



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, May 25, 2022 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the hybrid meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, in the Boardroom, at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center, Janesville, WI.

Committee Members Present: Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Russell Podzilni, Supervisor; Ron Woodman, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; and Karla Herrmann, Supervisor attended in-person. Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Ashley Hoffman, Citizen Representative; and Jim Farrell, Supervisor attended virtually.

Committee Members Absent: Angelina Reyes, Citizen Representative.

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Jordyn Miller, Communications Specialist; Stefanie Getchell, Child Protective Services (CPS) Trainer; Merebeth Rye, CPS Supervisor; Jamie Proctor, CPS Supervisor; Emily Pope, Parents Supporting Parents (PSP) Coordinator; Kathleen Wellnitz, Secretary; Tracey Bushaw, Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) Skills Specialist; Olivia Smith, CPS Lead; Tiffany Meredith, Alia; Tana Adams, CPS Supervisor; Kami Williams, CPS Supervisor Lead; and Alisha Haase, CPS Supervisor.

Others Present: Rachel Belanger and Marley Webb, PSP Parent Partners.

Approval of Agenda: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the agenda to the floor, second by Supervisor Podzilni. The agenda was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on May 11, 2022: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Herrmann. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Public Comment: None.

Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: None.

April HSD Employee Impact Award Recognition: Ms. Luster introduced Kathleen Wellnitz, HSD Secretary, the April HSD Employee Impact award recipient. Ms. Luster explained that Ms. Wellnitz had two nominations. The first nomination stated how Ms. Wellnitz is thought of as the glue that holds us together on the Staff Recognition Committee. She maintains the committee webpage and she is the first to volunteer when extra tasks need to be done. She is always thinking of creative ways to recognize staff and assists in putting the ideas in motion. Most recently, she put together the Move Stories edition, which was no small task! It looked amazing. The second nomination was from a co-worker who stated that Ms. Wellnitz always exhibits willingness and prowess when taking on new tasks. Recently, the County changed to a new vendor for the County

website. We were behind on getting pages updated and Ms. Wellnitz was given the task to organize what was not done and assign it to the proper person to do their page. She helped others complete what they needed to do, and the project was completed in time. She really cares about her work and her co-workers.

May HSD Employee Impact Award Recognition: Ms. Luster introduced Tracey Bushaw, CCS Skills Specialist, the May HSD Employee Impact award recipient. Ms. Luster read the nomination for Ms. Bushaw which stated that words can not really capture the outstanding essence of Ms. Bushaw. Every time I work with Tracey it is a delight, not only does Tracey go above and beyond what is expected but Tracey is always smiling and sharing her positive vibes with the world. She is always committed to the individuals she works with and the co-workers she interacts with. It is so easy to tell that Tracey really cares about the people she works with and enjoys working with her co-workers as a team to encourage/build the independence of our consumers. She certainly has made working at RCHSD a memorable and enjoyable experience.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the transfer to the floor, second by Supervisor Herrmann. Ms. Mooren explained that the CPS regular wage fund has a surplus available due to vacancies and funds will be transferred into the B-3 fund. The amount was based on projections and the B-3 contract amendment was included in the contract packet. The HSD Issue brief was provided prior to the meeting. Ms. Mooren responded to questions. The transfer was unanimously approved. Approved.

Supervisor Podzilni moved the eleven contracts to the floor, second by Supervisor Herrmann. Ms. Mooren provided information about the contracts and responded to questions. She advised CLTS has expanded and are looking for new providers, and she explained the rates. Ms. Luster explained additional certification and increase of rates as part of the Family First element. The contracts were unanimously approved. Approved.

Reports and Updates:

- A. **Program Report: Parents Supporting Parents (PSP)** – Ms. Proctor, the Supervisor who oversees the Parents Supporting Parents (PSP) program, explained that Department of Children and Families (DCF), as part of the Family First initiative, chose three counties to pilot the PSP program with Rock County being one of them. PSP is an evidence-based program linked to improved outcomes for families, more children returning home and less likely to have removal again. Ms. Pope, PSP Coordinator, provided more information regarding the PSP program. She introduced Ms. Belanger and Ms. Webb who both provided very inspirational stories of their background and how they went through the program and are now Parent Partners. They each explained their roles as Parent Partners and how the training helps them in their own life, as well as helps to support others. The PSP team shared a video of Ms. Belanger, Ms. Webb and another parent partner who shared their personal stories.
- B. **Director's Report: Report on the Need for Additional Transit Vans for Aging Unit** – Ms. Luster advised that she included this item to foreshadow a resolution for the next meeting. At the next meeting a resolution will be presented requesting authorization to use excess sales tax revenue to purchase 3 additional transit vans for the Aging Unit's Specialized Transportation Program in 2022. It was anticipated that there would be state funding for 2 vans, but only one was funded and funds for the additional vans were not included in the 2022 budget. Ms. Luster advised HSD will provide a summary and more details to the HSD Board members prior to the next meeting. There will be a plan/schedule

to replace other vans as they hit the 200,000 miles marker. Ms. Luster responded to questions regarding used vans, details of the fleet, miles per year, uses of vans, DOT qualification standards and participants fees.

Chair Knudson asked the Board members if they would like the next meeting at the Youth Services Center (YSC) and they agreed. This will be in-person only not a hybrid meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **June 8, 2022**, at 4:30 p.m. – in-person at the YSC, Janesville, WI.

Adjournment: Supervisor Woodman motioned to adjourn, second by Supervisor Herrmann with unanimous approval at 5:42 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD