



BOARD MINUTES

WRIGHT COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

August 9, 2021

Christine Husom,	District 1
Darek Vetsch,	District 2
Mark Daleiden,	District 3
Mary Wetter,	District 4
Michael Kaczmarek,	District 5

DATE APPROVED: September 13, 2021

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Wright County Health & Human Services Board met in regular session at 1:30 p.m. with Husom (remote), Vetsch, Daleiden, Wetter-and Kaczmarek present. Vetsch presided.

STAFF PRESENT:

Brittani Haas, Office Technician II
Christine Partlow, Business Manager
Jami Goodrum Schwartz, Director
Jill Pooler, Social Services Manager
Jon Young, Public Health Supervisor
Karen Popken, Child Support Supervisor
Keith Bennett, Health Promotion Coordinator
Kelsey Collier, Public Health Supervisor
Kimberly Johnson, Financial Services Manager
Lisa Spencer, Office Manager
Michelle Miller, Social Services Manager
Noami Blomberg, Administrative Specialist
Samantha Martin, Social Worker
Sarah Grosshuesch, Public Health Director
Stephanie Wiley, Financial Services Supervisor

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Wetter second, to approve the July 12, 2021 minutes. Motion carried 5-0 via call vote.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Kaczmarek second, to approve the agenda. Motion carried. 5-0 via roll call vote.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Wetter requested to pull *Item A* for more information and approve the remaining items.

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Wetter second, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote.

- A. APPROVE AMENDMENT TO ADD ISANTI COUNTY TO THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT (JPA) FOR THE POOLING OF RESOURCES TO PROVIDE SNAP EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING BY CENTRAL MN JOBS & TRAINING SERVICES (CMJTS)
- B. ACCEPT ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION
 1. Application
 - a. Todd Smith, HHSAC – District 3
 - b. Kimberly Marquez, HHSAC – District 1
 - c. Linda Carlson, PHTF – District 1
- C. APPROVE REQUEST TO CANCEL 2021-08-23 HHS BOARD MEETING

Discussion of Item A:

Goodrum Schwartz confirmed that the existing Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) is functioning as expected – Sherburne County acts as the Fiscal Agent on behalf of member counties to receive grant monies from the State and enter into contract with Central MN Jobs & Training Services (CMJTS) to facilitate employment and training services for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). All Parties are amenable to have Isanti County enter the JPA and avail the same resources being used, agreeing to add Isanti to the pool.

ACTION: Wetter moved, Daleiden second, to approve *Item A* – adding Isanti County to the JPA for the pooling of resources to provide SNAP employment and training by CMJTS. Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote.

V. NEW HIRE

- A. Samantha Martin, Social Worker, Child Protection (CP1) Team, July 19, 2021
- B. Keith Bennett, Health Promotion Coordinator, Health Promotion Team, July 19, 2021

VI. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – SEPTEMBER

Brittani Haas is September Employee of the Month.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Social Services/Public Health/Financial Services

1. INTRODUCTION: KELSEY COLLIER, PUBLIC HEALTH SUPERVISOR
(SARAH GROSSHUESCH)

Kelsey Collier is the new supervisor in Collaborative Health Services effective July 26, 2021. Public Health reorganized and renamed their three teams to improve program alignment and staff distribution. Collier joined Wright County as a Public Health Nurse in November 2019.

2. PRESENTATION: CODE OF AMERICA MNBENEFITS PILOT PROGRAM
(STEPHANIE WILEY)

In December 2020, Wright County, with Hennepin, Olmsted, and Wabasha, piloted a public assistance online application system with Code of America through MNBenefits for Cash, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Emergency, Child Care, and Housing Support. Anoka, Carver, Clay, Cook, Dodge, Morrison, Ottertail, Sherburne, Steele and St. Louis counties joined the program in the spring of 2021.

Without any requirement for applicants to create an account, the average completion time is seven minutes. With the ease and efficiency of the online access, MNBenefits garnered a 71 percent “happy” rating while 28 percent rated it as neutral. Wright County received 520 MNBenefits applications since its deployment.

Code of America will endorse the project management to the State soon, with the potential addition of a Health Care Application.

