

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
February 1, 2016 @ 6:30 pm
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Dayvin Hallmon, Mike Goebel, Greg Retzlaff, Leah Blough, Sara Klimisch-YIG, Jasmine Zeidan-YIG

Committee Members Absent: David Arrington, Anita Johnson,

Excused Absence: Erin Decker

Staff Present: John Jansen, LaVerne Jaros, Adelene Greene, Gwen Perry-Brye

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Dayvin Hallmon, Chair. Roll call was taken.

2. Citizen's Comments – None

3. Approval of Minutes: January 4, 2016 (on tape at 2:10)

Motion to approve the HSC meeting minutes of 1-2-16 by Supervisor Michael Goebel, seconded by Supervisor Leah Blough. Youth in Governance voted for approval. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Resolution to Approve the County Executive Appointment of Barbara Wisnefski to the Kenosha County Commission on Aging. **(on tape at 2:33)**

5. Resolution to Approve the County Executive Appointment of Gabriele Nudo to the Brookside Board of Trustees.

6. Resolution to Approve the County Executive Appointment of Richard Willoughby to the Kenosha County Human Services Board.

7. Resolution to Approve the County Executive Appointment of John O'Day to the Kenosha County Human Services Board.

John Jansen stated items 4, 5 6 and 7 are resolutions for various committees.

Greg Retzlaff asked if all the people were current. John stated, Barb is not. Barb had worked at Aging and Disability Services for a number of years and is retired. Gabe Nudo had been on the Brookside Board of Trustee as a County Board Supervisor and now will become a citizen on that Board. Richard Willoughby and John O'Day are both active members of the Kenosha County Human Services Board.

Greg Retzlaff asked if there is conflict with people on the Brookside Board who are also a County Supervisor. John Jansen stated the structure has been in place for a long time. All of the committees and board structure was put together when we became a Human Services Department. It was reviewed by Corporation Counsel back in the mid-90s and found the Committees to be appropriate at that time.

MOTION to group and approve items 4, 5, 6 and 7 by Michael Goebel, seconded by Leah Blough. Youth in Governance voted for approval. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. DWD: Presentation of Human Services 2015 Transaction Report. **(on tape @ 09:20)**

John Jansen stated he had asked Adelene Greene to pull numbers from 2015 in regards to the volume of transactions and people seen at the Kenosha County Job Center. John stated he believes people don't understand the amount of business that transpires at the Job Center.

Adelene Greene distributed and presented 2015 Reception Stats for the KCC Human Services office. The Division of Workforce Development are in two locations. One is in Western County. It is a smaller operation of the Human Services operation at the Kenosha County Job Center. Adelene Greene reviewed the report and stated there was approximately 5,800 people who visited the KCC.

Adelene presented the Clerical Services Transaction Report which is for the Kenosha County Job Center. The Kenosha County Job Center is a homeless drop off site so we are presented with clients who leave their mail at the Job Center for approximately 30 days. There were 56,400 transactions for the KCJC. When clients bring information to our Division we convert paper documents to electronic files. There were an additional 12,000 transactions that occur in addition to the 56,400. On the back side, Goodwill has staff who answer the phones for the Kenosha County Job Center. There were 260,000 phone calls that came into the building. Those phone calls come in from the general public for a variety of reasons.

In addition the Job Center has staff called the Economic Support Income Maintenance Workers who also field phone calls specifically for eligibility benefits. We operated under a consortium with Racine County. We track the number of calls that come in on a quarterly and annual basis. So there was an additional 212,000 calls that came into the Kenosha County Job Center Call Center.

Adelene Greene explained the WIA (Workforce Investment Act) Program report. This program caters to those who are dislocated, laid-off, unemployed, underemployed, and looking to enhance their skills so they can become employed or enhance their skills.

In the Kenosha County Job Center there is a unit called Employment Central. This is State operated. This unit that handles the general public and not necessarily the public assistance participants. Employment Central also provides for the trade adjustment assistance act. This is for people who have been laid off due to foreign competition. They get special training and special funding from the State.

There is an office of Veteran services in Employment Central. This unit helps veterans find employment.

There is an onsite computer lab for people to update their computer skills, resumes, and take classes. This is free of charge.

