

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: July 8, 2013

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Bldg., Room 33

Members Present: Ginger Beuk, Debra Hogue, Ann Jungwirth, Donna Lohry, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, Harold Singstock, and Claire Steger

Members Excused: Peter Christianson, Diane Egan, Eileen Lienweber, and Deb Pahl

Staff Present: Mary Krueger, Ron Duerkop, Mark Weisensel, Cindy Pischke and Dorothy De Grace

Others Present: Lori Duclon, Public Health Department; Tom Otto, interested citizen; Larry Lautenschlager, Human Services Board; Chris Strong, Oshkosh Go Transit

Donna Lohry called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. She asked for approval to make a change to the agenda by swapping Item 5 and Item 7. Ann Jungwirth moved for the agenda change; seconded by Ginger Beuk and carried.

1. Public Comments:

a. There were no comments.

2. Introductions:

Introductions were made.

3. Approve Minutes of the June 10, 2013 ADRC Meeting:

Ginger Beuk moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Claire Steger and carried.

4. ADRC in Action:

Cindy Pischke shared a positive outcome of helping someone who contacted the ADRC for assistance. Cindy said a daughter and her mom came to see her regarding the mom's husband who ended up in the hospital after a fall and was discharged to a nursing home for rehab within 24 hours of being admitted to the hospital. Cindy said if a person isn't in the hospital for at least three days, Medicare doesn't pay for nursing home rehab. Cindy helped them apply for the spousal impoverishment program which is set up through Medical Assistance to help in a situation where one spouse needs institutional care, and the other spouse lives at home. The husband has since been discharged from the nursing home, and because he already has Medical Assistance, Cindy will refer him to the Family Care or IRIS program for his long term care needs.

5. Transportation – Fixed Route (Follow-up/discussion):

Mark Weisensel gave a report on his research regarding transportation stops in the city of Oshkosh for Go Transit. He rode the city bus for a day and observed six different bus stops: 1) this bus stop is located on Jackson Street next to the sidewalk north of the roundabout on Murdock near Pick N Save (there were four people waiting on the grassy knoll); 2) this bus stop is near an uncovered bench on Westfield Street at Evergreen Retirement Community. Mark talked to the CEO of Evergreen who said they are willing to put money into having a cover installed at the bus stop; 3) this bus stop is on Eagle Street at Bethel Home. It is a short walk for people to get from Bethel home to this bus stop, but it would be difficult for a bus to maneuver through the parking lot at Bethel; 4) this bus stop is at the south side of Wal Mart, and it is a transfer stop. It is conveniently located and seems to work fine; 5) this bus stop is at 9th Avenue & Oakwood near Mercy Medical Center (MMC), which is quite a distance from the hospital; and 6) this bus stop is on Westhaven Drive just down from the emergency room and front entrance of Aurora Medical Center. Donna Lohry said she feels the bus stop near Pick N Save needs to be changed. There is no place for grocery carts, and older people are uncomfortable waiting in that area for the bus. Chris Strong said Pick N Save has been a positive stop for them, and he said they would need to work with the property owner to get an agreement to move the bus stop. He said they wouldn't be able to make a change immediately because if they do that and then change the route six months later, they have to undo all of the work and money invested into it. He said the routes were changed in response to a survey. Tom Otto said the shelters are already in place at MMC and Pick N Save so there wouldn't be any cost in moving them back to those locations. He said they were both working efficiently at their previous location. Larry Lautenschlager said the previous location of the bus stop at MMC didn't have any interference from other parking lot traffic. He is concerned about the stop at the Affinity Clinic on Jackson, because it is out front with no sidewalk availability. A person in a wheelchair would need to go down the driveway and out into the street along the gutter to get to the bus stop. Rob Paterson said that at the bus stop near Rogan's Shoe Store there is no longer a bench, and the sign is away from where the bus stop is located. Chris Strong said the cost of a new shelter is \$5,000 to \$6,000. They have removed some benches, but they are in stock and could be reused. Chris said the intent of the route system is to respond to where people said they wanted the bus to go. If they make a decision that a bus will go into a parking lot to be closer to a medical facility, they will be farther away on the home end of the route. If they decide to be closer at both ends, it will increase the travel time which could lose ridership. They came up with the routes from listening to feedback from the public process. They tried to preserve their reliability by accommodating time and distance. Donna Lohry asked Chris to re-evaluate this immediately, because we are advocating for these people. Mike Norton advocated waiting for a period of nine months to a year so the routes can be looked at in all types of weather. Ron Duerkop asked if there is anything that prevents the property owner from making some temporary improvements to the bus stop location in the interim, for example Pick N Save putting some benches in the new bus stop area on Jackson Street. Chris Strong said they would be open to that suggestion.

