

OPEN MEETING - MINUTES
Waukesha County Health and Human Services
Children and Family Services Advisory Committee (CAFSAC)
October 21, 2021

Present CAFSAC Members: Laura Cherone, Darlene Johnson, Sarah Matson, Holly Neubert, Luke Pinion, Renee Ramirez, Mary Sweeney, Jessica Trauth (Vice Chair), Dua Vang-Ramirez, Karen Villarreal

Absent CAFSAC Members: Kristin Agenten, Colleen Allen, Rob Jadrnicek, Maura McMahon, Raquel Mehring, Mary Adele Revoy (Chair)

HHS Board Liaison: Mary Berg

HHS Staff Liaisons: Penny Nevicosi, Ron Pupp

Guests: Eve Altizer, Jessica Hannaman, Michelle Huebschen (proxy for Allen), Holly Norkofski (proxy for McMahon)

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Trauth called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. Introductions were exchanged among the committee members and guests.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes

Motion: Johnson moved, second by Pinion, to approve CAFSAC minutes of September 16, 2021. Motion passed without a negative vote.

3. Committee Business

a. Continue Discussion of Agenda Items for 2021 and 2022

- November – Variety – the Children’s Charity of Wisconsin updates presented by Vang-Ramirez
- No meeting in December
- January – School District of Waukesha (SDW) updates presented by Pinion
- February – Human Services presentation to include Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) survey and information on the Children’s Long-Term Support (CLTS) Program Waiver and Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) programs presented by Pupp, Altizer, and Nevicosi
- Spring 2022 – review the Needs Presentation for the Board

Attendees discussed suggestions of other future educational presentation ideas including:

- HEAR Wisconsin
- Easterseals summer camps
- Marsey’s Law

b. Recruiting a Consumer Representative Member

There has been no progress obtaining a Consumer Representative for the committee yet.

4. Domestic Violence Awareness Month Updates – Jessica Trauth, Director of Shelter and Transitional Living Services, The Women’s Center, Inc.

October is Domestic Violence (DV) Awareness month. Throughout October, The Women’s Center (TWC) will have a variety of events to raise awareness.

Every year, a DV homicide report is released which details the story of every victim who lost their life in a DV incident in the previous year. The 2020 report included a special feature on missing and murdered indigenous peoples. In Waukesha County, there were five separate incidents in 2020. DV is an underreported crime, especially for males, transgender, and non-binary populations.

TWC works with the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to provide services for people aged 55 and older in elder abuse situations. Support groups, advocacy services, and intervention services are all available.

The Lethality Assessment is a standardized protocol that police officers are trained on to utilize in DV incidents. In order for a county to implement this program, there has to be multiple parties involved, including a victim service provider, multiple law enforcement entities, and the District Attorney. The assessment is a 2-page document with 12 questions that the police officer(s) ask the victim(s) to determine the likelihood of the relationship ending in a fatality. The earlier the person is involved in services, the less likely they will be impacted by a fatality in the relationship.

Marsey's Law is a victims' rights law that was enacted in 2020. Any time a police officer responds to a DV incident in Waukesha County, the standard operating procedure is to contact TWC, however, in some cases, Marsey's Law has limited the information a police officer can share with TWC.

TWC provides services to all people including a 24-hour hotline, residential program, employment services, and legal advocacy. TWC is not able to discuss legal advice and cannot counsel but can refer and assist with the process. The restraining order process is now virtual and is beneficial for the victim due to not having to be in front of the abuser and can be with someone to support and help them.

For additional information or to check out the podcast, go to: <https://twcwaukesha.org/>.

5. Updates on Family First Prevention Services Act – Ron Pupp and Penny Nevicosi

The Family First Prevention Services Act is a federal law that went into effect in 2019, however, each state had the opportunity to begin right away or take a 2-year deferment. The law went into effect on October 1, 2021 in Wisconsin. The purpose of the law is to keep youth with their family as much as possible. It financially incentivizes the state and individual counties to have community-based resources for wraparound services to keep the youth in the home.

In order to qualify for federal reimbursement, the Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) requires 24-hour nursing staff and post-discharge aftercare for up to 6 months. The facility must apply to qualify and once certified, would be eligible for federal reimbursement.

6. Committee and Organization Updates

a. HHS Board Liaison

Berg provided an update from the September Board meeting including:

- Waukesha County saw a decline of COVID cases from January to June 2021 with increases in July and August. The numbers have remained fairly stable since August.
- Attendees reviewed injection drug use treatment and prevention grants.
- The new Director of the Veterans Services Office, Dan Driscoll, presented the annual report that outlines the benefits available to Veterans.

b. HHS Staff Liaison

Eve Altizer started as CCS Coordinator on September 27. The CCS program currently has four Service Facilitators who will be providing all of the coordination to meet the needs of the

youth in the program. A mental health professional will be starting on November 8. In January, a Quality Assurance (QA) position will be added. This position will do all QA and will onboard new vendors and maintain current vendors and providers.

The Intake process will be changing due to a partnership with CLTS team members. The CLTS team members will do a centralized Intake which includes the screening at the first phone call. If the youth qualifies for the program, the family will then be sent over to CCS for services.

CCS is a Medicaid reimbursed recovery-based program. CLTS deals with youth with physical, developmental, and significant emotional disabilities.

c. Schools

In the SDW, the COVID numbers have dropped from September. The schools are currently facing staffing and substitute teacher shortages.

Beginning October 25, the notice regarding the Youth Risk Behavior Surveys (YRBS) will be sent out to the families of students in grades 7 through 12 in SDW. The surveys will begin on November 9 and run through the end of November. If the parent(s) do not want their student(s) to participate, they can opt out. The state will then collect the data and send out the results.

7. Agency Updates/Announcements

The WellBadger Resource Center is a website to help navigate the resources for children with mental or behavioral health concerns. For more information, go to:

https://www.wellbadger.org/s/cmh-resource-navigator?language=en_US.

Community Smiles Dental is at full capacity in both their Waukesha and Menomonee Falls locations. The Menomonee Falls location currently has about a month wait for services. For referrals, call Carly at 262-522-7645 ext. 2250.

8. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Variety – the Children’s Charity of Wisconsin presentation from Vang-Ramirez

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjourn

Motion: Villarreal moved, second by Matson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Hannaman.

Minutes Were Approved: Jessica Inavet Date: 11/18/21