

**ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JUNE 22, 2023**

Members present: Mr. Jim Winkler, Mr. Ted Cushing, Mr. Robb Jensen, Ms. Linnaea Newman, Mr. Anthony Rio (Zoom)

Approved absence: None

Staff: Mr. Joel Gottsacker, Mr. Jason Dailey, Ms. Heidi Chavez, Ms. Jeri Driscoll

Other: Ms. Erika Brigham, Mr. Steven Schreier, Mr. Keith Haselton, Ms. Tamara Feest, Other from The Human Service Center

1. Call to Order. Approval of Agenda:

The regular meeting of the Oneida County Social Services Committee was brought to order at 1:00 p.m. by Mr. Jim Winkler, Chairperson. The Chairperson noted that the meeting had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws. Motion by Mr. Robb Jensen, seconded by Mr. Ted Cushing to approve the agenda as posted. All ayes; motion carried.

2. Minutes of Social Services Committee – May 22, 2023:

Motion made by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to approve the Minutes of May 22, 2023 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

3. Public Comment:

Mr. Keith Haselton addressed the committee as the Financial Manager at the Human Service Center as well as an Oneida County Resident in regards to the structure of the Human Service Center.

Veterans Services:

1. Northwoods Veterans Homestead Update:

They have purchased property on River Bend Road. Now they will be doing more fundraising for building etc. Informational only, no action needed.

2. Memorial Day Ceremonies Debrief:

Mr. Jason Dailey reported that the services were good but they seemed to have less attendance. It was brought up that with the exhibit at Nicolet people may be visiting the exhibit thus less attendance. The committee felt that we need to focus on getting more people in attendance. Informational only, no action needed.

3. 2024 Staffing Request:

Mr. Jason Dailey reported they are requesting a 60-hour LTE while at the CVSOA-WI spring and fall conferences. This would be the same person that has been doing it the last three years and is included in the budget. Motion by Mr. Robb Jensen, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to approve the 60-hour LTE position. All ayes; motion carried.

4. Request for ACVSO to Travel out of County:

Mr. Jason Dailey attend the National Conference. They did receive verbal approval. Motion by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Mr. Robb Jensen to approve the ACVSO to travel out of the county for the National Conference. All ayes; motion carried.

5. 2023 Financial & Statistical Report, Vouchers, Audits of Payments and Line Item Transfers:

- Vouchers were reviewed. There were no line item transfers.
- Reviewed Statistical Report.
- Motion by Mr. Robb Jensen, seconded by Mr. Ted Cushing to approve the Vouchers as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

6. Public Comment: None

7. Agenda Items for Future Meetings:

- Northwoods Veterans Homestead
- Normal Agenda Items.

Social Services:

1. Recovery Coach Presentation:

Ms. Erika Brigham did a Recovery Coach Presentation.

Requirements for an individual to apply for a Recovery Coach Position:

- Individual must be 17 years of age by September 11, 2023.
- Individual must be in recovery for:
 - At least 12 months OR
 - Have lived experience (recovery or substance misuse related)
- Must be willing to be drug screened.

They must also have a high school diploma, GED, or HSED. Host site may require the member to hold a valid driver's license and pass a DMV check.

Member Recruitment & Retention:

Host sites are responsible for interviewing and selecting the AmeriCorp member(s). All enrollment considerations are non-partisan, non-political and non-discriminatory as established in Corporation for National and Community Service and Marshfield Clinic policies.

Cost:

The cost for 2022-2023 was free due to additional funding received by Marshfield Clinic. The cost for 2023-2024 will be \$5,000 per member.

Community Response Team (CRT):

The multi-disciplinary, Oneida County Community Response Team (OC CRT) aims to enhance coordination of public health and public safety efforts in response to substance use through improved utilization of evidence-based approaches to prevention, intervention, referral to treatment and engagement in recovery services. Specifically utilizing Peer Recovery Support Programs and the unique contacts of Public Safety and First Responder to identify and refer overdose survivors and individuals at high risk for overdose to the care that they need.

The multi-disciplinary OC CRT includes members of law enforcement (Rhineland Police Department, Oneida County Sheriff's Office, Oneida County Jail, etc.), first responders (Rhineland Fire Department, Aspirus Emergency Department, etc.), Oneida County Health Department, Oneida County Department of Social Services, Treatment Providers (The Human Service Center, Aspirus Koller Behavioral Health, Family Health Center of Marshfield Clinic, etc.), and Recovery Support Organizations (Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorp-Recovery Corp, etc.). Each partner plays a unique role in the community and brings access to their respective data and available resources to provide the best response tailored to those experiencing substance use concerns.

