

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
May 5, 2009
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Ed Kubicki, Terry Rose, Jeff Gentz, Dick Kessler, Jennifer Jackson, Alice Wei, Ali Khaleel

Staff Present: John Jansen, Adelene Greene, John Milisauskas, Laurie Staves, Fran Petrick, Carolyn Feldt,

Others Present: Audra Brennan, Nellie Musignac, Jennie Tunkieicz, Joe Potente (Kenosha News), Jack Waters

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Ed Kubicki.

2. Citizen's Comments - None

3. Approval of Minutes - 4/21/09

MOTION to approve minutes by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Terry Rose. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. DADS: Resolution to Modify 2009 Budget for WI DOT Grant to Enhance Transportation Services

Carolyn Feldt stated that the Div. of Aging & Disability Services received federal New Freedom Grant funds through the State DOT in the amount of \$77,362 for Western Kenosha County Transit. These funds will be used to purchase benches, software, bus stop signs and mobility management. We are using a trust fund account as the 20% local match. Those state funds can be used as the match for this federal money. There are no levy dollars involved.

At the request of Terry Rose, Ms. Feldt gave a brief history of the Western County Transit, distributing a few copies of the bus schedule. This has been operating about 18 months now. Prior to this, the Care-a-Van was serving just elderly and disabled persons in the western county area for approximately 100 trips at a cost of \$60,000 per month. It was not a public transportation system. We are now running 3 regular routes and 2 door-to-door vehicles. We will be doing some service expansion this summer. We have been running for 6 quarters, and the ridership has increased every quarter. We are currently providing over 800 trips per month, and we are still not at capacity. We also plan to do some increased marketing this summer. Feedback via surveys from our riders indicate they love this service. They are so grateful to have public transportation. We are serving the commerce needs of Kenosha County residents.

Jennifer Jackson asked if any thought was given to putting bike racks on the buses. Ms. Feldt responded that bikes will fit inside the bus at the back, and bikers are using the buses.

MOTION to approve by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Alice Wei and Ali Khaleel also voting 'yes'.

5. DADS: Resolution to Modify 2009 Budget for WI Public Health Association Funds to Conduct Living Well Classes in Conjunction with the Arthritis Campaign

Carolyn Feldt said that the Arthritis Campaign resolution was brought forward a month ago, which funded \$25,000 to promote physical exercise. This \$8,538 funding was given to us because we have a history with the "Living Well" classes. Participation in these classes will be a long-term strategy for these persons with arthritis. Each class is 6 weeks long, and we will be offering 6 classes, beginning in May.

MOTION to approve by Terry Rose, seconded by Jeff Gentz. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Alice Wei and Ali Khaleel also voting 'yes'.

6. Brookside Update

Fran Petrick stated that they are fine-tuning their Infection Control Program at Brookside, which is especially important with the H1N1 and the norovirus. They are also focusing on the prevention of falls. Brookside is in the State survey window, which will be anywhere from 9 - 15 months from its last survey. The inspectors could possibly be there in June or July. Other nursing homes that have had the State inspectors in the last 4 months have reported being cited for immediate jeopardy. This is the highest deficiency a nursing home can receive. Immediate jeopardy occurs during some kind of catastrophic event. Other citations received were for infection control. Wisconsin's nursing homes traditionally provide the highest level of care in the nation.

As of March, Brookside had over \$1 million collected in revenues. One of their key employees was out sick for months. They had a lot of catching up to do in billing. They have collected about 1/3 of their collectibles.

Some residents took a trip to Potawatomi. They had a blast. They had a big winner, and that person had to buy ice cream for everyone on the bus.

Jennifer Jackson asked what they were doing to prevent falls. Ms. Petrick replied that Brookside is a high quality nursing home. They look at all falls to maybe see a trend. Were they trying to go to the bathroom? Falls happen after a meal many times. Dick Kessler added that 2 rooms share one bathroom at Brookside, and with 154 beds, that means there are 77 shared bathrooms.

