



Combined Community Services Board Meeting May 22, 2024

The Combined Community Services Board convened hybrid on Wednesday, May 22, 2024. Members and attendees joined the hybrid meeting in Coggs Room 104, 1220 W. Vliet St, Milwaukee, WI 53205, with video conference option available for those attending via Microsoft TEAMS.

Members Present:

Dennise Lavrenz, *Chair*
Delores Sallis, *Parent University*
Supervisor Felisia Martin
Cindy Bentley
Tiffany Payne

Members Excused:

Supervisor Priscilla Coggs-Jones

Staff Present:

Shakita LaGrant McClain, *DHHS*
Marietta Luster, *DHHS*
Matt Fortman
Michael Bonk
Cleopatra Castaneda
Anouvong Chanthavixay, *DHHS*
Tina Anderson

Attendees from the Public

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Chair Dennise Lavrenz called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m., Quorum was present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MARCH 27, 2024, COMBINED COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The March 27, 2024, Meeting Minutes were approved.
Moved Cindy Bentley, Second Delores Sallis

III. 2025 MILWAUKEE COUNTY BUDGET: Matt Fortman

Matt Fortman provided an overview of the 2025 Budget for Milwaukee County. The 2024 increase in sales tax will create additional revenue which will go towards funding legacy pension obligations. The increased sales tax will also eliminate the need to cut services but also means the county cannot expand services. This means, there will be a flat tax levy target for 2025. A budget problem Milwaukee County is trying to resolve is the need to increase provider rates while not having the funding to do so.

The 2025 budget focuses on access to services, provider network enhancements, mitigating the impacts of inflation, expanding prevention work, continuing prefunding programs, opiate settlement funded programs and staff supports.

In 2025, the Children's Mental Health programming will undergo a major change. The program model will shift to crisis intervention and comprehensive community services. The actual services provided will not change but the financial aspect of things will change a lot.

The 2025 Milwaukee County Budget is currently in the departmental requested budget phase. The 2025 budget will be prepared in July then submitted to the County Executive. The County Executive will then make his contributions to the budget and from there it is turned into the County Board, in October.

IV. 2023 ANNUAL REPORT: Shakita LaGrant-McClain

Last week Milwaukee County had a groundbreaking at JFS, Woodale in Brown Deer. This is a supportive housing project where 25% of the units will be for individuals with disabilities. The County gave about \$2.5 million for that project. Last week, The County Board also looked at communities for development in Franklin for persons with disabilities and will be providing funding for that. The housing for Franklin will also be inclusive for both individuals with disabilities as well as families.

Director Shakita LaGrant-McClain shared a PowerPoint presentation to the CCSB members on the 2023 Annual Report.

V. AREA AGENCY ON AGING PLAN: Daniel Idzikowski

Daniel Idzikowski was unable to attend, subject to be revisited later.

VI. Children Youth and Family Services Support: Anouvong Chanthavixay

The CLTS waiver program continues to grow and be promoted. Birth to 3 has a family event on Friday June 21st at Greenfield Park, picnic area #1, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Dual enrollment continues to grow and is working to expand the dual enrollment program by adding other agencies to handle the load of the families enrolled.

Last week, 30 families were sent to the Circle of Life event.

Internally, the Children's program will continue to grow and support families on the waitlist. More than the five outside agencies will be hired to help with the waitlist.

VII. WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

- a) Introducing new CCSB members, Supervisor Felisia Martin and Shirley Drake

Shirley Drake was not in attendance for this meeting. Supervisor Felisia Martin introduced herself to the board. Supervisor Martin first joined the board in April 2018, and has been re-elected three times. She is currently vice chair of the Audit Committee. She is also part of the Parks & Culture and Economic Development committee. The CCSB members then introduced themselves individually to Supervisor Felisia Martin.

The CCSB will continue to fill the remaining 2 vacancies by collaborating with Tim Schabo and the County Executive.

VIII. ROUND ROBIN

Dr. Marietta Luster was congratulated on her retirement and recognized for the support she has given CCSB. Dr. Luster spoke on how crucial the CCSB is to the community and individually thanked each board member for their advocacy, getting the word out to the community and moving the vision forward.

Michael Bonk introduced himself to CCSB as the new, Deputy Administrator. In his former role with the Office of Persons with Disabilities, Michael informed the board about the available Wil-O-Way rental sites. The sites hold 180 people and are available for rent to the public.

CCSB will have a table at the ADA Celebration that takes place on July 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Gordon Park.

Cleopatra Castaneda, director of Adult Protective Services, spoke on how APS has added advanced workers to help give warm hand offs for those calling the ADRC so customers can be helped more efficiently, by not having to call back. APS will be hiring 5 new Home Service Workers (HSWs) by June 10th to help with the workload. The current housing crisis is impacting numbers. Cleopatra informed board members about the World Elder Abuse Day celebration occurring at Wilson Senior Center on June 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Tina Anderson provided an update for the ADRC. She spoke about the issues at Lincoln Park pertaining to access, accessibility and bus accessibility for people with disabilities.

26 new positions are being created within the ADRC. One of the positions include a youth transition team to help transition kids earlier from kid to adult services. The ADRC will work with all school transition coordinators, not just Milwaukee Public Schools.

A behavioral health position within the ADRC has been created to help bridge the gap between mental health and disabilities that are unseen. A larger team is needed for the ADRC to help with its call volume. Now that word has gotten out, the call workload has increased. Tina is currently working on an advertising campaign that will convey what the ADRC is and how they can assist the public.

Delores Sallis reported that her organization, Parent University, is still holding its technology class for seniors and people with disabilities. The current class size is 60 people. Delores is currently working on a memory camp for people with Alzheimer's to help combat social isolation. She invites members of CCSB to check out a free showing of play, *Unforgiven* on June 15th at the PAC.

In her update, Cindy Bentley reported she attended Circles last week and this week was at Employment First. She is promoting her book, *Spirit of a Champion*. Next week, Cindy celebrates 40 years of being out of an institution. She serves on 9 boards. Cindy encourages all CCSB members to join in her celebration on May 31st from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the African American Women's Center.

Tiffany Payne has completed the transportation survey with Milwaukee County. She has been participating in focus groups that center on women with disabilities and the effect on aging.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The next Combined Community Service Board meeting will be July 24, 2024, a hybrid meeting, to be held in Coggs room 104 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Domonique Klett
Clerical Specialist I