

**JOINT MEETING OF THE RACINE COUNTY
HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
Monday, August 26, 2024
Ives Grove Office Complex - Auditorium
14200 Washington Avenue
Sturtevant, WI 53177**

HHD Present: Valena Lena Coleman, Eric Hopkins, Scott Maier, Robert Miller
HSB Present: Brenda Danculovich, Scott Maier, Don Trottier
YIG Present: Luis Garcia, Anneliese Oswald
Staff Present: Steve Bedwell, Dan Chiappetta, Jelena Jones, Kristin Steimle
Excused: Rae McWhorter, Ernie Rossi, Q.A. Shakoor II, Rhonda Zuck

Call to Order/Roll Call

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

Chairman Comments/Youth in Governance Statement

Ms. Oswald read the YIG statement.

Chairman Miller stated why the meeting was held tonight not the second Monday of this month.

Public Comments

There were no comments.

Approval of Minutes from the July 22, 2024 Public Hearing

Sup. Meier moved for the committee and the board to approve the minutes as submitted. Sup. Coleman seconded for the committee. Sup. Trottier seconded for the board.

YIG: Miss Oswald and Mr. Garcia – Aye

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from the July 22, 2024 Joint Meeting of the Racine County Health and Human Development committee & Human Services Board

Sup. Meier moved for the committee and the board to approve the minutes as submitted. Sup. Hopkins seconded for the committee. Sup. Trottier seconded for the board

YIG: Miss Oswald and Mr. Garcia – Aye

Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2024-## -- Resolution by the Health and Human Development Committee in Support of State Investment for Mental Health Funding

Administrator Jones explained the purpose for this resolution and gave an overview of current Community Support Program (CSP) expenses and Medicaid (MA) reimbursement. What is not covered, the county is responsible for the balance. BHS is requesting the same MA reimbursement that the Comprehensive Community Support Program (CCS) receives. Additional funding is being requested for crisis services. The ask was to move forward with supporting this resolution for the 2025-2027 bi-annual budget.

Chairman Miller requested a motion from the committee to send to County Board and a motion from the board to endorse the resolution.

Sup. Maier motioned to approve Resolution No. 2024-## and refer to County Board for first reading tomorrow night. Sup. Coleman seconded.

YIG: Miss Oswald and Mr. Garcia – Aye

Motion carried.

Ms. Danculovich moved for the board to endorse the resolution and refer it to the County Board. Sup. Trottier seconded.

Motion carried.

Report No. 2024-24 – Report by the County Executive Making an Appointment to the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency Board of Directors

Sup. Hopkins moved to approve the appointment of Velena Lena Coleman. Sup. Maier seconded.

Chairman Miller thanked Sup. Coleman for her willingness to participate on this board of directors.

YIG: Miss Oswald and Mr. Garcia – Aye

Approved.

Overview of Foster Care and the “Do It Anyway” Campaign

Administrator Bedwell reported that the “Do It Anyway” Campaign started approximately one year ago. There is a substantial need in Racine County to license foster homes and that sentiment is echoed across the state. The Foster Care Unit seeks any assistance with licensing homes.

Ms. Steimle described foster care and the foster parent’s role when a child is placed in their home. She also described the three levels of care, all require training. She provided Racine County foster care statistics. There has been decline in the number of homes since 2019. Since the introduction of “Do It Anyway” there has been an increase in interest that has led to more homes being licensed, however the need for foster families in Racine County is critical.

Administrator Bedwell added that the support the Foster Care Unit has received from this committee and board historically in supporting families in home and keeping kids in home has helped to combat the struggles with finding foster homes. This has reduced the need to place children in foster homes. Without that support and resources, there would be a much greater struggle for placements.

Mr. Chiappetta explained that Foster Care received a grant from the state that allowed them to look at recruitment efforts specifically for children with special needs and others more difficult to place. Foster Care contracted with Ignite Change. He reiterated the importance of keeping children in the county.

Yard signs were available for members to post in their yards. It was recommended to post at churches, the zoo and the museum.

Chairman Miller recommended this campaign be presented to the County Board.

Opioid and Overdose Update

Administrator Bedwell reported the decrease in spike alerts since 2023, the harm reduction vending machine use, and statistics of individuals who used the machine.

Human Services Department Capital Construction Update

Administrator Jones reported the mental health building meetings and plans are moving forward. Racine County received \$7.2M Opioid Settlement funds to address the growing challenges of mental health and substance abuse. The comprehensive approach to the opioid settlement phases one and two were shared.

The current facility issues were reported. Domanik Drive building rent has increased every year. The cumulative rent over the next 30 years would roughly equal the cost of bonding for the new facility, just highlighting the financial inefficiency at Domanik.

The benefits of the new building were presented. The SUD (Substance Use Disorder) Residential space will be the only treatment option within 40 miles.

A public service campaign is being created with the assistance of Public Health. Three vending machines will be added, including one on the west end of the county.

Members were asked for input.

Chairman Miller would like this information presented to the County Board.

Chairman Miller asked about reimbursement. Administrator Jones said she'll have to report back.

Members had an in-depth discussion about the vending machine being in the DMV building, the cost of the machine, and the importance of mandated training for law enforcement.

Correspondence and Other Business

There was no other correspondence or business.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 9, 2024, at Ives Grove Office Complex, Auditorium.

Adjournment

Sup. Maier moved to adjourn. Sup. Coleman seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Action

- Email Mental Health Building Flyer to County Board
- Report back about Medicaid Reimbursement for new mental health facility services and possible room and board
- Report back the cost of Narcan vending machine.

Distributions

- Resolution No, 2024-## Resolution by the Health and Human Development Committee in Support of State Investment for Mental Health Funding - Mental Health Community Support Program & Crisis Services
- WCA (Wisconsin Counties Association) Call for Resolutions: Support of State Investment for Mental Health Funding
- Report No. 2024-24 Report by the County Executive Making an Appointment to the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency Board of Directors
- Racine County Foster Care Overview
- Racine County Mental Health Building

Respectfully submitted by,

Kimberly R. Bartel