

**LINN COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES**

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDING  
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LinnCounty.org



**LINN COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

Zoom

Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> – 12:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Bob Hebl      Melissa Dean      Erin Koehn      Mike Hines  
Robin Shelby      John Stuelke                      Mike Tiernan  
Ben Rogers

**GUEST:**      Nelly Hill

**STAFF:**      Nichole Baker-Jones                      Jody Bridgewater      Amy Grunewaldt  
Erin Foster      Dawn Schott                      Staci Meade                      Gloria Witzberger  
David Thielen

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m.

**MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST MEETING**

The minutes from the August meeting were approved. MSC: (Hines/Stuekle) 8-0

**FUNDED AGENCY PRESENTATION - WAYPOINT**

Nelly Hill presented information about Waypoint’s domestic violence services. They primarily serve women but accept all genders. Advocates work in several counties, including offices in Duque and Waterloo who provide advocacy services to those navigating systems after abuse. They have victim/counselor privilege so they are able to be present in police interviews, legal proceedings, meetings with judges in or in the healthcare system. They do financial literacy and employee advocacy activities to promote financial independence and stability. They rely on volunteers as well as paid staff. They try to keep individuals in their homes as much as possible and achieved safe housing for 53 individuals with the funds received from LCCS last year.

Nelly noted that they utilize Linn County funding to augment other funding. David asked the challenges in the housing market regarding finding a place for those in domestic violence situations. Nelly noted the change in law regarding no contact orders as well as the challenges in finding housing for someone who has to leave. She also shared that they provide financial literacy courses to those utilizing their services. Nelly shared information about the Caring Dads program that received Decat funding, which is a prevention program to shift behaviors

**MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT**

The Monthly Budget Report was presented by Staci. This report includes July and August numbers, and Staci reiterated the change in how the information is presented. Mental Health & Disability Services is below on both income and expenses expectation. The MHAC is below budget since the ECR is contracting directly. July and August payments have not gone out due to contracting delays but this area will be amended to reflect realities. Substance Use services are a little below expectations but these services are still ramping up. ECR expectations are slightly below expectations and revenues are on track. Revenues are paid quarterly based on the original budget with a reconciliation at the end of the fiscal year. Options reflects a little below expenses and below revenues but this does not reflect the full August billings and the expectations are to be slightly ahead once that is completed. Substance Use Disorder services fluctuate throughout the year but are under budgeted expectation. LCCS Admin expenses reflect ahead due to annual maintenance for Evolv and this will even out over time. CYD expenses are below expectation due to operating expenses not incurred and turnover. Revenues are on-track with full billings. Funded agencies are on track. Revenue is ahead of expectation due to a large grant from EFSP. GA expenses appear low and this area will be monitored for potential surplus. Revenue from interim assistance is unpredictable. Home Health expenses are below expectation, and revenues show low due to grant billing methodology. Ryan White expenses are going to be amended higher due to changes in the grant and August has not been billed for, causing revenues to appear low. Youth Services reflect slightly under expectations. Detention expenses are below expectation and revenues are in line. Diversion are both below budget expectation due to timing issues. Shelter subsidy is below but Staci noted this is likely on-track due to timing of billings. Staci asked for feedback on the new

The budget report was approved. MSC: Hebl/Shelby (8-0).

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

*ARPA Updates:* David presented information about the first and second rounds of ARPA funds. Work is ongoing for the Options' grant, and David noted that recommendations to the BOS are ongoing.

*Children's Assessment Center:* Ben did a strategic planning session with Leslie Wright in the first half of this year to create a children's equivalent of the MHAC. David will be meeting with Ben after the board meeting to discuss next steps.

*Facilities/Security Updates:* David shared that there is work ongoing at JDDS to upgrade security cameras as well as implement security updates at the CSB.

David also shared that Linn County has applied for unspent ERA2 funds but that there has been no communication from Treasury on this.

## **PROGRAM UPDATES**

*Home Health:* David noted that they are working with LCPH regarding granting and that Stacey is preparing for upcoming retirements.

*Child/Youth Development:* Gloria provided the update for CYD. She provided information about the art installation at the Harris Building, noting that the "bench people" piece is interactive and fits well in the site. There has been a start in discussion of community use of the Harris Building with recommendations to consider. The child care center has almost completed fall enrollment. There are

ten Head Start students waiting on HS staff to determine eligibility. She noted the challenges in the enrollment process. She also noted that there are openings in each of the CYD programs as well as openings on the advisory board. Gloria also provided information about a training regarding accountability done by Ted Garnett. Family Transformation Services has received the cars they received funding for.

*ECI/Decat:* David presented the information for ECI/Decat. The state report was submitted and this covers how this supports early childhood. Amy has utilized surveying through Coe to gain data to report out on child care providers, noting that programs feel siloed and that there are high increases in mental health challenges. Amy is advocating for mental health resources for preschool age children. The Decat annual plan will be approved next week. Decat was awarded additional funding, and Decat was able to fund a new program this year focusing on refugee families to assist children become kindergarten ready and reduce learning gaps.

*East Central Region:* Jody provided the update for the ECR. Regional meetings will be next week at Kirkwood. There will be a resiliency event on Friday and due to a high level of interest there may be an additional session later in the fall.

*Ryan White:* Nichole provided the update for Ryan White. In Q1 they had 11 new clients and 5 discharge with a total of 187. They had a new case manager hired in February and her case load is at 27. Q2 has seen an additional 13 new clients in the program but 5 discharged for 196 which is the highest client base RWP has served. They recently held a Monkeypox vaccine clinic at Basix in conjunction with LCPH. They have had a number of outreach events recently, included Stand Down and the upcoming multicultural fair. Nichole noted that she has requested an additional \$45,000 for food vouchers and gas cards and that they have already spent down their medical transportation budget.

*Options of Linn County:* David shared the update for Options. The program received a 3 year accreditation through CARF. The goal for Options is to be over 85% attendance with 91% actual in August. David also shared that there was a food truck event for Options consumers. The week of September 12 is DSP week, and he shared that there are several ongoing events during the week to celebrate staff. They are updating the computer system being used with a roll out date in October.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Dawn shared that they completed their PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) audit with a 3 year certification.

Bob noted upcoming meetings in October and November.

The meeting adjourned at 12:48.

*Leah Coffman, Recorder*

### **DATE OF NEXT LCCS BOARD MEETING**

12:00 PM, Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 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.**