3. INFORMATION: 2021-07-28 HHS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
(JAMI GOODRUM SCHWARTZ)

Goodrum Schwartz highlighted meeting points.

RECOMMENDATION: Assessment Services Team will present on Adult Protective Services at a future HHS Board meeting.

B. Administration

1. 2021 2ND QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT
(CHRISTINE PARTLOW)

The budget is at 50 percent of the year, with revenue at 45 percent and expenditure at 43 percent. This year's revenue is faring better than last year's – after factoring out 2020's \$1.1M Compensation and Class Study transfer.

Clarified line items that may reflect lower or higher numbers than expected:

- Line 5419 - Relocation Services Adult/Moving Home Minnesota
- Line 5435 – Self Funds
- Line 5437 – IV-E Program
- Line 5454 – MCH Grant
- Line 5460 – Child and Teen Check-up
- Line 5468 – Public Health Waiver
- Line 5488 – Rule 5
- Line 5499 – Miscellaneous Revenue
- Line 6201 – Services and Charges (Admin)
- Line 6260 – Software or Systems Support
- Line 6281 – Child Support Offset Fee
- Line 6333 – Travel/Meals Reimbursement
- Line 6361 – Minnesota Care Tax
- Line 6485 – Small Computer or Software
- Line 6620 – Computer or Software Purchases

The Income Maintenance Random Moment Study (IMRMS) dropped slightly for the last two quarters; however, we are expecting data from the second quarter to continue upward.

CONSENSUS: Set the IMRMS baseline in Clear Impact to two years; incorporate a data comparison between revenue and caseload size

The Social Services Time Study revenue is at 39 percent – reimbursement percentages trending down. Investigations on activities yielded no significant areas of concern, concluding that the steady drop may be an overall statewide trend. Wright County trends higher in many categories than the statewide pool.

Targeted Case Management (TCM) continues to positively trend upward.

Waiver overall is going up; currently at the maximum amount of billing.

Public Health revenue is trending up; collected \$170-180K revenue from vaccine reimbursements.

Out of Home Placements at 50 percent - overall positive trend.

2. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Upcoming symposium: *In Other Words – Combatting Stigma and Transforming Culture Through Language Change* forum – August 12, Buffalo High School Performing Arts Center, 3:00 PM for professionals, 7:00 PM for community members.

Wright County received a letter from DHS dated July 15, 2021, requiring a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) on Child Safety and Permanency. Wright County's 35.9 percent performance failed to meet the 40.5 percent threshold. Wright County is waiting from DHS on status of Wright County's claim for *Extenuating Circumstances* before starting the PIP process.

Handout – HHS Advisory Committee, Mental Health Advisory and Public Health Task Force attendance record, member list and bylaws. All bylaws have the same language on rules of absences – the committees made no recommendation for amendment.

RECOMMENDATION: Upon the committee chair’s recommendation, HHS will send a letter to members with recurring absences to verify their intent to continue serving; consider the communication as their resignation if no reply received within a designated period (10 business days) – the committee does not need to pass a motion for action.

HHS and the Board proclaimed August as Child Support Month, as declared by Governor Walz. In 2020, Wright County Child Support tops the statewide performance, averaging 105 percent over the State’s 100 on paternity establishment, 93 percent over 87 on child support order establishment, 80 percent over 75 on current support collections, 84 percent over 80 on arrears collections, 6 percent over 3 on program cost effectiveness. Out of \$610.7M statewide collections, Wright County recovered \$11.4M, handling 3,480 cases out of 324,563 across Minnesota.

Current Medical Assistance enrollment increased approximately 3,500. Financial Services managed to handle the influx of cases without additional staff, attributing its success to the OnBase system, the new contact center, case banking, among other internal process adjustments adopted. DHS also waived many reporting requirements and disallowed individuals to be removed from some programs.

The Minnesota Legislature recently appropriated \$8.3M toward county-shared debts on the Substance Abuse Disorder Institutes of Mental Disease (SUD-IMD) services between December 2019 – June 2020. Initially, billing charges were directed to counties to recoup State funds lost due to miscalculation in setting county share of payments toward federal reimbursements. Wright County is now protected from reimbursing the State \$89K.

The meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Submitted by Naomi Blomberg, Administrative Specialist