



608-742-9233  
888-742-9233  
FAX: 608-742-9277  
TDD: 608-742-9229  
E-MAIL: ADRC @co.columbia.wi.us  
WEBSITE: www.co.columbia.wi.us

111 East Mullett Street  
P.O. Box 136  
Portage, WI 53901-0136

**AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) BOARD  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Aging & Disability Resource Center Board was called to order at 9:00 AM by Vice Chair Eric Shimpach. The meeting was legally advertised. A quorum was present.

**ROLL**

ADRC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Darlene Anderson-Prest; Allan Baumgartner; Danny Beard; Adaora Bilse; Shelby Carter; Sarah Lochner; Rosemary Minnema; Eric Shimpach; Jolene Wheeler, Kayla Wolff.

H&HS STAFF PRESENT: Kathleen Cummings; Heather Gove; Sue Lynch.

OTHERS: Cathy Karls, Accounting; Jesica Walter, Accounting; Alyssa Smith.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 AGENDA OF THE AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD.

Motion by Danny Beard, second by Shelby Carter. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE JULY 15, 2021 MINUTES OF THE AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD MEETING.

Motion by Danny Beard, second by Sarah Lochner. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

None.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS & COMPENSATORY TIME**

Director Sue Lynch presented the financial and compensatory reports.

**2022 RETIREMENT AND REPLACEMENT OF COMPTROLLER AND ASSISTANT COMPTROLLER**

Assistant Comptroller Cathy Karls explained the process the County Board will follow to replace the Comptroller and Assistant Comptroller when they retire on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 - PAGE 2**

**TRIP MEMBER NOMINATION**

Director Sue Lynch explained she is actively seeking a new member for The Ride Improvement Program (TRIP) Committee. She currently does not have a nomination.

**ADVOCACY/EDUCATION UPDATE**

Director Lynch shared that Senate Bill 17, now known as 2021 Wisconsin Act 76 passed in August. This law increases the penalty for sexual assault of an elderly person, recognizes physical abuse of an elderly person as a crime, creates a procedure for courts to freeze or seize a defendant's assets if charged with financial exploitation involving an elderly person, and allows an elderly person seeking a restraining order to appear in court via telephone or live audio visual.

**TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATE**

Director Lynch shared the federal mask mandate for the transportation program has been extended to January 2022. The ADRC continues to only offer single ride medical trips due to the pandemic. Director Lynch reported quarterly numbers for the program. Reach Out Lodi is now providing medical transportation services for Lodi residents. The 5310 grant application for 2022 was submitted at the end of August and requested two additional vans as the current fleet is quite aged, with ongoing repair costs. Director Lynch has been reconciling the prior transportation state audit to make sure that the corrective action plan was completed. Director Lynch responded to questions explaining the transportation services allows caregivers or spouses to ride along and that the single rider transport is not a federal or state mandate but rather a decision made by the ADRC.

**NUTRITION PROGRAM UPDATE**

Director Lynch shared the ADRC continues to recruit for volunteer home delivered meal drivers and substitute meal site managers. Director Lynch has been working with board members and HHS leadership to try to identify key community leaders who might help spread the word about this need. Outreach regarding the need and opportunity was completed earlier this summer to service clubs and churches in the Lodi, Poynette and Columbus where need is most significant. ADRC staff continues to fill in driving and as meal site managers. Statistics shared show an increase in 1500 meals a month since 2019. Director Lynch explained it is hard to predict how much of the growth is related to the pandemic or what the future will hold for the program. The ADRC is working on prioritizing consumers during the annual re-assessments with the hopes to transition consumers who are able to drive safely to the carry-out option. Mandatory annual training will take place in November for site managers and volunteers. Board members discussed the possibility of reaching out to former volunteer drivers from the Divine Savior Meals on Wheels programs.

**AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 - PAGE 3**

Director Lynch explained some of the volunteers from that program were hesitant to volunteer for the ADRC because of the more intensive volunteer application process, which is also being analyzed for areas of simplification.

**NUTRITION WAITLIST UPDATE**

Director Lynch reported the waitlist has not been implemented at this time, but may need to be a consideration in the future.