Dayvin Hallmon had questioned the Veteran services statistics caseload versus enrolled. Dayvin Hallmon asked if we had some challenges in this area. Adelene Greene added that this is a State Veterans unit. Adelene Greene believes people come for a short period of time. They don't come back if the services isn't providing what they think it should provide and that may pertain to the low number of people utilizing this. They are a difficult population because their expectations of what they come for are higher than what can be delivered. This is a hard to serve population for a variety of reason. Some suffer from PTSD. That is why the numbers don't look as good as they could.

Dayvin Hallmon asked if there was a chance to get someone at the Human Services Committee meeting to speak on what can be done to improve this. Adelene Greene stated she can ask one of the two individuals who works at the State office to come before the committee and speak on the challenges. Adelene Greene stated the State office actually works with getting Veterans employed. The Division of Veterans Services office works with getting benefits to veterans that they are entitled to. Adelene Greene stated she will make the request.

The Division of Vocation Rehabilitation (DVR) is a State program that is housed at the Job Center. They are reluctant to provide us information in terms of the people that they serve and those outcomes.

Dayvin Hallmon asked who the person is who works with inmates at the Detention Center and how does the PCDU (Professional and Career Development Unit) engage with them. Adelene Greene stated it is a Division of Workforce contracted service individual from Goodwill Industries. His name is Pedro Harvey. He goes to the Detention Center as well as the Urban Outreach center to do workshops on site for them. Dayvin Hallmon is wondering what the job placement rate is for those who were formally incarcerated and how we can improve this. Adelene Greene isn't sure about the answer to that question. Dayvin Hallmon asked if this person could speak to the Human Services Committee as well.

Adelene Greene stated the Child Support unit works with a population of formerly incarcerated individuals. This program is called the Supporting Parents Support Kids Program (SPSK). They have a case management individual who works with employers. There are only a certain amount of employers who are willing to take on formerly incarcerated individuals. There are some statistics for that specific population but not to incarcerated or formally incarcerated population.

Dayvin Hallmon asked if the Human Services Committee could hear from that person and follow up from the State Veterans person. Adelene Greene asked if Dayvin Hallmon wanted this all in one meeting. Dayvin Hallmon stated yes.

Adelene Greene stated there is an individual who works with the Job Corps program at the Job Center. This program works with youth in trying to get them on the right track and employed. The age range is 16 to 24. This is another State program.

Greg Retzlaff asked if we could also invite the person in charge of the Job Corps program to the Human Services Committee. He added this person could present at a separate meeting. Adelene Greene stated she would make the request of these State people.

Dayvin Hallmon asked if he should email the Cabinet secretary because he can make it happen. Adelene Greene stated she would make the request first.

Dayvin Hallmon asked if there was a Regional liaison at the Job Center for the State Job Corps program as oppose to the person who is at the Job Center. Adelene Greene believes the person who is located at the Job Center is a Regional employee. Dayvin Hallmon stated the drop-off rate is not very high. He questioned why individuals are carried over from month to month. Dayvin Hallmon wanted to know who the next in hierarchy was. Adelene Greene stated the Milwaukee office would be the next higher agency for Job Corps. Dayvin Hallmon stated, he would like to see if they could send a representative to a HSC meeting. Adelene Greene stated she would make the request. Adelene Greene stated if they decline, Dayvin Hallmon could make his contacts and see if they would appear.

9. Health: Presentation of "Evaluation of A Local Health Department Home Visitation Program; Impact of Reproductive Life Planning." (on tape @ 36:50)

John Jansen stated that Gwen Perry-Brye just recently earned her doctorate. Gwen presented what she did as part of her dissertation.

Gwen Perry-Brye stated she is the Clinical Services Director, Assistant Health Officer for Kenosha County. Gwen Perry-Brye recently completed her doctorate in nursing practice, which is one of the arms of the doctorate degree from UWM-Milwaukee. It is not a PhD but a DNP which means it looks at the expertise in clinical practice.

Gwen Perry-Brye stated the hallmark of family reproductive health planning has been the ability to achieve desire birth spacing and controlling family size. Smaller families and longer birth intervals have contributed to better health of the infants, the children, and the mom. It improved the social and economic role of the mother. Birth spacing for this project was within 16 months from the birth of the last baby to the pregnancy of the next.

There are two federally approved evidence based home visitation programs implemented in the Health Department. They are the Nurse Family Partnership Program and Parents as Teachers Program. The Nurse Family Partnership Program is the eligibility criteria and is for women who have no children at all. The second is called Parents as Teachers and is designated for parents who have other children.

