

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Approved Minutes

DATE: November 11, 2009

TIME: 8:30 A.M.

PLACE: Fillmore Street Complex

PRESENT: Joyce Kortman, James Holtrop, James Holtvluwer, Mathew Hehl, Robert Karsten

STAFF & GUESTS: Donna Cornwell, Human Services Coordinating Council Director; Lynne Doyle, CMH; Dr. Paul Heidel, Medical Director; Lisa Sefanovsky, Health Officer; Harold McDermed, MSU Extension; Jessica Kinser, Management Financial Analyst; Greg Rappleye, Corporation Counsel, Alan Vanderberg, Administrator; Marcia Knol, Health Dept.

SUBJECT: CONSENT ITEMS

HHS 09-017 Motion: To approve the agenda of today as presented and to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2009, meeting as presented
Moved by: Holtrop UNANIMOUS

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Youth Mentoring Program Update: Harold McDermed from MSU Extension presented an update on the MSU Extension January 4-H Youth Mentoring Program. There are 20 young people in the program who have already been matched with a mentor, five have been matched with mentors in-training; twenty-five young people are not yet matched and are on a waiting list.
2. Local Public Health Award: Lisa Stefanovsky, the Health Officer of Ottawa County, informed the Committee that the Ottawa County Health Department had received the Community Health Director's Award for the Department's Emergency Preparedness response to the H1N1 flu outbreak in April/May, 2009. Lisa emphasized that receiving the Award was the product of a cooperative effort amount a number of community partners. The Department received a \$1,000 reward, and a trophy, which will be presented at the Ottawa County Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 24, 2009.
3. H1N1 Preparedness: Dr. Paul Heidel and Lisa Stefanovsky provided an update on the status of the H1N1 outbreak in Ottawa County. Because there is a shortage of vaccine, the Health Department is releasing vaccine as it arrives to address the needs of specific at-risk populations for whom the particular type of

vaccine might be most appropriate (infants, the elderly, persons with compromised immune systems, etc.). As vaccine become available, it will also be distributed to doctor's offices. The department will also hold public clinics as soon as an anticipated 500 doses are received for that purpose. The Department is working with the Sheriff's Office and local partners to coordinate these events.

4. Department Updates:

a. Health Department – Lisa Stefanovsky reported that the Letter of Intent to create a County Health Plan will go to the Board of Commissioners for approval at its meeting on Tuesday, November 24, 2009. The approval of the Letter had been previously delayed to allow local hospitals to evaluate the impact of the proposal on hospital resources.

b. CMH - Lynne Doyle, Deputy Director of the Ottawa County Community Mental Health Agency, reported that Ottawa County would undergo only a 2% cut in its appropriation of State general fund dollars for mental health services in fy 2009-2010. Lynne credited the efforts of Dr. Brashears in working with the legislature and the Michigan Department of Community Health for limiting the loss of funding for the County. Lynne also noted that the Agency is working with those clients whose services will be reduced to find alternate services and opportunities for treatment.

c. MSU – Harold McDermed from MSU Extension noted that cuts in funding to Extension services will necessitate a state-wide reorganization of the agency. A meeting is scheduled this month in Grayling to discuss those changes.

d. Human Services Coordinating Council – Donna Cornwell, Director of the Ottawa County Coordinating Council, reported on reorganization efforts to assure that gaps are filled in the provision of services to the mentally ill. A chart was presented showing gaps in services and methods of service delivery and proposals to eliminate those gaps. Additional funding has been obtained by Ottawa County Michigan Works!/Community Action Agency to address homelessness. A "Soup for All" fund raising event for the homeless will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2009 from 11:30-1:00 at the Holland Civic Center and at St. Patrick's Church in Grand Haven. The cost is \$10 per person. Proceeds go to the Homeless Prevention Endowments of the Holland/Zeeland and Grand Haven Area Community Foundations.

e. Comments:

Commissioner Karsten noted that it was difficult to find and access the 2-1-1 website. Lynne Doyle noted that there are also problems in navigating the site once it is found. Better training of 2-1-1 staff may be advised, and also a link to the County (MiOttawa) website.

Commissioner Karsten also noted that “Soup for All” poster was confusing, and may lead the public to believe that the program is a one-day soup kitchen, rather than a fundraiser. Donna Cornwell said that she would raise these concerns with the organizers of the event.

Alan Vanderberg, Ottawa County Administrator, noted that efforts are underway to transfer the responsibilities for reporting on substance abuse funding and programs from the Lakeshore Coordinating Council to the County. If necessary, the County will work directly with the State to assure that the reporting requirements are met.

SUBJECT: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.