHSA (Wisconsin Human Service Association) to resolve the problem and will be asking for an additional \$250,000 in 2013.
- Behavioral Health and Jail Services: At time, prisoners who are in jail require mental health services. The Sheriff and jail health nurse have requested assistance from the Human Services Outpatient Clinic and the Psychiatrist. The Director and Sheriff will submit a budget and have a discussion with the Finance Committee to determine what the parameters of service should be. It was noted that there is no plan to offer extensive services but the Sheriff must ensure that he is meeting prisoner's needs.
- W-2 & Work Sites: It was noted that the caseload for W-2 is increasing and there was a discussion of what work activities are available in the community so that individuals can receive work experience. Board members suggested the Montreal and Mercer Food Pantry and the Senior Citizen Centers. Additional suggestions will be appreciated. Everyone who can work should work in a setting that is appropriate to their skill level.
- Child Care Budget: In 2011, the agency downsized the Economic Support Unit by one staff person. As a result, the W-2 Program and Child Care Programs utilize a contracted position. Since this staff member is not a county employee, the agency is unable to claim any administrative time for the position. This will be reflected in the 2013 budget and a significant amount of this budget will not be utilized. The board was also reminded that in 2013, the agency will no longer be involved in the W-2 Program.
- Victim Service Unit Volunteers: The Victim Services Unit through the Gogebic County Sheriff's Office provides services to Iron County. During the recent evacuation of Southgate, members of the Victim Service Unit worked with staff from the Human Services Department to coordinate and provide services. The staff were so impressed with this unit that several members have agreed to volunteer with Gogebic County. There is a 20 hour mandated training that members must attend. Board Members noted that some EMT Units might be interested in the training.

10. New Business – None.
14. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be held in August if necessary.
15. Motion to adjourn by Koski, seconded by Mattson. All in favor.