Gwen Perry-Brye explained the programs and the common reproductive life principles. Gwen Perry-Brye discuss the flow chart of exclusion criteria for the study.

Youth in Governance Sara Klimisch asked if this program was for teenagers. Gwen Perry-Brye stated that it was for all women of reproductive age in Kenosha County for two years.

Greg Retzlaff asked if the private sector was looked at. Gwen Perry-Brye added that data is difficult to get. The home visitors work with the women who have public assistance. Gwen Perry-Brye stated it's about 45 percent of the women who are touched by this program. Medical assistance covers about 40-45 percent of pregnancies in our counties. All the rest are private.

Leah Blough asked if there are actual patients that don't need the eligibility requirements. Gwen Perry-Brye stated there are several different risk factor questions used such as race, homelessness, history of violence, issues that have been created by the State. This is called the creative initial assessment form. If they have four or more risk factors they are eligible for our program by definition of the actual home visiting program. If it is less than four we have another nurse that actually can take them on during the pregnancy but her services will stop at 60 days. In order to be eligible for the program they have to be at risk or high risk in order to get the services.

Youth in Governance Jasmine Zeidan asked what the home visitation entails. It is a weekly or biweekly program in which the nurse builds a relationship with her client. The nurse meets with her client on a weekly/biweekly basis during first part of her pregnancy up until the 3rd trimester. She starts with her weekly visits 2 to 3 weeks after delivery and up until 6 months. Then it is every other week until the baby is two. The purpose of the visits is health education for the baby, mother, and family. They look to reduce rapid pregnancy and promote birth spacing. They work to make sure mom and baby are eating healthy, work on self-sufficiency, finishing school and employment if requested by mother. All of these are incorporated into the performance measures.

Greg Retzlaff asked if this program helps with the decline of premature deliveries. Gwen Perry-Brye stated she didn't look at that as a risk factor in this program. The nurse actually incorporates the signs and symptoms of early labor in the home visit.

Dayvin Hallmon asked about this 40/45 percent number in the presentation. Dayvin Hallmon asked if that was the total pregnancy in the County in a given year. Gwen Perry-Brye stated that it is the total medical assistance paid deliveries. Public assistance is responsible for the payment of these deliveries in the County. It is an overlap in terms of population.

Dayvin Hallmon asked for clarification on the education and economic means in regards to this report. Gwen Perry-Brye stated it benefits the community to look at the women before she has the child. To make sure the community can provide the reproductive potential on a positive. Making sure we have a strong health care system. Making sure we have a strong human services system. Making sure public and private are working together to provide access to care. The infant mortality rate is an indicator of the health in the community.

Dayvin Hallmon asked Adelene Greene to speak in regards to the medical assistance population. Adelene Greene stated the medical assistance population is one of the more stable population in Kenosha. Some of the other groups are declining. There is always a need for medical assistance either through the Affordable Care Act or BadgerCare programs. The marketplace is considered part of the health insurance but not part of medical assistance.

Dayvin Hallmon asked Gwen Perry-Brye to define a stable family. Gwen Perry-Brye stated by what the women defines as stable. It is very client centered.

Youth in Governance Jasmine Zeidan asked if the program can be compared to Planned Parenthood. Gwen Perry-Brye stated no not really as they work with the mother during her pregnancy and then post-partum. It is more closely aligned with a comprehensive home visitation program.

Mike Goebel asked if most of these pregnancies are unplanned. Gwen Perry-Brye stated that was one of the questions in the initial assessment. It fell in the middle. Statistically 50 percent of the pregnancies are unplanned, but that doesn't mean it is unwanted.

Youth in Governance Sara Klimisch asked if clients don't have a mode of transportation does the program provide transportation to doctor appointments. Gwen Perry-Brye stated that they find different incentives, stipends such as bus tokens. Medical visits are covered under county transportation

10. Such Other Business As Authorized By Law - None
11. Committee Members Comments: Dayvin Hallmon stated there was a card for members of the HSC including Youth in Governance to sign for Sharon Davis.
12. Adjournment (on tape at 01:14)
It was moved to adjourn by Leah Blough, seconded by Greg Retzlaff. All in favor. **MOTION carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret DesArmo
Senior Administrative Assistant