

**WINONA COUNTY**  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 12, 2021**

Members in Attendance: Fatima Said, Justin Green, Larry Goodlund, Ruth Charles, Tammi Stoos, Andrew Kranz; Timothy Hopkins; Dr. Andrew Edin; Commissioner Marie Kovecsi; Commissioner Chris Meyer; Commissioner Marcia Ward

Staff in Attendance: Karen Sanness, Karin Sonneman; Ken Fritz; Karen Bunkowski, Naomi Morris, Jon Loomis, Melanie Tatge, Kendra Mann

The RingCentral virtual/call-in meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Review/Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings

A motion was made by Fatima and seconded by Marie to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2020 meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Welcome and Introduction of Newly Appointment Members

Welcome Timothy Hopkins, newly Winona County Board appointed committee member on 1/5/2021.

Farewell, thank you, and appreciation for dedicated service was extended to Fatima Said who completed her third and final term on 12/31/2020

Nominations and Vote for 2021 Committee Chairperson

Nominations were opened to fill the position of committee chairperson for 2021. Marcia nominated Ruth Charles. Justin seconded the nomination. Ruth accepted the nomination set forth. A motion was made by Fatima to move the nomination forward for Ruth to chair the Committee in 2021. Justin seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Services Available Within the Winona County Jail

The Winona County website has a Winona County Jail Information Page containing jail information, talking points, and links to jail study, planning resources, and various jail committee agendas/meeting notes. Karen Sanness provided a PowerPoint presentation that outlines proposals for Community Based Services for Adult Jail Populations and Juvenile Justice Populations, in response to Winona County's communities call for action for said services.

A Public Health Prevention Model that emphasizes primary, secondary, and tertiary programming to divert and/or in conjunction with incarceration is being considered. Committee members are encouraged to become involved in planning committees as well as find ways to engage others within the community to become involved in jail planning.

Families First Prevention Services Act Update

Minnesota opted in to the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) child care institutions requirements, with federal approval for a delayed effective date of September 29, 2021. The purpose of FFPSA is to provide prevention services, in-home services, and community based treatment services to prevent children and youth from going into out of home care. The primary goal of FFPSA is to reduce the number of children and youth in congregate care or child care institutions without adequate case plans for treatment, service provision or permanency, including reunification. The FFPSA was designed in part to provide trauma-informed care that address the health, safety, well-being and permanency for youth and children. Development of a Qualified Residential Treatment Program is a treatment service model specified in FFPSA that addresses the behavioral health needs of youth, while focused on family and youth engagement. In addition to changes in the quality of care, FFPSA seeks to limit federal Title IV-E foster care maintenance reimbursement for children and youth placed in these settings and/or residential facilities. Federal cost saving are projected with the reduction of youth and children in congregate settings. The State of Minnesota will have their prevention service plan submitted by June 1, 2021.

COVID-19 Update

Winona County Public Health Manager Melanie Tatge provided a Power Point presentation containing COVID-19 trends per tracking data gather for Winona County. The semi-permanent COVID-19 testing site in Winona County is open through February 2021. The testing site location is at 1213 Gilmore Avenue, Winona (Winona Mall) next to the License Center Office.

Contact tracing efforts continue with Winona County participating in a regional approach. COVID-19 vaccine doses were first received before Christmas and were administered to all EMS staff, testers, and vaccinators. Those in category 1a ~ congregate care facilities, residents/workers are set to be vaccinated starting this month. It is anticipated to take 2 -3 months for category 1a vaccination to be completed. Launch of local vaccination sites per efforts of Winona County Public Health and several community partners is set to start on 1/13/2021. Look for further details in upcoming press releases as well as all the latest COVID-19 happenings posted on the Winona County website and Winona County Health & Human Services Facebook page.

Other Business

There was discussion on the status of Family Foster Care happenings. Winona County Children and Family Services Unit Manager Jon Loomis reports his unit has started to provide more intensive monitoring consisting of meetings with foster parents twice per month; coupled with enhancements to training and training availability. The numbers of foster parents is currently somewhat low. Ideas being considered for recruitment of more foster care providers includes placement of informational flyers at area churches and schools. The idea of purchasing digital billboard advertising time was suggested. Another idea for consideration is to hold meetings (Zoom, in-person, etc.) for those considering becoming a foster care provider with those experienced in the application process to help new applicants better navigate and process their application.

Updates from Committee Members

There were no updates reported.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 9th, 2021, starting at 3 p.m. To remain in compliance with social distancing requirements, a RingCentral virtual/call-in meeting will be arranged. An email containing sign-in details will go out to committee members approximately one week in advance of the meeting.

Adjournment

By consensus of the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.