Current Status:

We have two Recovery Coaches/Peer Support staff within Social Services. These staff serve parents working with our Children, Youth and Families staff in addition to being available for community referrals through the CRT.

2. Structure of Human Services in Oneida County Update:

Mr. Joel Gottsacker explained: To further our discussion on the structure of Human Services, and prior to scheduling a joint meeting with Social Services, the Public Safety Committee requested information and feedback from Forest and Vilas Counties. A group meeting was organized that included the Directors of Social Services and Corporation Counsels from the three counties, the Sheriffs from Oneida and Vilas County. Representative from the Forest County Potawatomi Community and the Sokaogon Band of Chippewa Indians were also

present. Outreach was made with the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Administrator following the meeting.

Concerns with the current system include, but are not limited to:

- The Human Service Center (HSC) does not see itself as a part of the county system, but rather acts as an independent organization which has led to county needs not being prioritized.
- The current structure does not allow for accountability of the Tri-County Human Service Center.
- Unique needs in each county are not met by the Tri-County System.
- The current HSC crisis system policy of non-face-to-face contact does not meet the needs of our most vulnerable residents.
- The HSC system appears quick to end involvement with residents if another county/tribal system of care is involved, which often leads to the client falling through the cracks as these systems are not equipped or funded to manage the ongoing severe client mental health or substance abuse issues independently.
- There is limited physical presence of Behavioral Health Services in Forest and Vilas Counties.
- The system creates barriers to seamless service provision due to multiple organizations being involved with families.

The group requested that a letter be drafted to the three county board chairs indicating these concerns and offering a suggestion on how to move forward.

Ms. Tamara Feest expressed that she would like a copy of this letter. She also indicated that the Human Service Center responses were sent to Mr. Jim Winkler. It was suggested that Ms. Feest send responses to Ms. Jeri Driscoll to distribute to the committee.

Recommendation: Schedule joint meeting with the Public Safety Committee for July 20th to further discuss these concerns and recommendations.

There was a lot of discussion from the Human Service Center staff and the committee.

Discussion as to possibly working with a mediator. Ms. Lisa Charbarneau will do some research on mediators and who could provide this service.

Joint Meeting on July 20, 2023 was discussed and people should put it on their calendar but unsure if this will occur or if a meeting with a Mediator.

3. 2024 Budget – Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Funds:

Tri-county Council is a non-profit, tax exempt organization, supported by state, federal and local grants. Funding from counties and townships, churches and civic organizations, and private individuals continue to make their work possible. Oneida County Social Services gave Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence \$15,000 in 2023 and would like to contribute the same in the 2024 budget. Motion by Mr. Robb Jensen, seconded by Mr. Anthony Rio to approve the \$15,000 and to forward to the Admin Committee. All ayes; motion carried.

4. Agency Update: Staffing/Vacancies, Diversion Program:

Staffing/Vacancies:

- We received 7 applications for the vacant Social Work position and will be interviewing 4.
- The new Economic Support position had an accepted offer, but the applicant called a couple days before she was to start to notify us that she accepted a different position. We are advertising again for the position.
- Dawn Johnson, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Coordinator at the ADRC informed us that she will be retiring on September 1, 2023. We are requesting to fill this position early to allow for some training before Dawn leaves.

Diversion Program:

- We are getting ready to accept clients into the Diversion Program, hopefully by July 1, 2023.

5. 2023 Financial & Statistical Reports, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:

The committee reviewed the Financial/Statistical Reports, and Audit of Payment. There were no line item transfers or vouchers just the normal expenditures.

Motion by Ms. Linnaea Newman, seconded by Mr. Anthony Rio to approve the Financial/Statistical Report and Audit of Payments as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

6. Public Comment:
No Public Comment.

7. Agenda Items for future Meetings:
Teen Court and how it relates to Social Services
Preliminary Budget Decision

Technology Budget
Usual Agenda Items

8. Adjourn:

There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, it was moved by Mr. Jim Winkler to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m. with the Tour of Social Services following the meeting. The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be July 20, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.



Mr. Jim Winkler, Chair

Date: June 22, 2023