

Joint Budget Committee

November 23, 2020
3:00 – 4:30p.m.
City/County Building
Room 113

AGENDA ITEM	MEMBER RESPONSIBLE	ACTION NEEDED	Page
I. Consent Agenda	James Michael Bowers.....	Motion.....	1
A. Human Services Report.....	Sara Hoyle.....		2-9
II. Action Items			
A. Approval of Keno Recommendations.....		Motion	
B. JBC 2021 Chair.....		Motion	
III. Updates			
A. Covid Update.....	All.....	Discussion	
IV. Reports			
A. United Way.....	Rachael Surmick.....	Discussion	
B. Region V.....	C.J. Johnson.....	Discussion	
C. Stronger Safer Neighborhoods.....	Jon Carlson.....	Discussion	
V. Future Meetings			

*Regrets only to jryan@lancaster.ne.gov

Human Services Activity Report

July through October 2020

Data reflects (July through September 2020)

Submitted by: Sara Hoyle, Human Services Director

Homeless Prevention

Human Services continues to be engaged in the Homeless Coalition. This includes representation on the Economic Stability, Project Connect, and the Youth Subcommittees of the Homeless Coalition.

Project Connect is cancelled for 2020 due to Covid-19.

Behavioral Health

Human Services staff continue to serve on the HopeLNK Coalition. Staff also serve on the youth coalition of this committee.

The Youth Crisis Response Coalition continues to be facilitated with a contracted provider through a partnership with Human Services and Region V. Time has been spent this reporting period on attempting to coordinate between the two SAMHSA grants received by CenterPointe and Lutheran Family Services.

Lancaster County received an award in the amount of \$500,000 through the Department of Justice - Juvenile Justice System Enhancements. This grant will provide immediate trauma informed crisis response and evidence-based aftercare community services. Assessment will be completed with all youth and family to screen for suicidal ideologies and victimization. Individualized treatment and safety plans will be developed based on the outcomes of the assessments. Youth and families who will benefit through this funding are:

1. Youth in crisis that have been found to be ineligible for admission to the psychiatric unit;
2. Youth and families experiencing a crisis and contact law enforcement or the warm line;
3. Youth who are brought to shelter, but are too high risk or aggressive to remain there; and
4. Youth who are found who have been reported as a missing or runaway youth.

Lancaster County also received an award in the amount of \$622,883. This is through the Department of Justice - Juvenile Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program. Grant activities will include:

- Development and implementation of a pretrial mental health diversion opportunity for justice involved youth;
- Validated Assessment tool to target justice involved youth with a moderate or high risk of recidivism and need for treatment services;
- Use of treatment interventions validated through empirical evidence to reduce recidivism;
- Development and promotion of effective strategies to identify and reduce risk of harm for youth with mental illnesses.

New Americans

There have been very few new arrivals to Lincoln. The New Americans Taskforce received a Skilled Immigrant Integration Program grant for work in Lancaster County. This will assist new citizens in finding jobs equitable to their home careers and education.

MyCity Academy is set to begin virtually in January. There are currently 6 modules which include: Public Safety, Health and Wellbeing, All About Money, Leadership and Social Capital, City and County Services, Community and Civic Engagement. The program is set to be a 6-week program.

The Gateways to Growth application for research and technical assistance was submitted this reporting period. This is a partnership between Welcoming America and the New American Economy. If awarded, this application not only provides research and/or technical assistance, but awardees also receive a Welcoming Network premium level membership for the calendar year of 2021. The membership allows communities to access additional resources as well as a peer network.

Disproportionate Minority Contact

Lancaster County joined the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE). GARE provides support, educational opportunities and a peer network to drive racial equity work in the community. They provide training on how to incorporate a racial equity toolkit within policy, program and the budget decision-making processes. We are in the process of sharing with management staff and forming a steering committee for this work.

The Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparity Committee met this quarter. We are working with the Black Leaders Movement and the researcher at UNL to share information in a meaningful way. The committee is also working with LSO and LPD to restart a youth police academy and restorative justice training for the SRO’s. After the youth shared their story this summer, they started the committee Collective Voices to assist in advancing their work. This committee is a subcommittee of the RED committee and the youth are devoted to working on the police academy and completing board training, so they can serve on non-profit boards.

