

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 13, 2024

TIME OF MEETING: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE OF MEETING: Oshkosh Human Services Building. Room 033, 220 Washington Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Members Present: In-person—Kate Pfaendtner (Chair), Jan Olson (Vice Chair), Jim Lauer, Harold Singstock, Virtual—Elizabeth Jones, KristL Laux (Winnebago County District 2 Supervisor) Conley Hanson (Winnebago County District 26 Supervisor)

Members Excused: Rob Paterson, Sue Ertmer, , Brook Slick, Tanisha Alvarado, Tamar Mathwig,

Staff Present: Beth Roberts, Brian Nagler, Alisa Richetti, Lori Duclon

Others Present: Rhonda Lechner (Regional Quality Specialist, Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources)

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by **Chair Kate Pfaendtner**. After establishing that a quorum was present, members provided self-introductions.

1. **Public Comments:** N/A.
2. **Approve Minutes of the April 8, 2024, ADRC Committee Meeting:** **Jim Lauer** indicated a correction was needed on the spelling of his name on the April minutes. **Harold Singstock** made a motion to approve the amended April minutes, motion seconded by **Jan Olson**. Amended minutes approved by Committee.
3. **Dementia Updates – Alisa Richetti:**
 - **Meeting with Law Enforcement and Community Professionals** – Alisa reported that an in-person meeting was held at the Coughlin Center consisting of staff from the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), Economic Support (ES), Adult Protective Services (APS), along with the Inter-Disciplinary Team consisting of first responders and community professionals. At the meeting, Carrie Peters presented information on Project Safe Response which is currently being utilized by both Outagamie and Calumet Counties. Project Safe Response is a registry which provides first responders and law enforcement with important information regarding specific response methods for individuals with dementia or cognitive impairments who have been registered.
 - **Dementia Awareness Workgroup** – The Dementia Awareness Workgroup met with representatives including Outagamie, Calumet, and Waupaca County Dementia Care Specialists; Fox Valley Memory Project; Rosalynn Carter Reach Program; Julie Feil of Neuroscience Group; and Courtney Tienor of St. Paul Elder Services.
 - **Powerful Tools for the Caregiver Class** – New class for caregivers of loved ones with dementia or other needs. This free, six-week class provides tools on self-help for caregivers, communication with medical professionals, and working with a loved one who needs care. Classes are held at Fox Valley Memory Project Goodwill Center and respite is provided.
 - **Caregiver Conference** – Conference will be held in November at the UW-Oshkosh. There will be a presentation on dementia, caregiving, and communication. Booths will include helpful information when attending doctor appointments, obtaining documentation on power of attorney,

end of life planning with a funeral home, information on home care/hospice agencies, and the virtual dementia tour will also be available.

- Virtual Dementia Tour in Winneconne – The virtual dementia tour is being brought to St. Mary's Church in Winneconne through ThedaCare-Heritage.
- Wisconsin Alzheimer's Conference – Alisa attended the conference last week and next week will be sharing information from the conference with ADRC staff through a lunch and learn. 1) In the future only a blood test will be needed to detect dementia. 2) Presentation by a woman whose husband suffered from younger onset dementia has led to her children forming Lorenzo's House which pairs children ages 4-40 as supports. 3) Group is being formed on capturing statewide data on dementia care specialists.
- Elder Abuse Awareness Event – Event will be held June 12th at the County Administration Building (CAB) from 11:00-12:30. Speakers include Winnebago County Exec Jon Doemel, Mike Rohrkaste of Fox Valley Memory Project (dementia programs presentation), and Mike Sewall (fraud presentation). ADRC staff will be available as well as documentation for power of attorney. The virtual dementia tour will also be available at the event.

4. **Office for Resource Center Development – Rhonda Lechner:**

- **Rhonda** shared that she is a regional quality specialist currently working with eight different ADRCs – Winnebago, Calumet, Outagamie and Waupaca, Portage, Marquette, and southwest Wisconsin (Adams, Green Lake, Waushara). She provides technical assistance with enrollment/disenrollment issues, residency questions, concerns about managed care organizations (MCOs) and independent consulting firms, reviews ADRC quality improvement projects, conducts required observations and trainings of ADRC specialists, and assists with time reporting requirements. She is also on a variety of workgroups involving forms and processes. She assisted in the planning of a recent conference for aging, disability, and independent living.
- Members also discussed the statewide organizational levels of ADRCs. **Beth Roberts** will distribute the State ADRC organizational chart to committee members. ADRCs do not have a direct lobbyist; however, the Wisconsin Counties Association does and legislators can be invited to ADRC boards. Beth shared that Janet Zander who is an advocacy coordinator for Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) will be attending an upcoming Committee meeting.

