

Human Service Model Feasibility Task Force

August 22, 2013 9:00 am
North Central Health Care, Board Room

Meeting Minutes

Present:

Marathon County:	Brad Karger, John Robinson (via phone), Gary Gisselman, Vicki Tylka
Lincoln County:	Nancy Bergstrom, Randy Scholz, Bruce Giese, Bob Weaver
Langlade County:	Kim Van Hoof, Ron Nye, Holly Matucheski
State of Wisconsin Reps:	Theresa Steinmetz, Gail Chapman
North Central Health Care:	Gary Bezucha, Toni Simonson, Paula Hawkins
Facilitators:	Gail Nordheim, Gerry Born

Minutes

- **Motion** Giese, 2nd Weaver, to approve the minutes of the 7/18/13 meeting. Motion carried.

Discussion of Organizational Options

- Option 1: Status Quo, with increased emphasis on collaboration within the limits of current law
- Option 2: County/NCHC Collaboration Advisory Committee
 - Menominee County collaborates this way between the county and the tribal council. They have recently brought in Shawano County for creating crisis services.
 - Suggestion to have one board that oversees the three county Social Services Departments, to create equal services provided.
- Option 3: Human Services Collaborative per WCHSA Legislation
 - Assumes passage of WCHSA/WCA Legislation (Human Services committee supported legislation). Statute language will be drafted this fall, with it potentially going to the legislature in January session.
 - Not a currently possible option.
- Option 4: Multi-County Human Services Department through NCHC
 - This would add social services programs to the already established 51 programs.
 - Currently the three counties are involved with two Income Maintenance Consortiums; would need to belong to just one.
- Option 5: Multi-County Human Services Department – contracts with NCHC for 51 Board Services
 - The NCHC 51 Board would be dissolved. It would no longer have to be a public agency; it could become a private agency. It could stay as a public agency under Marathon County to provide the mandated outpatient services. NCHC would then become a department under Marathon County.

- The new Human Services Board could contract with NCHC to provide services, but could bid it out so NCHC would not necessarily be providing the services.
- Option 6: Multi-County Human Services Department that directly administers all current programs
 - It would be a completely new entity. NCHC would be dissolved.
 - The new human services department would provide both social services and 51 board services for all three counties.

Income Maintenance and Child Welfare program employees must be public employees. All other programs could be contracted out.

What does local control mean?

- If there is one Human Services program, each county would appoint board members; budget would come from each county.
- The program would have some choices, such as on how to organize.
- There is more control with a single county, less direct control with a multi county program.
- State statutes must be followed, but how to implement is local control. What you provide is state defined; how you provide it is locally defined.

After polling task force members for preferred options (ranking 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices), they were weighted (1st choice = 3; 2nd choice = 2; 3rd choice = 1):

- Option 4 (multi-county human service department through NCHC) was first choice, with 6 ranking it 1st; 1 ranking it 2nd; 3 ranking it 3rd for a total of 23 points
- Option 2 (collaboration advisory committee) was second choice, with 3 ranking it 1st; 2 ranking it 2nd; 1 ranking it 3rd for a total of 14 points
- Option 3 (WHA/WHCSA umbrella legislation) was the third choice, with 1 ranking it 1st; 3 ranking it 2nd; and 1 ranking it 3rd for a total of 10 points
- One person had as a first choice a combination of options 2 and 3.
- Two people had option 5 (multi-county human service department contracting with NCHC for 51 services) as a second choice, for a total of 4 points.
- There were no selections for Option 6 (multi-county human services department that directly administers all programs).
- After the vote, Task Force members discussed the fact that Option 3 (Umbrella legislation) is not really a stand-alone option. Rather, passage of the umbrella legislation would broaden collaboration alternatives under option 1 (status quo) and 2 (advisory committee). Therefore, the potential for umbrella legislation will be raised in the discussion of options 1 and 2.
- Options 1, 2, and 4 will be brought forward to focus groups. The discussion of Options 1 and 2 will include the possibility of umbrella legislation described in Option 3.

September Focus Groups

- Reasons for considering human services collaboration
 - Discussed reasons to share with focus groups:
 - Potential to improve the quality of Human Services delivery
 - Potential to improve the efficiency of Human Services delivery
 - Opportunity to build on current collaborative efforts
 - Taking initiative at the local level rather than waiting for the state to tell you what to do
 - Providing increased customer services
 - Ability to maintain a high level and quality of service despite fiscal pressures
 - Provide better value of service
 - Provide consistent level of service throughout the three counties
 - “Advanced staff training” will be removed from the statement “Provide opportunities for advanced staff training and specialization that would not be possible for individual counties” before being shared with focus groups.

- Focus group schedule
 - Wednesday, September 4th Gerry Born will meet with focus groups in Lincoln County, and Gail Nordheim will meet with focus groups in Langlade County. They will meet with partner agencies, consumers/advocates, legal and law enforcement, and Department of Social Services staff.
 - Wednesday evening they will meet with Marathon county consumers and advocates.
 - Thursday, September 5th they will meet with Marathon County partner agencies, Department of Social Services Staff, Legal and law enforcement, and the NCHC Executive Team.
 - On September 17th they will be meeting with Marathon County judges.
 - An additional general focus group “make-up” session will be scheduled for September 19th at 10:30AM for anyone who is interested in attending, but could not make one of the other scheduled meetings. Location will be shared once it is confirmed.

The DHS Chapter 5 Personnel Administration in Local Human Services Agencies was shared. Copies will be emailed to the task force members.

Next meeting agenda

- September 19th from 1:00PM-4:00PM

Motion Gisselman; 2nd Giese to adjourn at 11:58a.m. Motion carried.

Pdh