

## Human Services Board Meeting

*September 22, 2022*

*Observer: Suzanne Zipperer*

**Board Members Present:** Agnew, Baumann, Brey, Bruns, Klein, Naidl, Ruggirello, Shimulunas Board Members Excused: Burke Board Members Absent: None County Board Members Present: None County Staff Present: Joas, Johnson, Kubec, Randolph, Dodge, Ziegelbauer

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 in the board room of Human Services. Minutes were approved.

### **Announcements**

Sadly, one of the ongoing case managers for Family Services, Vicki Bonassin, passed away. She had been employed one year with HS.

### **Education Topic**

- Betsy Johnson, Clinical Services Program Manager, presented on the national 988 Suicide Crisis LifeLine.
- National service began in July to offer an easy access number to crisis counseling.
- 988 centers are staffed with trained counselors to assist individuals during stressful situations providing support and connecting them to local resources.
- The suicide rate among Wisconsin residents increased 40% between 2000-2017 and suicide is the second leading cause of death among individuals between ages 10 and 34. In 2015 HS had 2,491 calls; up to 4,500 calls by 2021. A positive for the unit is from January – June of 2022, 74 adults and 63 children were successfully Safety Planned by Crisis/On-Call services rather than placed in psychiatric hospitals. 79 adults were placed in a crisis facility rather than hospitalized. Human Services is working with other agencies to address some community crisis costs.
- 988 is a network of over 180 accredited crisis call centers across the country. The center for Wisconsin is in Green Bay out of Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin. It is staffed by trained counselors.
- The lifeline dispatches emergency services when necessary but cannot perform DHS Chapter 51.15 Mental Health Detentions.
- Ms. Johnson has held trainings with officers at the Manitowoc and Two Rivers Police Departments and the Sheriff's Department that respond to welfare checks from the lifeline and transition the calls to MCHSD On Call Services if emergency detentions are needed. She holds monthly meetings with the HSD Crisis workers to talk about the transition and train crisis workers on handling Emergency Detentions that are transferred through law enforcement. She and the Wisconsin Lifeline Director, Shelly Missall, were asked to present at the Crisis Intervention Conference to share how it was integrated with local law enforcement in our county, as what Ms. Johnson has done is considered a good model.

- Group Homes have been closing due to low reimbursement rates from Family Care providers leaving less placement options so crisis staff are attending meetings to advocate for members.

### **Director's Report**

- Juvenile arrests are up, but crime is not; police are catching more perpetrators. There were 21 bookings for the year. Expense for detention is up. The shortage of staff in the public defenders office means delays in trial and longer in detention
- There are four state pilot programs to serve youth with high needs. That means behavioral, cognitive, trauma. Each gender specific.
- 2023 budget includes 2 additional daytime crisis staff and one night-time. Also one out-of-home care worker is requested.
- There are two openings for ongoing case managers and one for a therapist. The therapist position has been hard to fill.