5. **Meeting Location – All:** **Beth Roberts** stated that before the hybrid attendance option, meetings had been on a rotation of two being held in Oshkosh and then one at Neenah. Members indicated their preferences as follows: **Jim Lauer** – in-person, **KristL Laux** – in-person, **Kate Pfaendtner** – agreeable to either option, **Elizabeth Jones** – Neenah / Oshkosh via Zoom. Hybrid meetings will be continued. **Harold Singstock** made a motion to table the discussion on meeting location until July, seconded by **Jim Lauer**. Jim will check to see if Aging Committee members he knows from the Neenah and Menasha area are interested in attending the meeting. Harold stated the Human Services Board is also discussing this same matter.

6. **Caregiver Wage Event:** Event is being held on Saturday, July 20th in the Winnebago County Human Services Oshkosh office at around 3:00 p.m. A gentleman by the name of Carl is traveling by wheelchair throughout the state to promote awareness of caregiver wages. Documents of testimonials can be given to Carl at the event.

7. **Reports - Committee Member Updates:**

Brian Nagler – Brian reported the following updates:

- 60 enrollments in April and 87 unduplicated functional screens.
- Ashley has returned from leave.
- Governor Evers declared the month of May as ADRC month.
- Brian recently sat in on a Zoom call regarding client tracking. In the State of Wisconsin in 2023, there were 77,000 individuals served throughout the state. Individuals received on

average 10.3 contacts when going from enrollment counseling to enrollment in a Family Care program.

Lori Duclon – Lori reported the following updates:

- A new COVID booster is now available. Eligibility: Age 65+, four months from last COVID immunization.
- Colds are starting to come around again. Reminder to stay safe by taking preventative measures in spreading illnesses.
- Ashley Beattie-Lokken will be replacing the position held by Joanne Murphy-Spice's.
- Mind Over Mind Class – Class being held in July for women to work on bowel and bladder strengthening. Limit 4 attendees per class. Class is three sessions and is held at the Menasha Senior Center.
- Stepping On – Tomorrow Lori begins training for Stepping On which is an evidence-based class for fall prevention. Classes will be brought to our community and Housing Authority buildings in the near future.

Beth Roberts – Beth reported the following updates:

- Wheelchair Wash – Event is being held August 10th.
- New part-time project staff member has started who is assisting with coordination of resources.

Elizabeth Jones – Liz reported that some individuals who had assisted in planning the yearly Walk for Autism are working to plan an upcoming event.

Conley Hanson – Conley reported the clarification that terms for him and KristL Laux began immediately upon the County Board granting approval at the last meeting.

KristL Laux – No updates to report.

Jan Olson – Jan reported that Harry Christianson (brother to former Committee Member Pete Christianson) may possibly be interested in joining the Committee.

Kate Pfaendtner – No updates to report.

Jim Lauer – Jim reported at the Menasha meeting is having a 2-hour class to learn how to utilize the buses. This will start with a classroom setting session followed by taking a bus route in-person. Jim asked whether the Committee could do likewise. **Elizabeth Jones** added similarly the Appleton Airport hosts an event for individuals with autism to become accustomed to being on a plane and wondered whether that could be expanded to anyone wanting to learn such skills.

Harold Singstock – Harold reported the following updates:

- Harold inquired to **Lori Duclon** whether Winnebago County continues to have problems over with COVID-19. Lori responded that COVID has now mutated into being a respiratory virus with less potency. COVID numbers are only being tracked through hospitalization rates and in wastewater. COVID continues to be more contagious than a regular cold and testing remains an option.
- Harold suggested that a copy of the ADRC agenda be sent to various agencies in an effort to improve communication with portions of the county including Neenah, Menasha, Omro, and Winneconne.
- Harold expressed concerns over federal regulations dictating nursing home staff to resident ratios and felt this should be a future agenda item. **Beth Roberts** responded that there have always been federal regulations to ensure that nursing homes cannot admit patients without having enough staff. With the current caregiver crisis, additional monitoring methods are being looked into.

8. **Community Beat:** N/A

9. **Future Agenda Items:** Federal regulations for nursing home staff/resident ratios.

Beth Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting, **Jan Olson** seconded. **Chair Kate Pfaendtner** adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

Next meeting: June 10, 2024