



**ROCK COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, August 28, 2024 – 4:30 P.M.**



Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, in the Boardroom, at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center, Janesville, WI.

Committee Members Present: Supervisor Brian Knudson, (Chair); Supervisor Ron Woodman (Vice Chair); Supervisor Kathy Schulz; Supervisor Barb Tillman; Supervisor April Whitledge; Citizen Representative Sally Jean Weaver-Landers; and Citizen Representative Phil Boutwell

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Genia Stevens and Citizen Representative Ashley Hoffman

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Jacqueline Revels, Homelessness Prevention Coordinator

Virtual attendees: Lindsey Stelter, Nursing Supervisor; Mike Schwarz, District 22 Supervisor

Others Present: Chuck Flynn, Sheila Williams

Approval of Agenda: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the agenda to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. The agenda was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on August 8, 2024: Supervisor Woodman moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Tillman. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Public Comment: Sheila Williams spoke to share concerns about contracted services at Derrick's House. She is requesting there to be a review about staffing at Derrick's house and if Human Services staff are being pulled there to help fill in. Ms. Williams asks that it be considered to add language in any future contracts that if staff get pulled in, county is reimbursed for those services. Ms. Williams also inquired about how Derrick's House is performing with the youth it serves.

Ms. Williams felt that Homelessness Prevention ARPA money went to various organizations and felt it was being used to "Help them stay homeless vs. preventing it." Requests that someone puts an actual permanent plan together to help/prevent vs. temporary fixes to help reduce the numbers (hotel vouchers).

Communication and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: None

Approval of Contracts: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the contracts to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. Luster provided contract details and responded to questions. The contract was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Human Services IMPACT Award Recipients – July & August: Jenna Beeler (July) – Ms. Beeler supports staff for CCS. She received multiple nominations. She frequently goes above and beyond her role to help. She is a keen observer and recognizes when support may be needed. She walks clients around to the different areas depending on the services they need. She will stop and assist anyone even when going on break.

Lindsay Stelter (August) – Recently promoted to her current role. She has been nominated by a colleague for going above and beyond daily. She helps by working in filling the gap due to vacancies. Ms. Stelter has earned trust from those that she serves, and her friendly style makes a huge difference.

Review and Approval of Resolutions:

Amending the 2024 Human Services Department Budget to Accept Substance Abuse Block Grant Supplemental Funds – Requesting that we accept funds from the Department of Health Services at the state. This is extra above and beyond what we typically receive. Funds will be used for prevention, treatment for women, and other training and services. The resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote. Approved.

Reports and Update:

2024 ARPA Homelessness Prevention Matching Grant Second Quarter Report – Ms. Revels was in attendance to review the report from April-June of 2024. Currently in 2024 there are six organizations using these funds. Family Promise Homeless Shelter and House of Mercy are using the funds to increase case management. Janesville Mobilizing 4 Change is facilitating Adult Life Skills workshops monthly and provide resource referrals toward self-sufficiency. Project 1649 is using the funds towards homeless youth with Life Skills workshops and community site locations with drop-in hours for unhoused youth to get resources focusing on self-sufficiency and completing education. Red Roadhouse provides sober living for chronically homeless, and residents receive services during the recovery. Youth2Youth for Change is handing out hygiene bags throughout the community.

Ms. Revels responded to questions about homelessness in Rock County.

This grant runs through the end of 2024. If funds are not utilized by the end of 2024, they cannot be carried forward. HSD will be doing a check-in with those that receive these funds to verify they are on track and that the money is spent. If there is money anticipated to be left, it must be reallocated by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026.

Committee Requests: Committee members requested information come back to the board on some of the comments made about Derrick's House during the board meeting tonight, and questions about the YSC from previous HS Board meeting. Ms. Luster will follow up to schedule these reports.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. – will be a hybrid meeting via Zoom and in-person at the DWRC, in the **Boardroom**, 1717 Center Avenue, Janesville, WI. If you cannot make the meeting, please email Chrissy Arambula (Christina.Arambula@co.rock.wi.us) to ensure a quorum is present.

Adjournment: Supervisor Schulz motioned to adjourn, second by Supervisor Whitledge with unanimous approval at 4:57 p.m.

Chrissy Arambula, Administrative Professional III

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