**PREVENTION PROGRAM UPDATE**

Director Lynch reported the Stepping On class at Riverwood Eagle's Nest in Wisconsin Dells was held in August in collaboration with the ADRC of Sauk County. A Stepping On class in Portage started September 13<sup>th</sup>. No further classes are scheduled for 2021.

**CAREGIVER PROGRAM UPDATE**

Director Lynch reported the Caregiver Program encompasses three smaller grants that provide respite service for an identified caregiver. The current barrier is staffing amongst agencies who provide these services. Director Lynch reaches out every few weeks to the existing agencies to inquire about openings. The Caregiver Retreats tentatively scheduled for this fall are on hold.

**BENEFIT SPECIALIST UPDATE**

Director Lynch reported Medicare open enrollment is from October 15<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>. The Elder Benefit Specialist has begun outreach in preparation for open enrollment and will spend time in Portage, Lodi and Columbus. The Disability Benefit Specialist has also been training to assist the Elder Benefit Specialist during this time. The Disability Benefit Specialist is preparing outreach and marketing tools to help grow the Disability Benefits program.

**ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES UPDATE**

Director Lynch shared there are two full time Adult Protective Services (APS) social worker positions. One APS social worker has transitioned to another division within Health and Human Services. That social worker completed annual reviews of wards in under guardianship and protective placement orders. As a social worker, Director Lynch has been able to assist with APS cases. The current APS social worker is handling more complex and legal cases. The ADRC is continuing to recruit for an APS social worker, but has had no applications to date. Director Lynch shared 2021 APS case numbers to date.

**AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 - PAGE 4**

**ADRC Director's Report**

Director Lynch reviewed Information and Assistance (IA) work load data based on 2021 incoming calls. Calls to date have increased. The majority of the calls are in regards to: applying for publicly funded long-term care programs or information on how to access other public benefits. Unmet needs calls are also recorded as a requirement. The unmet needs calls vary but regard questions about: assistance with utilities, housing, or non-medical homebased services such as respite or personal care services. The number of long-term functional screens, the process to identify persons in need of publicly funded long-term care programs, is at 92 for this quarter, up from 58 last quarter. Total number of calls this quarter to the ADRC is almost 800 calls for each July and August up from 2020 and 2019. Director Lynch meets with staff monthly to make sure staff are able to move cases as quickly as possible to get consumers assistance. The ADRC was notified they will be receiving \$40,000 in funding for a Dementia Care Specialist for fiscal year 2022 as established by a state algorithm. The funding received from the federal program is less than what the state had anticipated. Those counties who already have been receiving funding for a Dementia Care Specialist will remain at the full funding amount. The ADRC will be under contract to fill at least a half-time position with that funding. Director Lynch is working with the county to find a way to meet this requirement. The state has suggested sharing the position with other counties. The ADRC currently has three vacant positions. The current staff has seamlessly stepped up and assisted to make the ADRC run during this time. Funding for programs has not increased in the last decade and yet volume of work has continued to increase, particularly with the Nutrition program. Assistant Comptroller Cathy Karl's shared the current funding for the additional volumes in nutrition program is due to COVID funding, which will continue through 2024. After 2024, the COVID funding will be gone and Columbia County may have issues funding these programs in 2025. Discussion was held on how the state decides how to fund the Dementia Care Specialist.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the Aging & Disability Resource Center Board will be on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in Meeting Rooms 2 & 3, ADRC Entrance, of Health and Human Services at 111 East Mullett Street, Portage, WI 53901.

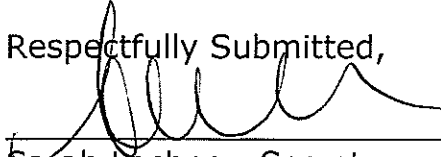
**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:56 a.m.

Motion by Jolene Wheeler, second by Adaora Bilse. Motion carried.

The Columbia County Aging & Disability Resource Center Board will reconvene on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in Meeting Rooms 2 & 3, ADRC Entrance of Health and Human Services, 111 East Mullett Street, Portage, WI 53901.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sarah Lochner, Secretary  
ADRC Board



Kathleen Cummings, Clerk Typist  
Columbia County H&HS

cc: County Board Chair Vern Gove  
County Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair James E. Foley  
County Board 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Koch