

LINN COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING
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LinnCounty.org



LINN COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Zoom

Tuesday, March 8th – 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mike Hines Sr Susan O'Connor Ben Rogers Robin Shelby
John Stuelke Mike Tiernan

GUEST: Sara Becker

STAFF: Ashley Balias Erin Foster Amy Grunewaldt Stacey Lietz
Staci Meade Dawn Schott David Thielen Gloria Witzberger

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY MEETING

The minutes from the February meeting were approved MSC: Tiernan/Shelby (5-0).

LCCS FINANCE

The Monthly Budget Report was presented by Staci. This included numbers through February, which would have an expected expenses/revenues of 66%. CYD programs reflect as under expected expenses and over expected receipts. GA reflect under expenses and well below expected receipts, this area may require further information. Ryan White reflects over expected expenses but under receipts due to timing questions. Home Health reflects as on-track for expenses and has fully received its grant. Detention reflects expected expenses. The revenue side reflects being at 39% across all programs due to billing at below pre-covid levels. The large state allocation has been reduced. ARPA funds are being used to backfill the lost revenues and they are working to discuss with the state. Options reflects as on-pace for revenue and slightly above expected for revenue. Options has received provider relief funds but is on-pace for revenue even without these specific extra funds. ECR & MHAC reflect at below expenses at 54% and below revenue at 27%, but the revenues are due to only reflecting billings through December. Sr Susan inquired about the Core Services line item reflecting higher expenses, Staci noted that this is typically an area that gets pulled from for other areas. David asked about SSI payments for GA. Ashley noted that they've had some denials as well as Social Security being delayed in making payments. The monthly budget report was approved MSC: Stuelke/Hines (5-0).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE:

American Recovery Plan Act - Update: David provided information on the county allocations of ARPA funds. David noted that subcommittees reviewing different categories of applications. Applications are rated low to high priorities to be recommended to the board of supervisors. David noted that there was a focus on emergent needs such as housing and food. City of Cedar Rapids has already announced their decisions. Sr Susan asked what the volume of applications was. The applications totaled in excess of \$70m for a fund of approximately \$11m.

PROGRAM UPDATES

General Assistance/Core: Ashley provided the update for GA/Core. GA had a new staff member, Nicole Butler, and Ashley shared a success story in the aftermath of the Geneva Tower fire. Ashley also shared that there is a lot of ongoing work in the OHN group. The group has realized from pandemic, derecho, and the GT fire the importance of supportive services. There is a focus on examining this issue holistically. The overflow shelter is still open with an average of approximately 80 people per night. They are on track to close officially on the morning of March 31. Staff continue to cite that there are individuals with high levels of need in Mental Health/SUD.

Juvenile Detention/Diversion Services: Dawn shared the update for JDDS. They are still having difficulty with staffing, with three open positions at the center. She is working with HR to ensure job descriptions are written to help attract candidates. They have had ongoing staff trainings in-house. The management team will be reading a book since her management team is relatively young. Detention is functioning under DHS's congregate care policies so they are continuing to wear masks until informed otherwise by DHS. Dawn also shared that their therapist will be funded through ECR for FY22. This is allowing for follow-ups to make referrals to services and provide a higher level of continuity. Their annual licensing renewal and PREA audit. Dawn shared information about successes in time out policy. They had 34 time outs in February with only 5 with the door shut, four of whom shut it themselves. David noted that Dawn has had positions approved for the next FY.

Mental Health Access Center: Erin provided her update for the MHAC. She shared that they've had an increase in individuals with intellectual disabilities. Staff has asked for additional training in this area, and this has been a common issue across the state. The University of Iowa will be providing a training for access centers for community providers on April 27 from 9-11 via Zoom. She is also working with communications for social media outreach about mental health and substance use awareness. There is a strategic planning group working on what a youth MHAC might look like. Erin also shared funding opportunities that she is pursuing as well as collaborations with His Hands clinic to have them act as a pharmacy for some of the med needs of their population. They have had 532 individuals over their year of being open with patients from 16 other counties. 70% of their population that take their discharge survey share that they would not have had any access to services without the MHAC. By the end of March they will expand to 7 days a week with Foundation 2.

NEW BUSINESS

Staci shared information regarding the Core financials. The Core budget appears overspent due to an employee being moved from IT back into LCCS/Core. Gloria shared that they wrote for a DHS stabilization grant with ARPA funds. They received \$75,000 based on a formula. They will also be applying for the recruitment and retention grant.

The next meeting will be on April 12, 2022. The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Leah Coffman, Recorder

DATE OF NEXT LCCS BOARD MEETING

12:00 PM, Tuesday, April 12th 2022

Zoom

Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

MISSION: Linn County Community Services addresses local health and human service needs by providing direct services, community planning, and administration of local, state, and federal funds in ways that promote service availability, access, cost-effectiveness, and quality.