

The Voice of Lafayette County Human Services

CONGRATULATIONS to the Mental Health Clinic on its Certification! Great Job!!!

A verification visit was conducted at Lafayette County of Human Services on May 31st. The focus of the visit was to review the compliance with DHS 35.

We are *thrilled* to report that the Clinic was found to be in transition to DHS 35 with some improvement toward compliance needed, and the clinic’s certification was extended through the remaining 18 months of the certification period with an expiration date of October 31, 2012.

There were notes regarding some improvement toward compliance, and NO additional citations were issued. An additional verification visit is required in six months to review the progress toward compliance.

Nonetheless, congratulations to our Mental Health Clinic and Great Job to you all!



In this issue

Clinic Certification	1
Avoid the Despair	1
LCHS Calendar	2
Director’s Viewpoint	3
A Look at Our Employees	3
MA Transportation	4
Farewell.....	4
ADRC	4
Recipe—Doug’s Sweet Potato Salad	5
Word Search.....	5

Avoid the Despair

When families become distressed and come to human services, the enormity of their needs often stresses the workers. The problems the family faces often require material and personal resources in excess of what the agency can provide. This places the worker in a position of being under pressure from both sides – the clients and the agency.

How surprised would you be to realize that many of us tend to adopt the hopeless family’s belief. When we intervene with families, in order for a family’s issue to change, the family has to create a different story for themselves or at least to allow some changes to be made around the doubts about their

abilities and resources.

How should I guide the family? Do these two steps.

1. If you focus on people’s weaknesses, they lose confidence. So, furnish evidence of the client’s strengths and focus on those qualities!
2. Families in distress exhibit poor problem solving skills. These families hardly ever make use of imagination in problem solving, and that their way of thinking tends to be simplistic and concrete. So, get creative and brainstorm ideas and identify resources.

-Shane Schuhmacher,
LCHS Director



The design & layout of “The Voice” was done by Editor Joy McQuaid, and sent to it’s recipients on June 30, 2011.




LCHS Calendar

May

- 4 COA Advisory Committee Meeting, 1:00 PM
- 9 Human Services Board Meeting, 6:15 PM
- 12 Department Head Meeting, 8:30 AM
- 18 All Agency meeting, 11:00 AM— Noon



June

- 9 Department Head Meeting, 8:30 AM
- 9 - 12 Darlington Canoe Festival 
- 15 All Agency meeting, 11:00 AM—Noon
- 29 Farewell Gathering for Trisha, Noon

July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 <i>Closed for 4th of July Holiday</i>	5	6 COA Advisory Comm. Mtg., 1 PM	7	8	9
10	11 LCCHS Board Mtg., 6:15 PM	12	13	14 LC FAIR Dept. Head Mtg., 8:30 AM	15 LC FAIR	16 LC FAIR
17 LC FAIR	18	19	20 All Agency Mtg., 11:00 AM	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 LCCHS Picnic, Noon	30
31						

August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Dept. Head Mtg., 8:30 MA	12	13
14	15 LCCHS Board Mtg., 6:15 PM	16	17 All Agency Mtg., 11:00 AM	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Director's Viewpoint



If you have not heard, the past several weeks have offered up some wonder around what and how we will be moving forward.

The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families has indicated that low-income workers will find it harder to make ends meet, now that legislation reducing the compensation of public sector workers has gone into effect. Changes in the biennial budget and budget repair legislation (Act 10) will reduce the incomes and increase costs for most public workers, with working-class public workers taking the biggest hit. These changes are regressive, hitting lowest income workers the hardest. Low-income public sector workers may take a hit to their family budget of as much as 15 percent, whereas public sector workers earning a little more and in a different set of circumstances may lose about half that much. Yikes! These changes could push a family that is barely scraping by into insolvency. This is a tragic issue.

