

**LONG TERM SUPPORT COMMITTEE MINUTES
VERNON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

The Long-Term Support Committee met on March 24, 2008 at 1:00 P.M. in the Erlandson Office Building. Members present were: JoAnn Nickelatti, County Board Supervisor and Committee Chairperson; Frank McCoy, County Board Supervisor; Ole Yttri, County Board Supervisor; Jean Klousia, VCDHS Long Term Support Supervisor; Pam Eitland, Director of Human Services; Beverly Forde, AODA Representative; Betty Havlik, Community Member; Shirley Johnson, COP-W/CIP II Social Worker; Crystal Linse Moilien, CIP 1A & 1B Social Worker; Pat Vikemyr, Developmental Disabilities and Family Support Program Social Worker; Barbara Mattice; Adult Protective Services Social Worker; Sharon Williams, Mental Health Social Worker; Alice Olson, CIP 1A & 1B Social Worker; Stan Nofsinger, Physically Disabled Representative; Jeannie Holmberg, VMH Social Worker, Tom Cravens, VMH Social Worker; Victor Klein, Representing Leader Dogs for the Blind and Barbara Zeimet, COP/COP-Waiver Social Worker.

- I. JoAnn Nickelatti called the meeting to order.
- II. Affirmation of proper public notice was made.
- III. Minutes of January 28, 2008 meeting were approved as written with a motion made by Frank McCoy and seconded by Barbara Zeimet.
- IV. Old Business

A. Update on Personal Cares Program by Jean Klousia.

2007 Revenues	\$804,165.20
2007 Expenses	<u>\$802,512.86</u>
2007 Administration Costs	\$ 1,652.34

Jean reported there is some back billing from Bethel Home and they will continue to do some checking.

Jean Klousia states the state has passed a new requirement for the hiring of Personal Care Workers. The Legislation states that they have to report to the client or guardian the result of the background check for the PC worker providing the cares. At this time, our contract agency, Bethel Home & Services, is doing a thorough job regarding their background checks. Jean emphasizes that it's critical to ensure the safety of our consumers. With a new client, this requirement has to be done prior to the worker going into the home. In addition, the state is raising the charges for these criminal background checks. There was discussion by the members on how the background checks will be conducted once Family Care arrives with regards to the Provider Agency for the Self Directed Supports.

Initially, when Family Care was first talked about, they had wanted the children to be a part of it. Then lobbyists and family expressed they did not want children in Family Care. As a result, the Children's Waiver Program was started about 2 years ago. The budget included money to serve just 3 children. For those on the new Children's Waiver Program, they will receive \$30.06/day for each slot whether the children are at home or in the community. Qualifying children fall into the ages from birth to age 22. Currently we have 8 children on the waiting list. Pat Vikemyr will be attending training for this. The children in the Family Support Program will be given the first opportunity to be on the

Children's Waiver Program. Jean expressed the program will involve a lot of work, administration time and training for just 3 slots. The money we will receive does not pay to hire someone new to run the Children's Waiver Program.

B. Update on Waiting Lists

- COP/COPW 107
- DD/CIP 1A/B 48
- Future Needs DD/CIP 1A&B 24
- Family Support 11 (1 or 2 may age out)
- Mental Health CSP 15
- MH
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V. New Business

A. Presentation by Victor Klein on Leader Dogs for the Blind

Victor, a client himself of the Community Options Program, spoke about his visual impairment and the positive results he's had with the aide of Luke, his Leader Dog. He spoke about the 26-day training session to team with a selected Leader Dog. He will be getting a new Leader Dog in June, when Luke retires due to poor health. He will be attending the Leader Dogs for the Blind based in Rochester, MI. The school has trained over 13,00 Leader Dogs since it's founding in 1939. Graduating hundreds of student and dog teams each year, the school strives to minimize the challenges of blindness by providing safe and independent travel. The school only requires its students to be prepared mentally and physically to care for and use the dog in the intended manner.

As a project of the Lions Club, an internationally recognized organization, Leader Dogs for the Blind have been supported for over 60 years by the generous donations of club members.

Victor fielded many questions committee members had regarding Leader Dogs.

B. Updates on Family Care consortium

Jean updated this committee on the timetable for Family Care in Vernon County. Presently, the plan is on August 1, 2008 the ADRC will be up and running and 2 months later, October 1, 2008 Family Care will begin. Everyone is looking forward to the transition. La Crosse County will be conducting trainings for those who will be part of the ADRC on what resources are available and how the overall process is done.

The Implementation Council has been developed, the members were chosen by the County Boards. To-date, the council has met 8-9 times. They will be training board members as to what their role is. The board has been interviewing positions for a CEO and a Financial Administrator. They will also be familiarizing themselves with each other. Jean states, they are a wonderful board that is comprised of a variety of backgrounds. They are looking for a name of the MCO, once it is all organized.

There's an updated website for the consortium, ourwcc.org.

Jean expressed it may be a good idea to have the people from the 211 program speak to the committee. They will be a big part of the MCO Resource Center.

La Crosse County will provide office space initially for the Executive and Administrative bodies.

C. Any Questions or Concerns

VI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Frank McCoy and seconded by Stan Nofsinger to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 19, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.

Submitted by

Barbara Zeimet