

**JOINT MEETING OF THE RACINE COUNTY
HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
Monday, September 12, 2022
Ives Grove Office Complex
14200 Washington Avenue
Sturtevant, WI 53177**

HHD Present: Scott Maier, Fabi Maldonado, Robert Miller, Jody Spencer
HSB Present: Scott Maier, Q.A. Shakoor II, Don Trottier, Rhonda Zuck
YIG Present: Margarita Reyes-Pena
Staff Present: Jonathan Delagrave, Andrew Goetz, Patricia Hanson, Maurice Horton, Kristin Latus, Hope Otto, Travis Richardson, Mikayla Schowalter
Absent: Eric Hopkins, Jamillah Jallow, Rae McWhorter, Marcus West
Others Present: Luann Simpson, NAMI Racine County

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes from the July 6, 2022 Joint Meeting of the Racine County Health and Human Development Committee & Human Services Board

Sup. Spencer motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Sup. Maldonado seconded.

Sup. Maier motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Sup. Trottier seconded.

YIG: Ms. Reyes-Pena – Aye

Motions carried.

Approval of Minutes from the July 11, 2022 Budget Public Hearing, and Joint Meeting of the Racine County Health and Human Development Committee & Human Services Board

Sup. Maier motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Sup. Spencer seconded.

Sup. Trottier motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Ms. Zuck seconded.

YIG: Ms. Reyes-Pena – Aye

Motions carried.

Trent McReynolds Scholarship

Director Otto explained that the scholarship has already gone through Finance Committee. The former county executive Bill McReynolds' son, Trent, died in July. Trent was an avid proponent of the trades and was a plumber for many years. Mr. McReynolds wants to establish a scholarship fund in his son's

honor as part of Workforce Solutions. Mr. McReynolds has received close to \$20,000 already and would like the County to manage and establish a process for many years to come for individuals who start the process of becoming a journeyman to purchase equipment, or tuition, anything that may help with financial barrier for individuals.

Next year the County Executive has made the Trent McReynolds' Scholarship the recipient of his annual golf outing. This year \$32,000 was raised for Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin.

Brannum Demolition

Director Otto referenced the overview Liam Doherty provided to Finance Committee about Brannum Lumber being demolished sooner than later. She explained that law enforcement, neighbors, as well as the County want this done. It is a liability for the County, it has become a place for criminal activity, as well as an eye sore.

Youth Development and Care Center Update

County Executive Delagrave reported that \$8M additional funds has been received from the State to build the youth center. Planning with the architect is amping up. The County can build what they originally wanted to build because of the additional funds. Construction could begin in Spring. Sup. Trottier suggested posting a 'future home of...' sign at the location.

Summer Youth Employment Program

Deputy Director Latus shared data of the very successful second year. There was almost a 90% success rate with 101 youth placed in employment. Last summer there were only 25 youth in the program. She thanked individuals who donated to the important program. Work has already begun for next summer.

Sup. Spencer requested a list of work sites so supervisors can acknowledge those in their respective districts.

Mr. Horton was pleased to announce that with 101 kids in the program, from different sides of town, there were zero incidents and no gang activity. He referenced the multiple shootings throughout the city over the summer and he expressed his concern of possible issues. There were none. There weren't any police onsite, however there were credible messengers and community connectors. He was happy that the kids could be in one place with no problems. Parents were involved, the buy-in from everyone was impressive. Some employers kept kids following the program. As a follow-up to a previous question about the City's involvement, they ran their own summer youth program.

Report on Violent Crime Reduction Initiative (VCRI)

Director Otto expressed the importance of collaboration and partnership. The VCRI is the collaboration between respective areas that can influence change. She referred Mr. Horton, DA Hanson, Melvin Hargrove, and Chief Deputy Weidner, being the dream team. There are internal steering committee meetings that include this group of individuals, Director Otto, and the County Executive. The challenge is having independent agendas and working across different philosophies. They are working together with the City of Racine, United Way, both police departments, and administration to keep this topic at the forefront. There are many challenges despite work that has been done. A community safety report card will be shared. The report will highlight the great work being done, even though it has been an uphill battle with the violence still happening. She acknowledged the importance of DA Hanson and Chief Deputy Weidner's leadership and moving it forward.

DA Hanson explained that VCRI was initiated by Chief Deputy Weidner. She complimented Travis Richardson and his ability to put data in a format everybody understands, along with his work with the

City's crime analyst. The predictive data allows for resources to be put in neighborhoods having problems, to be proactive instead of reactive. The hope is that when the data is analyzed at the end of September there has been an impact on the shots fired incidents in the city. DA Hanson described the immediate need for law enforcement involvement, the levels of community outreach, community feedback, programming, and partnerships. A Crisis Management Unit has been created, DA Hanson described the role of that unit and its workflow.

Mr. Richardson reiterated the important work being done and the importance of collaboration being done with VCRI. He acknowledged the values of this group and Human Services and the principals put into action day to day. He referenced the violence interruption model and how innovative it is having someone with grief management training, having someone the family can talk with to deescalate the situation, and provide long term supports to the family. He praised the BHS team that handles mental health needs that diverts critical resources from law enforcement.

DA Hanson announced that October 12 there will be a report out at Festival Hall. At that event she will unveil a transparent dashboard. Community partners who will provide programming to support VCRI will be invited. A formal invitation will be sent in the coming weeks. DA Hanson added that volunteers will be needed to help with VCRI, there will be sign-up sheets at the event.

Sup. Spencer recommended this information be shared with the County Board as well as with communities west of the Interstate.

Correspondence and Other Business

Director Otto announced that at County Board tomorrow she will do a Collaborative Safety presentation.

Next Meeting Date

Chairman Miller informed members that the next meeting date, October 10, conflicts with a budget meeting. He asked if it's okay to switch to October 24. It was agreed the meeting will be held October 24, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Action Items

- Send list of summer youth program employers to supervisors

Distributions

- Summer Youth Employment – A Successful Second Year
- Violent Crime Reduction Initiative (VCRI) – Community Safety Report Card
- VCRI Crisis Event Workflow

Respectfully submitted by,

Kimberly R. Bartel