The tragedy is how we are exacerbating for many whom we work a situation where you may find them being led down a dark path of adversity. A path riddled with traumatic events and chronic losses so painful that to deal with them would risk the disintegration of the family and a terror so immense that survival depended on tolerating what has happened and continues to happen from generation to generation: poverty, beatings, sexual abuse, assaults, chronic neglect, mental illness, etc. Despite the assistance and services we may provide, nothing has changed. Really? Imagine what it would look like if it was safe to stop and reflect on how we are interacting with a person to see if we are doing everything possible to make that particular conversation the highlight to that person's day and engage them and encourage them to focus on what they need to do for themselves. When you pass through that idea it is not necessary to feel incredibly loving, as you hear what I have to say and feel compelled to act on it. All I believe is that we will be having plenty of opportunity to change, to practice and to connect more with people in the upcoming months.

There is no doubt we will need to tighten up the reigns and hold on tight as we will come to understand how cutbacks will present themselves to Human Services. Drilling down deeper from an over arching perspective, our income maintenance program is looking at some significant changes. Income maintenance (IM) refers to the eligibility determination and management functions associated with several federal and state programs. The biennial budget changes the way counties must administer IM programming. The Legislature adopted a model created by the Wisconsin County Human Services Association and Wisconsin Counties Association where, no later than October 1, 2011, all counties will need to organize into no more than 10 multi-county consortia for the purpose of administering IM programs. So, because it is critical for Lafayette County to understand what is contained in the budget bill, what is required to form consortia, etc., we will be participating in a training session on July 7, 2011.

Well, steady as she goes. We need to consider our unique contributions to the people and communities we touch, share your ideas and recognize how your peers are acting out our mission, vision, and values. I know I have been witness to many situations and have done my best to put the moment in context for the people who have been behaving in such an enriching and safe way.

Finally, I would like to invite you to notice the collaboration that I have with Sherry Kudronowicz, Debbie Siegenthaler, and Ela Kakade (and, I believe that we are planning to connect and include Cathy Krentz). We have been connecting around our programs and how we can collaborate and will continue to collaborate.

Sustainability is achieved through collaboration. So, as organized relationships, clear boundaries and commitment to the county's outputs (i.e., services, programs, etc.) become bright and vibrant so does our shared interests and coalition.

- Shane Schuhmacher, Lafayette County Human Services Director

A LOOK AT OUR EMPLOYEES

HEIDI BYRNES – *Mental Health Coordinator*



***“It has been an honor to serve Lafayette County residents in their well being”
- Heidi Byrnes***

I graduated in 1990 from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville with a major in Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice. I earned my Master’s Degree in Applied Psychology in May of 1994 at Lora's College in Dubuque, IA.

In 1994, I was hired at Lafayette County Human Services, and worked in the Community Support Program (CSP) serving Lafayette County residents who suffered from chronic and persistent mental illnesses. In 1996, I joined the Family Services Unit and Outpatient Mental Health Clinic. I had a dual role as a Therapist and Case Manager. I also conducted Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations. Eventually, my position evolved into a full-time Out Patient Mental Health Clinic position that I currently hold.

I have been married for 12 years, and my husband and I have three wonderful children. We enjoy watching movies, biking and boating.

MA Transportation – Change Over



On July 1, 2011, ForwardHealth will begin using a new non-emergency medical transportation manager, LogistiCare Solutions, LLC, to arrange all rides to covered appointments. LogistiCare calling may begin on **June 17, 2011**, to arrange all rides to medical appointments that are scheduled for July 1, 2011 or after. LogistiCare's toll-free telephone number for arranging medical rides is 1-866-907-1493.

The change in transportation services does **NOT** affect eligibility, enrollment, or benefits for WI Medicaid or Badger-Care Plus. If clients have no other way to get a ride, members can get a ride through LogistiCare to covered services. However, if neighbors, friends, relatives, or voluntary organizations can provide a ride to the appointments, then the client is not eligible for a ride through LogistiCare.