Jeff Gentz asked if Ms. Petrick had encountered any problems that need attention, such as morale. Ms. Petrick replied that they are looking at overtime. Brookside is too reliant on overtime. They need to have staff, but they are currently looking at other options. Mr. Gentz asked that Ms. Petrick return in 3-4 months with another update.

7. Medicaid Navigator Presentation

Audra Brennan, the Southeast Wisconsin Medicaid Liaison distributed 2 informational sheets, and stated that last year the State was informed there was only one provider in Kenosha County that was accepting the majority of Medicaid patients - Dr. Zelko - and that he would soon be leaving. They immediately met with the HMOs. It was clear that there was a trend. The problem was very unique to Kenosha County: Women were having problems finding OB/GYNs. So, her office worked with the representatives from the 2 hospitals in Kenosha. Medicaid is not the best payer. The State wanted a proportionate distribution of cases amongst the hospitals and doctors in Kenosha. They got a commitment from all of the doctors to accept Medicaid patients. Each provider will now see a certain number of patients. The State also located a person at the Job Center to facilitate this distribution, like a gatekeeper. Ms. Brennan introduced Nellie Musignac, Kenosha's

Medicaid Navigator, who started in February. She had worked with Dr. Zelko, has experience with this population, and is also bi-lingual. Ms. Brennan further explained that Ms. Musignac will work with the clients be sure they keep their appointments. She can also refer patients to other community services for smoking cessation, mental health issues, etc. Ms. Musignac will track all of this data.

In reviewing the Summary of MA Patients per Doctor, it was noted that 12 OB/GYNs and 5 family practice doctors have a combined total of 80 patients/deliveries per month. The independent doctors volunteered to take a higher number of patients.

Jeff Gentz asked what some of the acronyms stood for. FQHC - Federally Qualified Health Center (which is the Kenosha Community Health Center in Kenosha), NP - Nurse Practitioner, PA - Physician's Assistant, AMG = Aurora Medical Group, UHG = United Hospital Group.

Aurora and the Kenosha Community Health Center have partnered. Mr. Gentz asked if that meant that the patients will go from doctor to doctor. Ms. Brennan replied that 'no', most patients will see the same doctor. Mr. Gentz commended Ms. Brennan and the State for their prompt action to this problem.

Jennifer Jackson stated that she wants to be sure that these Medicaid patients receive the same quality care as anyone else. She asked if they will be seeing the actual doctors or the Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner at the Community Health Center. Ms. Musignac replied that they are assigned to a doctor. The PA and NP would be servicing other needs of the patients. When asked by Ms. Jackson if the patients are getting in to see the doctors within weeks, Ms. Musignac responded that 'yes, they are given appointments within 1-2 weeks. Ms. Jackson asked if we were seeing problems with drugs, stress, or mental health issues, and are we able to diagnosis this. Ms. Musignac explained that when a patient calls her, she asks if there are any other health issues or if they require any other services. The doctor does get back to Ms. Musignac if they need additional referral services.

Terry Rose said that there was also an inability for the newborn children to be seen by a pediatrician in a timely manner. Is anything being done about this problem? Ms. Brennan answered that as Ms. Musignac becomes familiar with the patients, she can refer them to pediatricians. We will be looking at pediatricians now.

Ms. Brennan informed the members that Dr. Zelko did leave, and all of his patients have been reassigned to other doctors.

Mr. Rose asked why this problem was unique to Kenosha, saying that about one year ago, both hospitals disputed the facts. Dr. Zelko saw the patients in a timely manner but the other doctors would not. Ms. Jackson added that with Aurora and United Health Hospitals, the buck was first and helping people was second. The State had to come in to right this wrong. This says a lot about the state of our hospital systems. Ms. Jackson further thanked Ms. Brennan and Ms Musignac for coming to this meeting and expressed her hope that they would pursue pediatricians now.

8. - 12.

Ed Kubicki deferred Items 8 - 12 to the June 1st meeting due to lack of time in this meeting.

13. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law - None

14. Committee Members Comments - None

15. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Terry Rose, seconded by Jeff Gentz. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

F:Sharon/HSCmin 5-5-09