

MEETING OF THE WCHSA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Thursday, May 6, 2021

(Zoom Only)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Diane Cable at 9:30 a.m.

Zoom Attendance: Diane Cable, Shawn Tessmann, Deb Suchla, Tamara Feest, Vicki Tylka, Mary Rideout, Tim Easker, Stacey Frolik, Kathi Cauley, Liza Drake, Liz Aldred, Dan McWilliams, Kate Luster, Kelly Oleson, Erik Pritzl, Jason Jerome, Matt Strittmater, Dawn Buchholz, Katie Davis, Liza Daleiden, Paula Winter, Linda Hall (OCMH), Fred Naatz, Kris Korpela, Ron Hermes (DOC), Jill Bender, Ray Przybelski, Bob Rohret, Doreen Lang, Zachary Todd (DHS), Renee Krueger, Tom Slaney, Mandy Stanley, Bill Topel, Todd Campbell, Terry Barningham, John Tuohy (DCF), Allison Fern, Judy Wright, Pamela Kernan, Anna Carlson, Kathy Markeland (WAFCA), Dan Williams, Shane Schumacher, Joe Krebsbach, Jim LeDuc, Paul Grahovac, Carly Keller, Dave Longsdorf, John Rathman, Sara Reese-Socha, John Jansen, Nina Taylor, Heather Grove, Patricia Lancour, Chris Hovell, Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf (WCA), Claribel Camacho, and Cally Bucknell

Approval of April 1, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes:

A **MOTION** to approve was made by Matt Strittmater with a second by Jason Jerome. **MOTION** carries.

President's Report – Diane Cable

In place of a spring conference, there will be a fireside chat and learning session with Dr. Angela Rose Black from the University of Wisconsin – Madison May 11, 2021.

Treasurer's Report – Deb Suchla

Deb provided an overview of the written report submitted.

Executive Director's Report – Katie Davis

- Tuesday event with Dr. Angela Rose Black will occur in place of the bi-weekly COVID meeting.
- Welcome to Jeff Wisnicky, the new Human Services Director in Kewaukee.
- Katie will move to her co-working space in July.
- The plan is to have an in-person conference this fall, December 2-3, in Stevens Point at the Holiday Inn. The planning committee will be meeting within the next two weeks to put together the agenda. If anyone wishes to join the committee and/or has any ideas or suggestions for the conference can send them to Katie.
- Reminder to those counties who have not paid their 2021 membership dues to please do so. Katie will be sending out individual reminders to those counties who have not made that payment.

Regional Updates

Northern – Mary Rideout

- Discussed Children, Youth & Families allocation changes that are being proposed.
- Discussed the tribal Child Welfare OE process.
- Short discussion on the use of the American Rescue Plan Act funding in Human Services.
- Discussion around how to deal with staff burnout, particularly in smaller counties.
- Update from WCWPDS on the new worker training program.
- Presentation from Wisconsin Community Services group on a second youth crisis stabilization facility that's available in Milwaukee and may open to other counties.
- Discussed the changes in the service array for CLTS.

Northeastern – Matt Strittmater

- Recap on the last WCHSA Executive Board meeting.
- Same presentation from Wisconsin Community Services.
- Spent time discussing Child Welfare staffing.

- Discussed where places are at in terms of ideas or action related to diversity & equity.
- COVID and where everybody is at.
- Discussed what counties are doing in preparation for the American Rescue Plan Act funding.

Western – Stacey Frolik

- Presentation on the Child Psychiatry Consultation Program.
- Ann from DCTS provided an overview of the children's system of care self-assessment tool.
- Roundtable discussions on what's being done regarding child death review teams in counties and also discussed some difficult cases relating to harassing, aggressive, & intimidating parents and giving suggestions/recommendations on how to manage those situations.
- Presentation from Darrin Smith and John Elliott on the new worker training program.

Southeastern – Kathi Cauley

No update. Meet 5/21/21.

Southern – Dan McWilliams

- Met with Secretary Amundson and other DCF staff. Had a nice discussion on a couple of topics. One topic was a look at philosophies driving safety net, gaps reducing racial disparities, recovery from COVID-19 & what our W2 agency's role would be in that, and short discussion on children with complex needs.

Partner Agency Reports

Department of Health Services – Zachary Todd

Prior to providing updates, Zach asked if counties would be willing to receive their WIMCR cost settlement check electronically vs. a paper check and talked about the benefits of electronic fund transfer. Zach reported DHS is trying to promote workplace vaccination sites in trying to herd immunity. Lastly, he reported the deadline to apply for the APS \$1.15 million related to COVID funding is tomorrow, May 7, 2021. This is a firm deadline and if you don't respond the money gets rolled into the total that gets divided by the counties that did respond. DHS wants only one response per county and as of yesterday a number of counties have not responded. All APS workers received an email through their APS list serve and a reminder email was also sent to the regional director's email list serve.

Department of Children and Families – John Tuohy

In addition to the written report submitted, John reported numbered memo 2021-13 went out yesterday. This is the final version of the CPS Access & Initial Assessment Standard Revisions and DSP staff will be able to answer any questions at the CYF PAC meeting next week. John also provided clarification with regards to the Youth Justice Community Integration Program within the written report.

Department of Corrections – Ron Hermes

Ron reported the Monitors Report was positive. The use of mechanical restraints at the facility was reduced by 68% and the use of administrative confinement was reduced by 36%. DOC is in the midst of changing their culture and approach of how they work with youth at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake moving away from the traditional power in control of corrections to a treatment facility grounded in DBT skills and practices and they are starting to see the changes take effect. Ron also reported they are anticipating that all of the Juvenile Correction items included in the Governor's budget will be removed by a motion by Finance today.

