PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Pursuant to Section 19.84 Wis. Stats, a regular meeting of the **Brown County Human Services Board** was held on Thursday, May 21, 2009 in Board Room A of the Sophie Beaumont Building, 111 North Jefferson Street,, Green Bay, Wisconsin

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Present:	Barb Bauer, Paula Geishirt, Rich Langan, Tom Lund, Dottie Schoenleber, Maria Zehren
Excused:	JoAnn Graschberger, Helen Smits, Andy Williams
Also Present:	Tom Eggebrecht Other Interested Parties

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1. **Call Meeting to Order:**
   The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Lund at 5:16 p.m.

2. **Approve/Modify Agenda:**

   Motion made by P. Geishirt and seconded by D. Schoenleber to approve the agenda as written. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Approve Minutes of April 16, 2009 Human Services Board Meeting:**

   Motion made by B. Bauer and seconded by R. Langan to approve the 4/16/09 minutes as written. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **PUBLIC HEAING 2010 DEPARTMENT BUDGET:**
   The following persons addressed the Board regarding the 2010 Department Budget:

   John Bloor – President of NEW Curative, Green Bay
   Mr. Bloor thanked the Board for their support of Human Service programs over the years. Realizing this will be a tough budget year, he, however, asked for funding consideration explaining that service numbers are increasing in the Alzheimer's Day Care and Adult Day Care Programs.

   Mike Duschene – Aspiro, 1673 Dousman Street, Green Bay
   Mr. Duschene also thanked the Board for their past support. He stated that without Brown County funding, programs at Aspiro would not exist. In addition to several examples of successful outcomes, Duschene stated that Aspiro received the Ethics in Business Award from the American Foundation of Counseling Services. Also recognizing the challenges in the 2010 budget, Duschene urged funding to be maintained for children, elderly, disabled, and those in poverty.

   Sara Allen – Homes for Independent Living -1249 Russett Court, Green Bay

Ms. Allen explained that HIL began working with Brown County Human Services approximately nine years ago. Today support is provided to 48 BC residents in 15 homes. Ms. Allen asked that funding be maintained in 2010, stating that the support is commendable and truly appreciated

Catholic Charities – 1825 Riverside Drive, Green Bay
Representative of Catholic Charities explained that she is the Case Manager of the Teen Parent Program. Brown County funding has been used to serve approximately 100 teen parents in the last year. She also asked for continued support.

Mary Flynn – Lutheran Social Services, Green Bay
Ms. Flynn explained that funding from Brown County is used to improve quality of life for people with developmental disabilities and mental illness. She stated the agency is aware of budget concerns and decisions that will need to be made, stating they are trying to do more with less.

PUBLIC HEARNG CLOSED

5. **NEW Family Care Plan:**
Tom Eggebrecht explained the concept of the Family Care Plan explaining that to participate in the program, the State requires a regional approach, not a county approach as in the current system. Other areas of Wisconsin are either in multi-county Long Term Care Districts as is being proposed, or they are in multi-county groupings served by private entities. Northeast Wisconsin is the last large area to be brought into Family Care. The District will include the counties of Door, Kewaunee, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, and Shawano. Although Brown County has the largest population, all have asked for equal representation on the District Board.

Under state guidelines, the state will gradually "buy down" all counties' levy and state aid over five years, resulting in the program having transferred 22% of each county's basic community allocation. At the end of this period, the District will administer the Family Care program with state and federal dollars provided, not county levy. The District will have financial obligation for operations. Each county in the District will lose 100% direct control of long term support programs, county responsibility lines will end, and District responsibility will form. The focus of the District Board will be to assure solvency of operations, an adequate provider network, quality of care, and consumer satisfaction.

To be a part of the District is a choice for Brown County, although the Executive and the Human Services Committee have indicated a desire to participate. If they should decide not to participate, Eggebrecht indicated that the state would most likely contract with a private "partnership agency" to administer the Family Care and Brown County would lose input into how the program is administered. Programs will continue to exist for child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health services, economic support, with long term care going to the new Family Care program. County departments can either employ their own personnel or can contract for personnel. A proposal to make the current case management staff available for purchase under contract is recommended, as opposed to eliminating jobs.

Eggebrecht informed the Board that the model that has been presented includes an opportunity to receive a planning grant of approximately $400,000 from the State of Wisconsin before the end of May. There is money remaining in the current state biennium to help move the concept of Family Care into reality for this region. This grant would allow for the hiring of District administrative staff to perform specific family care development for the region. This would include a District Administrator and a Chief Financial Officer at minimum, with the balance of the grant going toward consultant fees and other development costs.

Rich Langan pointed out that Family Care is going to come to Brown County no matter who runs it. Forming a District gives Brown County an opportunity to assure good service for everyone and qualified personnel to run it.

A lengthy discussion by Board members regarding representation on the District Board and the Family Care Program resulted in a suggestion by Chairman Lund that it be brought before the Human Services Committee for their input and authorization to forward to the County Board.

Motion made by R. Langan and seconded by P. Geishirt to support and move forward with the concept of a long term Family Care District.
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6. **Financial Report:**
Tom Eggebrecht reported that community programs through the first three months of the year are on target, with the Mental Health Center approximately $700,000 over budget. He attributes this to a drop in out-of-county referrals and lower patient days. Mary Johnson has been appointed as Interim Director and Eggebrecht plans to meet with her and other staff to address staffing concerns and options.

Psychiatric recruitment continues. Dr. Mannen has agreed to stay, however, has requested backup support.

7. **Bellin Hospital Statistical Update:**
A report from Linda Roethle of Bellin Psychiatric Center indicates there were no transfers or involuntary adolescents sent to other institutions, nor were there any admissions refused during the last reporting period.

8. **Mental Health Center Statistical Update:**
Statistics in packet material were reviewed. Year-to-date 2009 there have been 593 admissions, with 630 as of this date in ’08. Reasons for this decline include state promotion of crisis prevention, hospitalization diversion, provision of technical assistance, and training to counties, with the focus to keep people out of hospitals.

9. **Contract Update:**
Reports were reviewed and accepted as presented.

10. **Director’s Report:**
- **WCHSA Minutes**

Eggebrecht announced the following:
- July Human Services Board meeting will be budget review (7-16-09)
- May is Foster Care month.
- Construction of the new mental health facility is on track for completion this fall.

11. **Any Other Matters:**
Paula Geishirt expressed frustration with attendance at the monthly Board meetings and reminder calls were suggested. Members were urged to contact the office if not attending.

12. **Adjourn Business Meeting:**

Motion made by P. Geishirt and seconded by M. Zehren to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Rae G. Knippel
Recording Secretary