

**Rusk County Department of Health and Human Services
Aging & Disability Resource Center
Advisory Board Meeting**

The Rusk County Aging & Disability Resource Center Board held its bi-monthly meeting on March 7, 2019 at 1:00 pm in the Law Enforcement Center County Board Room, Ladysmith, WI.

PRESENT: Kathy Walthers, Kayla Poppe, Alice Kesan, Jennifer Hengst, Jeremy Jacobs, Sheryl Kisling, Peggy Hraban, Kathy Halbur, Chris Soltis, Kathy Mai, Ashley Nelson, Michele Kinney, Amy Phillips,

EXCUSED: Ron Moser, Lindsay Ohmstead, Angie Harvey,

AGENDA:

- Meeting called to order at 1:02 pm by Kathy Mai.
- Approval of minutes from previous meeting Motion Hengst/Kisling,
- Adult Services Report: For APS the current updated number is 26 customers under protective placement. Alzheimer's family support program is up to 8. Guardianship – we have had a successful reunification for a gentleman and is getting to go back to Green Bay with his mom. Brown County has been great with helping him have the services. Brenda worked on 13 cases in February and 14 in January.
- A community member got scammed. The bank flagged the transactions but money was taken before the bank flagged the account. After several weeks of this the scammers contacted the community member and told them they were being scammed and they could help them out which turned into several additional weeks of being scammed.
- Children and Family: CLTS has 21 kids, pictures provided of client and his Trac chair and information on The Shane Jenness Fund and Harvest of Talents.
- Discussed eliminating the wait list for CLTS for the entire state. Some counties have received additional funding to streamline the screening process. Possibility of five navigators to focus on the region as well as two children's disability specialist for the state. The possibility of housing the navigator in or near the ADRC. CCOP is supposed to have a committee from the ADRC board, providers and parents to discuss the utilization of CCOP funds. Jeremy has been contacting parents to meet quarterly for this committee.
- Veterans report read by Walthers provided by Stoker: Telehealth services are set up for Public Health but the providers in the cities are apprehensive so it is on hold.
- Six Rusk County veteran deaths were reported. Two of the veterans next – of – Kin received burial benefits for service connected or pensioned veterans.
- Coordinated mental health treatment for two combat veterans through the La Crosse Vet Center providing skilled counseling while establishing substantiated medical proof for potential service connected claims.
- Represented two needy veterans with distributions of over \$1,000.00 of assistance through federal, state and county supportive sources geared specifically with providing aid to veterans and their families.
- 4 Service Connected, Pension and specialized Claims finalized by the VA: One in receipt of \$14,196 (annually) \$29,717 (back Payment); One in receipt of \$32,076 (annually) \$2,673 (back payment); One in receipt of \$37,668 (annually) \$9,004 (back payment); One in receipt \$3,324 (annual) Totaling over \$94,658 which directly goes in the pockets of Rusk County resident veterans and/or their surviving family.
- Complied annual financial and county data to submit CVSO official grant through the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. Adjudication currently in progress and expecting full approval for entire \$8,500. UPDATE, Full amount received
- Worked closely with county veterans in drafting a biography for reading at County Board meetings. Separate biography drafted for veteran killed on active duty. Worked closely with this Rusk County Gold Star spouse to properly recognize her husband's sacrifice and preserve his memory
- Aging & Disability Resource Center/Senior Services: nominations and approval for Chair and Vice Chair. Elizabeth Hanson previous president resigned. Hengt nominated Mai, Mai declined but yes to Vice-President. Vice-President motion/approved Hraban/ Kesan. Kisling nominated herself to be the President. President approved Hrban/Kesan
- Aging Advocacy Day Tuesday May 14th. With RCTC we have the van and we have 5 possibly 6 spots open in the van. If somebody wants to go they need to register and meet in the parking lot by Flambeau River Outfitters then circle the block so nobody is missed. Kesan signed up to go.
- Discussed Governor's proposed budget.

- Tri County ADRC received WIHA Mini Grant – Healthy Living with Diabetes, Three people are getting certified in our county. Two programs planned for the year, one in April and one in the fall. We are partnering Security Health to send out information about classes every time the ADRC has a health promotion.
- There will also be a Living with Chronic Conditions class in April.
- ADRC Reports: 2017-2018 numbers for contacts per positions of the ADRC.
- EBS and DBS have been working on Homestead tax credits for free as well as the tax ladies coming every Wednesday.
- I&A had 10 FS in December, 10 in January and 9/10 in February as well as Kathy doing 2.
- Alice donated a quilt for the quilt raffle, Barb Lundrin from Tony WI made it and it is BEAUTIFUL! Not sure how long it will be for but we will discuss that next month. Possibly end it on May 9th when there is Independence your Way event.
- Ladysmith Adult Day Center has taken over delivery for part of the Source route.
- Book sale to raise money for the congregation this month and last month for the Source.
- Part of the three year plan for this year was to see what activities seniors were interested in. Rusk County Senior Activities Survey was produced and Halbur is pulling the numbers together to see what our community members are interested in. 44 responses so far, the surveys go out at Dining at five, Nutrition education, congregation, and cake day and in the Source. One idea was for field trips for example Hawkins is interested in going to Maple Hill and back. Possibly have a follow up survey from the results of the first survey.
- Mental Health Day – May 18th
- Suicide Prevention Walk that will be in Ojibwa on October 12th.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m. Hengt/Hrban; all in favor.

Next Meeting date is **Thursday, April 18, 2018**, 1:00 p.m. in the Law Enforcement Center Meeting Room following the Nutrition meeting.