WCWPDS

No report

Office of Children's Mental Health – Linda Hall

- Linda shared her screen on some of the artwork that was submitted for the virtual art gallery Tuesday evening. This was a Facebook live event and we reached out to over 500 people according to Facebook statistics.
- This evening we have a mental health panel where four teams will be speaking about what mental health looks like for them.

- Linda shared highlights from the Youth Voices of Wisconsin report on surviving, learning, and building resilience during COVID.
- Tomorrow OCMH will have their Collective Impact Council meeting.
- Tomorrow at noon there will be a radio program sponsored by the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Two Bald Guys and a Microphone broadcast.

WCA – Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf

Sarah talked about the State budget. Some items she reported on included Juvenile Justice, QRTP language, Disability Resource Center proposal, APS, and ARPA funding.

Policy Advisory Committee Action Items/Reports

Behavioral Health – Todd Campbell

- ACTION: Confirm new BH PAC members Dawn Woodard and Alicia Carlson
A **MOTION** was made by Kathi Cauley with a second by Tamara Feest. **MOTION** carries.
- ACTION: PAC recommendation that WCHSA formally support budget provision related to mental health services for deaf and hard of hearing individuals
A **MOTION** was made by Tamara Feest with a second by Matt Strittmater. **MOTION** carries.
- UPDATE: CARES and ARPA funds related to behavioral health
Heard from Teresa Steinmetz from DCTS. Still waiting on Notice of Award for ARPA funds but the State has an award letter from Consolidated Appropriation Act which increased the size of the mental health block grant and the substance use block grant. The two-year amounts are \$14.2 million for the mental health block grant and \$25.5 million for the substance use block grant. The funding period for these block grants is March 2021 through March 2023. The plan is to allocate the majority of the funding directly to counties and tribes through supplemental block grant awards so they can be used for community needs based on what our current available rules for block grant use are. The State is also looking at some possible funding opportunities around crisis services development, some workforce development, and some harm reduction strategies. More to come from the State. Kris Korpela from Dunn County agreed to join the 988 Implementation Planning Committee. Lastly, Jim Jones from Medicaid Services talked about a memo they are planning to release that would indicate that all CCS eligible individuals need to be served where they are regardless of their current county of residence status. The PAC provided Jim with feedback on how that could complicate things. Jim will take this information back and explore different workgroups that may need to be formed.

Children, Youth, and Families – Vicki Tylka

- UPDATE: CYF Allocation Methodology
Vicki provided a recap of their April 7th meeting. Discussion centered around poverty and population census data. Next step is for DCF to have funding models available for the next meeting. The workgroup will be meeting again in June and August. The end goal is to have a decision to bring back to the Executive Board by September for discussion/action.
- UPDATE: Rate regulation and residential options for kids with complex needs
CYF PAC asked BH PAC to get together to have a detailed discussion on how they can prioritize the discussion of kids with complex needs in residential care to help State partners understand the significance of this. More information to follow.

Economic Support – John Rathman

- ACTION: Appoint negotiation committee for 2022 IM and childcare contracts
A **MOTION** was made by Shawn Tessmann with a second by Matt Strittmater. **MOTION** carries.
- John reported they have been working closely with DHS with regard to the Food Share workload as staff start resuming FS interviews/reviews during the months of July, August, and September. DHS put in a proposal to FNS and they hope to have information to share with the IM Operational Analysis and IMOA subcommittee.

Long Term Support – Deb Suchla

- **UPDATE: B-3 MetaStar results**
Deb reported MetaStar review scores are substantially lower than what they have been in the past and devastating to some counties. Deb asked if there are any concerns to share them with Katie and her so they can talk to BCS.
- **UPDATE: PAC strategic planning**
Thanks to Trista Piccola (Walworth County Deputy Director) for helping put together documents and thanks to the BH and CYF PACS for the use of your templates. More discussion to be had at tomorrow's PAC meeting.

Association Business and Action Items:

- **ACTION: WCHSA Ad Hoc Financial Planning Committee**
A **MOTION** to move forward with the WCHSA Ad Hoc Planning Committee was made by Deb Suchla with a second by Liz Aldred. **MOTION** carries. Those interested in being on the committee should contact Katie or Deb via email.
- **DISCUSSION: Biennial Budget**
Katie shared a conversation she had with Lance Horozewski at DJC with regard to the rate increase for Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake. Lance is asking counties to advocate with the Secretary and other parties to keep a cap on the rates and ask for GPR support to continue to operate Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake until it closes. Sarah added there is a provision in the budget that takes rate setting away from the legislature and places it in the hands of DLC. Sarah mentioned this is on her list to talk to Representative Born about and she will have a discussion with the Finance Committee to see what they're willing to invest to keep the rates down for counties.

Sarah talked about the Emergency Detention Reform Coalition and the counter proposal. The ask is for \$500,000 in the first year of the budget to hire a consultant to help create the road map in which to move towards a more regional system. We are recommending a committee be created to work with the consultant. This committee would consist of all the groups (WCA, Badger State Sheriffs' Association, WI Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs' Association, WI Hospital Association, WI Chiefs of Police Association, WI Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians, and WI Psychiatric Association) involved. There is a \$100 million in state bonding authority in the second year in the budget if we are going to move towards seven regional facilities. Also included in this proposal is additional funding for Milwaukee County to modernize their ED system and creation of a new dedicated psychiatric emergency detention facility. Sarah will forward the proposal to Katie to share.

- **DISCUSSION: Resuming in-person meetings**
It was suggested Katie follow-up with a survey and bring this back for further discussion.
- **DISCUSSION: WCHSA strategic planning**
Katie questioned if there was any interest in bringing in an external facilitator to work on a strategic planning process with WCHSA. After some discussion, it was suggested we have a fuller conversation on this next month.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Next WCHSA Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, June 3, 2021

ZOOM ONLY