6. Long Term Care Entitlement – July 1, 2013:

Ron Duerkop said our ADRC started in February 2010 with one Adult Protective Service worker and three Information & Referral specialists. Then in July we formally got launched with Family Care and IRIS and long term care benefits, and we no longer offered the waiver program. We had done Options counseling from January until June with our waiver clients to help them understand the programs and services being offered, and by July 1, 2010 enrollment with Family Care or IRIS began.

Ron said we had three years to eliminate our waiting list which consisted of over 300 people who had physical disabilities or developmental disabilities or the frail elderly. We were to remove five to seven individuals from the waiting list per month. As of July 1, 2013 we did not have a waiting list, and we were able to inform people if they were functionally eligible for a nursing home or non-nursing home level of care and eligible for Medical Assistance.

Mary Krueger reported that we had an average of 1,000 contacts to the ADRC each month over the last year. Of those, 75% were by phone; 15% were written inquiries; and 10% were face-to-face. Referrals usually come from family members, guardian, friend or someone in the community.

7. May 2013 ADRC Conference Committee Reports:

Mike Norton said the conference was very informative. He feels Winnebago County's ADRC does a very good job.

Harold Singstock said it was the best convention that he has attended. He learned that we must be prepared for working with more minorities in the future by understanding their culture. He said there seems to be flexibility in the way counties operate their ADRC.

Deb Hogue said the session regarding the Board was very interesting. She learned some worthwhile information at the session about functional screens.

Ann Youngwirth said attendees at the conference can apply what they learn to their everyday lives. She felt the most valuable session that she attended was, "Working Effectively with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Consumers."

8. Reports:

- a. ADRC Manager – Mary Krueger said that many hospitals and nursing homes are doing more care transition planning, because if people are discharged from one of their facilities and then return again within a certain period of time the facility could be fined by the state. Mary said a community effort by ADRC's, hospitals, Public Health Department and other agencies are looking at what can be done to prevent this from happening. Mary will be attending a Long Term Care Advisory Council meeting where they will discuss updates to the 2014 State Budget and IRIS program updates. The state will be putting out a request for proposal (RFP) to operate the IRIS program, which they do every five years. The group will be looking at some potential changes to the functional screen and how enrollment counseling happens when there is more than one Managed Care Organization in a geographical area.

Mary said effective August 1 the new non-emergency medical transportation agency (MTM Inc.) will begin providing rides to Badger Care Plus and Medicaid members statewide. There will be a change in our volunteer transportation, since the American Red Cross will not be renewing their contract with us. They will be focusing more on their core programs. We are looking at getting another provider for volunteer transportation services.

Mary said there is currently an effort with Community Emergency Services for individuals who are experiencing an emergency, such as not being able to pay the rent or are in need of transportation. A group of agencies and advocacy groups have been meeting to research and put together suggestions to take back to a larger group regarding a concept similar to an ADRC for people who don't qualify for services of an ADRC. An emergency is generally a one-time need for individuals, and this concept would help them with self-sufficiency. The funders are currently in Oshkosh.

Mary said the Human Service 2014 proposed Budget has passed the Human Services Board and will now go to Mark Harris for approval and then Finance Department and the County Board.

- b. Committee Member Updates – Mike Norton asked that information be shared at the next meeting regarding the amount of funding we give to the local senior centers.
- c. Complaints/Grievances – there were none to report.

9. **“Community Beat”**: There was no information.

10. Next Meeting: August 12, 2013 at Oshkosh Human Service Building:

With no further business, Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Ginger Beuk and carried at 5:10 p.m. The next meeting of the ADRC Committee will be held at 3:30 p.m., Monday, August 12, 2013 at the Oshkosh Human Services Building, Rm. 33.

Respectfully submitted:
Dorothy De Grace, Recorder