

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
May 4, 2010
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Terry Rose, Jeff Gentz, Mike Goebel, David Celebre, David Arrington

Committee Members Absent: Alice Wei (excused), Ali Khaleel

Staff Present: John Jansen, Laurie Staves, Cindy Johnson, Gwen Perry-Brye, Kris Palmas

Others Present: Supervisor Ed Kubicki, Joe Potente-Kenosha News

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Terry Rose. Mr. Rose stated that there was a tour of Brookside Care Center on Monday night, and he hoped the committee members would be able to make the Job Center tour on Thursday. It will be a good opportunity to meet people and see what is being done at the Job Center. The tour will last about one hour.

2. Citizen's Comments - None

3. Approval of Minutes: 4/7/10

MOTION to approve minutes by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Arrington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Health: Resolution to Modify 2010 Budget to Reflect Funding Received for the Kenosha Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families

Cindy Johnson distributed an informational sheet explaining that this is a one-year planning grant to improve the health status of African-American women, leading to healthy births. Wisconsin is the third worst state for infant mortality rates. This \$200,000 grant will be used to work on improving the infant mortality rates in the African-American community. Black infants have 5 times the rate of whites in deaths. A summit will be held to engage and identify partners, after which we will identify gaps to address, and then finalize the Community Action Plan.

We will continue with the Mom/Baby Talk Program, an education and support program for new mothers, utilizing \$10,000 of this grant. Our goal is to reach 10% of the high-risk African-American women giving birth in Kenosha County. Last year we had 2 small groups, and 8 women were quite successful with healthy births. Gwen Perry-Brye added that in 2008, there were 223 African-American women births. Our plan is to reach 10%, which would be 20 - 24 women. Ms. Johnson continued that we have a small African-American population, but a large death rate. We will be looking at the life course of the women before and during pregnancy to address health concerns.

Mike Goebel asked if we will be following up with the care of babies, etc. Ms. Johnson explained that that is part of our Health Division's care. We do a home visit after the baby's birth and continue if a woman needs it.

This grant will continue over a span of 5 - 10 years, and we will receive \$1 - \$2 million to address this issue. This will be a continuing effort. Funding is through the Wisconsin Partnership Program Grant out of Madison, through an endowment fund from Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The funds are disbursed throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Jeff Gentz requested that this committee be updated on each of the 3 stages of this grant.

David Arrington asked how we find these African-American mothers. Ms. Johnson replied that we have a collaboration with WIC through the Community Action Agency, and receive referrals from them. We can also get referrals from other agencies and schools. We have a nurse that works with the Reuther Infant Lab. Anyone can refer to our Health Division. We then contact the women and offer our services.

MOTION to approve by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Arrington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Update from Brookside Care Center

Laurie Staves, DHS Fiscal Director, explained the Statistical Comparison. There are 3 types of patient census at Brookside: Medicare, Medicaid (Title 19) and Private Pay. The 2010 revenue budget is \$12.6 million, and we are on target through 3/31 with \$3,153,232, which is almost 25%. Our average Medicare census through 4/21 was 25.4, and our goal was 25. We closed April 30th with 28 Medicare beds, and on Monday, we were at 31. Three beds were filled over the weekend. This new position has really helped us increase our Medicare census.

Kris Palmas, Admissions Coordinator, stated that she works with the hospitals (they call her, or she goes there) and she provides tours for people, with her goal to fill Medicare beds. Medicare stays are usually short-term. Medicaid are long-term stays. Many don't know that Brookside also has rehab care through MJ Care, so she tries to get that word out. Brookside will be having a booth at the Aging Conference; Food, Folks & Spokes; and Relay for Life.

Jeff Gentz congratulated Ms. Palmas for doing a good job, adding that he wants to see this succeed.

MOTION to receive and file by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Arrington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. DHS 2009 Year-end Close-out

Laurie Staves distributed the 2009 DHS Year-End Close-Out Summary. The Brookside budget is separate from the rest of the DHS budget, but they are still part of the Dept. of Human Services. Brookside had an excess operating revenue of \$486,100, mainly from the Medicare census. We had budgeted for \$605,000 for Supplemental Payment, but received an extra \$519,000. We lose about \$120 per day on Medicaid beds and the State recognizes this loss of reimbursement. This state Supplemental Payment is meant to help offset this loss. The State bed assessment had been \$75 per month, but effective 7/1/09, it increased to \$150. This was not included in our budget, because the State increased it during the year 2009. It will be increasing to \$170 on 7/1/10. We are passing that State

bed assessment on to our private pay residents as of 1/1/10. But this was a total \$70,000 expenditure increase for 2009. Adding to that an increase in Personnel and Medicare costs of \$674,000 and \$250,600 respectively, Brookside had a total levy savings of \$10,500.

DWD received additional W-2 funding in the amount of \$218,000, which made us whole from the 2008 W-2 program deficit. DCFS was under budget in placements by \$38,000. Added to other additional funding, DCFS had a total savings of \$189,600.

DADS had a deficit of \$388,000. Crisis and CSP Medicaid funding was short by \$169,000. There were additional pharmacy costs of \$208,000, due to the State's delay in starting Badger Care. It was to have started on 1/1/09, but it was delayed to 7/1/09, which meant that we had to cover pharmacy costs for those 6 months. MH residential placement costs increased by \$211,000.

Health received additional grant funding of \$28,218.

The total 2009 DHS levy savings was \$47,818.

Jeff Gentz and Terry Rose asked about the City's share of the Health Division's budget. Ms. Staves replied that there is about \$500,000 still owed by the City. The County had filed a claim in March and the City has 120 days to respond. The committee requested future updates on the status of this issue.

MOTION to receive and file by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Arrington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law

John Jansen mentioned that we have some oversight committee member vacancies because of the new County Board supervisors. Human Services Board needs 2 people and one needs to be from the Human Services Committee. The HSB meets at the Job Center. David Arrington and Mike Goebel expressed an interested on serving the HSB. Terry Rose will pass that information on to the County Executive.

8. Committee Members Comments

Jeff Gentz asked that informational handouts be mailed out with the agenda packets to allow time for the committee members to review them.

Mr. Gentz also stated that he would like to see a report from one of the DHS divisions at each meeting, pertaining to their programs, how future funding may affect these programs, etc. Terry Rose agreed with this request.

9. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Celebre. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary