PROCEEDINGS OF THE AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER OF BROWN COUNTY
BOARD MEETING **February 23, 2017**

PRESENT: Larry Epstein, Jessica Nell, Beth Relich, Pat Finder-Stone, Bev Bartlett, Linda Mamrosh, Debi Lundberg, Mary Derginer, Mary Johnson, Randy Johnson

ALSO PRESENT: Devon Christianson, Christel Giesen, Kristin Willems, Debra Bowers, Laurie Ropson, Tina Brunner, Mary Plageman, Nicolette Miller, Diana Brown

EXCUSED: Melanie Maczka

ABSENT: Corrie Campbell, Arlie Doxtater

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Epstein at 8:30 A.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTIONS: All board members and staff present introduced themselves, including Mary Plageman, hired for the position of Grounded Café' Team Lead. Mary's past work experience included being a business owner of 3 Curves businesses in Ohio and Wisconsin. Ms. Plageman also worked as a barista and shift manager at Starbucks in more than one community. Diana Brown from Curative Connections also introduced herself.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Ms. Johnson/Ms. Finder-Stone moved to adopt the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF January 26, 2017:
Ms. Bartlett/Ms. Lundberg moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 26, 2017. **MOTION CARRIED.**

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

FINANCE REPORT:

A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2016 FINANCE REPORT:
Ms. Bowers referred to the January 2017 Financial Highlights to demonstrate expenses and revenues for the month of January.

Ms. Finder-Stone/Ms. Relich moved to approve and place on file the January 2017 Financial Report. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESTRICTED DONATIONS:
There were no restricted donations received in the month of January. Ms. Bowers pointed out that the 2017 beginning balance in the restricted donations category was carried over from the ending balance of 2016's restricted donations total.

Ms. Finder-Stone/ Ms. Derginer moved to approve the Restricted Donations for January, 2017. **MOTION CARRIED.**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: COMMITTEES
Ms. Christianson referred to the ADRC Committee and Taskforce handout for 2017. Ms. Christianson shared the ADRC is a team based organization where employees participate in committees in an effort to bring a diverse group of employees together to create ADRC goals

and objectives. It is very important to the ADRC that staff members have genuine input to the strategic direction of the agency. Ms. Christianson referred to the handout and highlighted the Grounded Café' Committee. This committee is currently meeting weekly and several task force groups have also been created to support this initiative, including the Financial Sustainability, Community Partners & Daily Operations Task Forces. Ms. Christianson then discussed the Loan Closet Committee. The current focus is on decisions that need to be made both by the committee and community partners to determine the future direction of the loan closet. Ms. Christianson finally discussed the Tenet Team Committee. This committee focuses on team culture and skill -building for staff when dealing with conflict. Mr. Epstein inquired if the board would be welcome to attend a committee meeting. Ms. Christianson stressed that all board members are welcome and encouraged to attend but advised to call the committee chair to be sure that the meeting time has not changed.

B. DEMENTIA CARE SPECIALIST FACT SHEET & LISTENING SESSIONS UPDATE:

Ms. Christianson stated that, as anticipated, the state 2017-2019 budget did not include the Dementia Care Specialist (DCS) positions. Ms. Christianson shared the background and history of how this pilot program was created. She stressed that the strength of this one position is the public education and coalition building. The DCS also handles very complex cases and additionally the DCS increases the expertise of ADRC staff. Ms. Christianson explained that if the position is not included in the budget, she would do her best to keep the coalition going, but without the DCS, Ms. Christianson could not take on all of the responsibility in addition to duties in her role. The Alzheimer's Association is very supportive of the DCS's roles in Wisconsin and will assist with advocacy efforts to maintain them in the state budget. The Alzheimer's Association chapter for this area covers 70 of the 72 counties in Wisconsin and they would not have the capacity to be present in each community the way that the DCS role has been. Ms. Christianson discussed the challenges of successfully advocating for this role. Currently there are only 16 DCS positions covering 26 counties in Wisconsin. . Communities that do not have this position "do not know what they don't know". Ms. Christianson referred to the position papers that are written to provide information to educate and advocate for the position. One paper is specific to Brown County and one is for the State of Wisconsin for other ADRC's to use. Ms. Christianson shared that she can educate but cannot lobby to ask legislators to include this position in the budget. The ADRC Board members can ask legislators for this role to be included in the budget. Ms. Christianson would like to have the March Brown County Human Services Board meeting at the ADRC and asked that Board members attend if they can to advocate for support for this position. Discussion ensued regarding the budget and the DCS role. Ms. Miller offered to send a link to the Alzheimer's website which includes data and statistics. Ms. Christianson agreed to put together a condensed version of the position paper provided to include the major highlights.

C. ADVOCACY TRAINING UPDATE:

Ms. Christianson provided an update to the board that Advocacy training will be held on Monday March 20th, 2017 from 9AM to Noon. Ms. Finder-Stone and Mr. Pamperin will be conducting the training for board members and GBCAT team. The training will be held at the ADRC. Ms. Finder-Stone stated that you can never know too much about advocacy. Ms. Relich inquired about recording the session. Ms. Ropson stated that she is working on technology this year to be able to record sessions like this.

STAFF REPORT: TINA BRUNNER – BENEFIT SPECIALIST DEPARTMENT

Ms. Brunner referred to the unit handout that was sent prior to the meeting and gave an overview of the Benefit Specialist team to include their overall program responsibilities, respective roles, goals and challenges. There are 9 paid staff, 7full time employees and 2 part-time employees. The Outreach and Benefit Program position is a 16 hour per week colleague. This position recruits and hires and trains volunteers and coordinates outreach programs in Brown County. The other part-time position is a grant position through MIPPA (Medicare Improvements for Patients & Providers). This grant will be coming to an end in September 2017. This position is also an outreach position to educate the public on Medicare Savings Program and Part D services focusing on rural areas of the county. This position has also supported the Benefit Team with data entry of volunteer efforts and data entry for the benefit

specialists. Ms. Brunner is working on strategies to distribute the data entry work after September when this position reaches the end of the 3 year grant period. Ms. Brunner shared that the team also has 9 volunteer positions. These volunteers conduct Medicare workshops and also conduct separate one on one sessions to help educate people on Medicare options and other support programs that may be available. Ms. Brunner referred to the handouts that include detail and statistic of accomplishments from the group in 2016. Ms. Christianson also mentioned that creating a recorded session of Medicare workshops is a goal so that customers can refer to this training from the ADRC website. Ms. Brunner explained that the most significant challenge for the Benefit team is the stigma related to accepting assistance. Customers feel that they may be taking help that could go to someone else, or are not comfortable receiving a "hand out" etc. The team spends time educating and explaining that by accepting the program they are contributing to the community. A goal going forward is to plan more information regarding budgeting and advanced directives. Ms. Brunner also said she is working on partnering with other agencies to provide one on one budget counseling and offering this service at the ADRC. Ms. Christianson thanked Ms. Brunner for her leadership and creativity and her focus on customer service.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:
Ms. Finder-Stone shared that she will be traveling to both Mike Gallagher's office and Ron Johnson's office to discuss Medicare and the impact if the ACA should be repealed. Ms. Christianson added that information on the Affordable Care Act is included on page 8 of the February 2017 ADRC Magazine.

Ms. Nell will be speaking about the impact of potential Medicaid Block Grants on Advocacy day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Mr. Johnson shared that Mr. Slusarek spoke at a men's group in Ashwaubenon. Mr. Johnson explained that most men in the group were not aware of the ADRC. Mr. Johnson recommended asking someone from the ADRC to speak to groups that board members are involved with to help educate the public on the ADRC.
Mr. Johnson also shared that he had an opportunity to have a meal that was packaged for delivery to a home and was amazed at how appetizing it was after plating the meal. He suggested showing pictures of the meal after it is taken from the packaging. Ms. Christianson also shared that there is a space at the bottom of nutrition statements asking participants for feedback.. Ms. Groeschel just shared with her the positive comments that she has been getting about the meals and program.
Ms. Christianson referred to a "Thank you" note sent from the Office of the Blind for the $2000.00 grant that the ADRC provides to them for adaptive equipment purchases.
Ms. Christianson also explained that the ADRC and Crisis Center received a "Shining Star" award from the United Way for their collaboration on the 211 Database.
Mr. Epstein shared feedback that he has received that the ADRC of Brown County is so beautiful and clean. Ms. Nell also shared a similar story and comments from the Executive Director of Disability Right's Wisconsin.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be March 23, 2017 at the ADRC at 8:30 AM. If anyone has any transportation needs please contact Ms. Willems.

ADJOURN: Ms. Derginer/Ms. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 10:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Willems, Administrative Specialist