The change does NOT apply to:

- Members who live in a nursing home;
- Members enrolled in Family Care;
- Members enrolled in BadgerCare Plus Core Plan, Badger Care Plus Basic Plan, or Senior Care are not eligible to have non-emergency rides.

Calls for a ride must be made at least two days prior to a routine appointment; if there is an urgent appointment and the client can't wait two days to go to an appointment, a ride may be scheduled within three hours. Regularly scheduled appointments can be made (i.e., dialysis).

“Where’s My Ride” can be called if the ride is late picking up the client; the number is 1-866-904-1494.

-Janet George, Support Unit Manager

Farewell



I would like to thank the staff at LCHSD for a great 8 years of working together! I have gained a wealth of knowledge and experience that I will carry with me as I continue to work with new families and individuals in Iowa County. I have really enjoyed being part of a group of people who really care and serve Lafayette County in so many wonderful ways. Keep up your hard work and dedication!

-Trisha Marklein, Economic Support Specialist

ADRC

“Reminiscing With Old Friends About The Lafayette County Fair”

This year the Lafayette County Fair and Live Well Lafayette Coalition is providing an afternoon of “Reminiscing with Old Friends about the Lafayette County Fair.” This event will be held on **Friday, July 15 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** at the octagon building at the fairgrounds. Admission will be free and transportation will be provided by Lafayette County Human Services Aging Unit. This event will offer old time music by Rosalie Huntington donated by the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, root beer floats, old time photos and more... **Please join us at the Fair!**

-Kate Chambers, ADRC

Recipe—Doug’s Sweet Potato Salad

- 3 Sweet Potatoes
- 2-3 Celery Stalks
- 1# Radishes
- 2 Small Onions
- Yellow Mustard
- Whole-Grain Mustard
- 8 oz. Bread and Butter Pickles
- Mayonnaise or Miracle Whip
- Salt to Taste



Peel sweet potatoes and chop into approx. 1 ½ inch cubes. Keep covered with water to prevent oxidizing until ready to cook. Add cubed potatoes to a pot with rolling boil. Do not cook for more than five minutes. Drain and place in freezer while finishing prep.

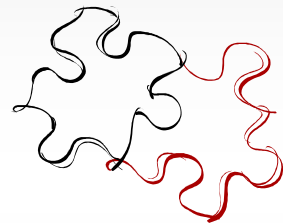
Wash and coarsely chop the celery stalks. Wash, cut radishes in half, and then slice medium fine. Finely chop the pickles. Finely chop both onions. Add all vegetables to large bowl and mix together. Add enough mayo/Miracle Whip to coat the vegetables, approx. 1-1 ½ cups. Add approx. 1/3 cup of yellow mustard and approx. 3 ounces of whole-grain mustard. Salt to taste and stir in cooled sweet potatoes. Keep covered and chill.

From the Kitchen of: Janet George

Word Search - Spring - Summer 2011



- | | |
|-----------|------------------|
| BARBQUE | CAMPFIRE |
| CAMPING | COOKOUT |
| FESTIVALS | FIREWORKS |
| FISHING | FUN |
| GAMES | GOLFING |
| HEAT | INDEPENDENCE DAY |
| LAWNMOWER | PARADES |
| PICNICS | SMORES |
| SWIMMING | TULIPS |
| VACATION | VOLLEYBALL |



The Voice of Lafayette County Human Services

LCHS Management

Shane Schuhmacher, Director
 Janet George, Support Unit Manager
 Kate Chambers, ADRC & Economic Support Supervisor
 Brenda Poss, Family Services Unit Manager
 Christine Kelly, Behavioral Health Services Unit Manager
 Kristine Brunkow, Executive Secretary

LCHS Board

David Hammer, Chair
 Leon Wolfe
 Gerald Heimann
 Connie Hull
 Janet West
 Sherry Crist
 Brandee Blaine

Lafayette County Human Services

627 Main Street
 Darlington, WI 53530
 Phone: 608-776-4800
 Fax: 608-776-4914