

Minutes of the Health & Human Services Committee

Thursday, March 16, 2017

Chair Howard called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Christine Howard, Darlene Johnson, Robert Kolb, Duane Paulson, Jeremy Walz, Chuck Wood, and Bill Zaborowski.

Also Present: Chief of Staff Mark Mader, Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth, Health & Human Services Director Antwayne Robertson, Health & Human Services Deputy Director Laura Kleber, Administrative Services Manager Randy Setzer, Mental Health Center Administrator Jeff Lewis, Clinical Services Manager Joan Sternweis, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Executive Director Mary Madden, Peer Support Facilitator Ken Weidman, Nursing and Patient Services Coordinator Crystal Boyd, Nursing Supervisor Debra Lane, and Chief Psychiatrist Dr. Isha Salva. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Approve Minutes of February 16

MOTION: Wood moved, second by Johnson to approve the minutes of February 16. Motion carried 7-0.

Review Correspondence

- The Finance Committee approved a Health & Human Services Department fund transfer of \$40,000 (Personnel Expenses to Operating Expenses and Interdepartmental Charges) to cover client transportation services and legal services by Corporation Counsel.

Chair's Executive Committee Report of February 20

Howard highlighted the following items discussed at the last Executive Committee meeting.

- Reviewed the Financial Management Information System (FMIS) operations audit and the scope for the upcoming Sheriff's Department audit on payroll/overtime.
- Heard updates on information technology projects, workforce development, the Regional Transit Leadership Council Executive Committee, and the County Executive's fire department study.
- Spaeth gave a state legislative update.

Next Meeting Date

- April 13

Meeting Approvals

MOTION: Wood moved, second by Walz to approve attendance to Lobby Day in Madison on April 5 and the Health & Human Services Board's public hearing on April 6. Motion carried 7-0.

Overview of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Services for Adults and Peer Specialist Services

Madden indicated NAMI provides programs specific to the needs of Waukesha County. The organization is affiliated with the national foundation but they do not receive funding from them. Madden explained family support and educational services such as Family-to-Family, Peer-to-Peer,

NAMI Basics, NAMI Ending the Silence, Stories of Hope, Youth Mental Health First Aid, crisis intervention training, various support groups, the Lending Library, Chapter 51/55 court support and advocacy, Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH), networking/legislative advocacy, etc. Weidman distributed brochures on the organization and services offered.

Nearly 44 million Americans experience a mental health condition in a given year, or one in every five Americans. One in 25 adults live with a serious mental health condition such as schizophrenia, major depression, or bipolar disorder. Madden noted middle age men have the highest suicide rate whereby she discussed their community-wide approach to suicide awareness and prevention.

Weidman discussed his struggles with mental health and addiction, the steps he took to recovery, and becoming a NAMI mentor/peer support facilitator. He discussed the Stories of Hope program offered at Waukesha Memorial Hospital's Inpatient and Intensive Outpatient units, local schools, and soon to be at WCTC and the County's Mental Health Center.

At Howard's request, Madden discussed funding for NAMI which includes fundraising, grants and donations, federal funding, and a small amount of United Way funding. In addition, they serve about 3,000 people annually including those in need of mental health services, family members, law enforcement training, etc.

Mental Health Center In-Patient Overview

Lewis said the Mental Health Center is a certified 28-bed psychiatric hospital that serves adults with serious symptoms of mental illness or existing mental health and chemical dependency issues. Treatment consists of assessment, active treatment and discharge planning to address ongoing needs and psychiatric symptoms. The center is also certified to provide alcohol detoxification services. Admissions can start as a voluntary option. He noted they are seeing more insured patients than in the past. If it is determined that a consumer can be treated better elsewhere, staff will assist in developing placement options at local hospitals or at the state mental health institutes. The center works closely with Waukesha Memorial Hospital and other community providers to provide care. Lewis reviewed admissions and average length of stay statistics. Dr. Salva discussed the psychiatric team, treatment plans, interventions, and medications.

Walz left the meeting at 2:41 p.m.

Legislative Update

Spaeth said the current focus is on the state budget. Between March 28 and 30, the Joint Finance Committee will do agency briefings. Six public hearings will be held around the state in April. The legislature will begin voting on the budget on May 2. Beginning next week, she and Chief of Staff Shawn Lundie will meet with legislators to discuss state budget priorities. Spaeth said regarding health and human services, they are happy the veterans grant program will revert to a block grant program and there will be a slight increase in Children and Family Aids, and Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD). One area of concern is the Children's Long Term Support Program and limits on how funds can be used. Otherwise, it is a good budget which includes the joint agency statute, increases in foster care and kinship care, and changes to printing and publication notices. Spaeth said while we should see slight increases in transportation/bridges, the budget is still not at previous levels. She is hopeful the federal swap bill pertaining to road projects will be added to the budget. Health & Human Services lobbying day is April 5 and the registration deadline is Monday.

MOTION: Wood moved, second by Kolb to adjourn at 2:52 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Mental Health Center Tour Including New Dispensary

Lewis and Sternweis led the remaining committee members on a tour of the Mental Health Center including the new dispensary.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Kolb
Secretary