

**WINONA COUNTY**  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Draft Meeting Minutes**  
**August 3, 2021**

Members in Attendance: Andrew Kranz, Dr. Andrew Edin, Justin Green, Larry Goodlund, Ruth Charles, Sammy Gondola, Timothy Hopkins; Commissioner Marie Kovecsi

Staff in Attendance: Karen Sanness, Karen Bunkowski, 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 Justin and seconded by Dr. Edin to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2021 meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Jail Programming Updates/Follow-ups

Per results of SIM Reporting, ease of navigating access to county mental health services is an identified gap/area for improvement. Justin has drafted a plan for consideration in helping fill this gap and is requesting direction from the Health & Human Services Advisory Committee on content/implementation. The proposed plan will be sent to Karen Sanness to share with the Health & Human Services Management Team for viewing/consideration prior to it being placed on a future agenda (October, 2021) for consideration by the full Health and Human Services Advisory Committee. Committee members are encouraged to take the Winona County Community Needs Survey being done via Engage Winona. Surveys can be completed on-line, located at the Engage Winona website as follows:

<https://www.engagewinona.org/portfolio/your-input-on-winona-countys-pandemic-recovery/>

Commissioner Kovecsi provided the following on the new jail project:

- The bidding process has begun with all bids due in by August 19<sup>th</sup>
- The Winona County Board will consider all incoming bids on August 31<sup>st</sup>
- Ground breaking ceremony likely to occur in September, exact date to be determined and announced
- The current jail structure can be used while the new structure is being built
- Project completion and occupancy is estimated for June, 2023

Juvenile Justice Supervision Follow-up

Karen shared a Request for Board Action (RFBA) is being drafted for inclusion on the 8/24/2021 County Board Agenda requesting the County Board support the recommendation that the Health & Human Services Advisory Committee assist in mapping a current state of prevention and early intervention services continuum and provide a proposal for a future state of prevention services and early intervention continuum for all children at risk of out-of-home-placement. The thought is the Health & Human Services Advisory committee is community based and well represented with a mix of community members and professionals that can bring a unique perspective to addressing prevention and early intervention.

It was suggested other stakeholders be included in future planning discussions and consideration of an email invite be drafted to help engage stakeholders to provide input into system improvements.

County Board Approval of Future Agenda Item to Discuss Content of Human Rights Commission Resolution

The County Board cannot adopt such a resolution as it goes against state statute. A RFBA is being drafted for inclusion on the 8/24/2021 County Board Agenda requesting the County Board support the recommendation that the Health & Human Services Advisory Committee assist with mapping current prevention and early intervention services and provide a proposal for a future state prevention and early intervention continuum.

Winona County COVID-19 Response Update

Winona County Public Health Manager, Melanie Tatge provided the Committee with an update on Winona County's COVID-19 response. [Click here](#) for a recap of the updates provided.

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Updates from Committee Members

Jen will update the Committee at the September meeting on the progress of hiring two mental health professionals for the Alternative Response Team (ART), along with a full status update on the development/progress of Alternative Response programming.

Marie reminded committee members of the availability of rental assistance via RentHelp.MN. The CJCC met with Winona landlords on 8/4/2021 to discuss Section 8 and available rent help resources.

Ruth shared video resources on the affects trauma has on issues of addiction and/or depression ~ “The Wisdom of Trauma” and “Step into the Circle”. Ruth will forward videos links to Kendra for sending out to the full Committee.

Next Meeting

The next Winona County Health and Human Services Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for September 14, 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 committee members, the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Kendra Mann.*