



THE HUMAN SERVICE CENTER

(HUMAN SERVICES BOARD 51.42/51.437)

P.O. BOX 897

705 EAST TIMBER DRIVE • RHINELANDER, WI 54501-0897

TELEPHONE: 715-369-2215

FAX: 715-369-2214

MINUTES of the HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Regular Board Meeting Special Board Meeting Committee Meeting

Type of Committee: Developmental Disabilities

Date and Time of Meeting: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 3:00 P.M.

Person Taking Minutes: Melissa Gauthier

**Minutes reflect the recorder's notations of actions taken and are subject to approval of the appropriate committee and/or Board.*

Members Present: Cheri Collins, Harland Lee, Ken Storms(joined at 3:02 PM),
Paul Millan, Holly Tomlanovich, Bob Thome (via video)

Members Excused: Ted Cushing

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Kelly Von Oepen, Tamara Feest, Melissa Gauthier

Others Present: None

I. MEETING CONVENED

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M. It was noted that the agenda has been distributed to all members and that the meeting had been announced in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

II. APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Millan, second by Thome to:

APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 10, 2021.

All ayes, motion carried.

III. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Von Oepen provided the committee with an update on community engagement opportunities that the department has been involved with. The Human Service Center staff continue to meet regularly with the tri-county's social service agencies to discuss staffing of consumers that are supported by both HSC and the tri-county Social Service Departments. Oneida County and Vilas County continue to meet monthly and Forest County will meet as needed. Von Oepen also noted that a Child Find event is scheduled with staff from Birth to 3 and Early Head Start on April 30th at the Crandon School.

IV. EARLY HEAD START HOME VISITOR PROGRAM UPDATE

Von Oepen reported that there are currently 12 children enrolled in this program. Two clients from Forest County, 8 from Oneida County, and 2 from Vilas County. Von Oepen reported that of the 12 children enrolled, 6 are in foster care, making the joint meetings with social services so crucial. Von Oepen reported that the Early Head Start Home Visitor program staff are working diligently on getting the In Kind document forms signed by parents and turned in to the Head Start office.

V. BIRTH TO 3 PROGRAM UPDATE

Von Oepen reported there are currently 48 participants in the Birth to 3 program. Enrollment is slightly down in this program possibly due to COVID-19 ramifications. A mass mailing of 66 brochures and referral information was sent out on March 19, 2021 and the Birth to 3 program has seen a slight increase in referrals.

Von Oepen reported that DHS has a monthly leadership call to connect to the Birth to 3 Program Coordinators to discuss topics that counties may be struggling with.

Von Oepen reported that the Birth to 3 team met with the new billing contact to review and update the forms to assure the most accurate codes were being used for billing purposes. Von Oepen also reported that the Birth to 3 team has reviewed the DataMart information for the timeframe of January 1st, 2021 through March 31st, 2021 to assure the program is meeting compliance with the federal indicators.

VI. CHILDREN'S LONG TERM SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM UPDATE

Von Oepen provided the committee with an update on the Children's Long-Term Support program. Von Oepen reported that the Metastar audit will be taking place electronically in August 2021. The audit will be both Birth to 3 and the CLTS program. They will be reviewing information/files from January 1, 2021- June 30, 2021.

Von Oepen reported that as of January 1, 2021, any child referred to the CLTS program, a functional screen is used to determine eligibility. Once eligibility has

been determined, the children will be entered into the PPS system within 5 days of being found functionally eligible to be placed on the state's waitlist. Von Oepen reported that 12 children have been put on the waitlist since January 2021 and all 12 children were placed into an enrollable status within 30 days of their referral.

Von Oepen reported that she has engaged a few new providers to work with the complex needs children in this program. Dr. Angela Marx specializes in assessments and facilitating mental health and wellness with neurodivergent children, adolescents, and adults to help them discover and define who they are and find (or create) the places where they belong and flourish. Tom's Drawing Board became the Northwoods first Autism Friendly Certified business. One of the many art classes Tom provides is painting, allowing the participants to use the sense of touch however they feel comfortable. The third provider is a recreational therapist that will be working with CLTS clients on social skills, leisure activities, and basic living skills.

VII. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERSONAL CARE PROGRAM UPDATE

Von Oepen provided the committee with an update on the Medical Assistance Personal Care Program. She noted that there are currently 29 people enrolled in the MAPC program. There have been 5 referrals received this past month, 3 referrals from the Behavioral Health Department and 2 from the CLTS team.

VonOepen reported that the Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) System Soft Launch continues to have some challenges with implementation of the new system. Prior authorizations are difficult to get approved and they are requesting additional documentation that extends the approval process an additional 30 days. Von Oepen stated that some children's MAPC authorized hours have been reduced but parents have been successful in appealing the reductions in the MAPC authorized hours and receiving a small increase in personal care hours.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 3:00 PM

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Lee declared the meeting adjourned at 3:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Gauthier
Administrative Assistant