Grants/Funding

Time was spent this reporting period meeting with JBC agencies and gaging their interest in seeking assistance from UNL in analyzing their data. Dr. Wiener, his staff, and myself met with each agency multiple times to gather information from them and explain different ways UNL could assist them in analyzing their data to use in future funding applications and JBC reports. For the first year, it was decided agencies would be given the option to work with UNL. If they chose not to, they would be responsible for reporting the outcome measures in their work plan submitted with their grant application, demographics of clients served, and a success story. If they chose to work with UNL, they would only need to submit a success story and UNL would provide the rest. It should be noted the agencies collecting data in Clarity (formally Service Point) elected to wait until next year to start this process due to the migration into Clarity. Below is where we are at with agencies:

Onboarding in 20-21	Met & Decided on 21-22	Onboarding in 21-22
CASA	CAP	Family Services
Cedars	Good Neighbor Center	Salvation Army
CenterPointe	Matt Talbot	St. Monica’s
Fresh Start	Lutheran Family Services	Friendship Home
House of Hope	Malone Center	Voices of Hope
Peoples City Mission		
Asian Center		

The Bridge		
CPIN		
HopeSpoke		

We received the following grants during this time period:

Juvenile Justice & Mental Health Collab.	\$622,883
Juvenile Justice Enhancement	\$500,000
Title II	\$380,000
State Enhancement funding	\$246,094

The Lincoln/Lancaster Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan is due in June 2021. The planning process began in later summer, by identifying existing services. This planning process is extremely different than years past. Instead of the local collaborative collecting data and pertinent information, the Juvenile Justice Institute will be presenting this to the community teams. In addition, instead of the plan being 3 years, the new plan will be 4 years.

The Department of Justice updated their databases this reporting cycle. This includes both fiscal and reporting databases. The Human Services Department serves as the Administrator for the county in these databases. Much time this quarter was spent enrolling all county users and working with employees, DOJ, and the new database representatives to ensure the system is working for everyone.

During this quarter, I presented at the Lancaster County Leadership Academy. Material covered was adolescent brain development, human services, community resources, and a poverty simulation.

Juvenile Justice

We continue our partnership with the University of Nebraska College of Law and Psychology to evaluate juvenile justice system point data. LPD, LSO, County Attorney, and detention are all partners in this data collection and evaluation process. Data from law enforcement, SAMI, Restore, Assessment, Diversion, PACS, Detention and County Attorney data has been extracted from existing databases and sent to UNL. This effort was recently recognized by a national partner as a promising practice. There was considerable effort devoted by the researcher to include probation data in this project; however, this request was eventually denied by Probation Administration. UNL staff are currently meeting with agencies to review their data and define further research questions. The next data presentation will be in early January, prior to the legislature commencing for their session.

Lancaster County has been working with the Nebraska Crime Commission in hosting a virtual 5-day juvenile justice conference. A bulk of the work and coordination has been completed by Jenni in our office. There were over 50 speakers and over 400 attendees.

Human Services staff are working with the Crime Commission and the Juvenile Justice Institute to bring the State back into compliance with the 4 core requirements of the OJJDP Act. Through federal grant funding, the Juvenile Justice Institute will work with counties across the state to collect data on disproportionality in the juvenile justice system. Focus groups will also be

conducted as well as meetings with facilities. This information will be presented to the State Advisory Group for next steps.

Human Services staff met with the new judge, Judge White, this quarter. Each staff member had an opportunity to give an overview of their area. An explanation was also given as to the reasoning behind some of our programs. Judge White was respectful to our programs.

Due to an influx of referrals to Operation Tipping Point, the Human Services Office staff may be assisting them with case management. We are in the process of working on an interlocal agreement and figuring out how to share staff (The OTP Coordinator was originally housed in our office, so the foundation has been laid to allow this to occur).

See pages 5-9 for program data.

JDAI/RFK

The Human Services Department continues to collaborate with State Probation for JDAI. The local probation office decided their staff could no longer co-coordinate this initiative with our office due to the time commitment of Probation JDAI. National JDAI has decided to move away from the data collection instrument they've been using – the QRS. There are 3 new Probation JDAI committees that convened within the last 2 months (RED, Data, Strategic Planning). Staff have been attending the national JDAI virtual conference in October and November.

General Assistance

The General Assistance clients experienced a seamless transition from General Assistance to Expanded Medicaid. This was due to the dedication of Bluestem in ensuring all clients enrolled. There is currently one employee at General Assistance assisting with closing case files and liquidating the remaining supplies. This individual's last day of employment will be November 30.

Covid update

I am currently serving on the Lincoln Covid Response Fund grant review committee facilitated by Lincoln Community Foundation. To date, over 55 grants have been awarded with over \$800,000 in grants awarded. Grant reviews initially were weekly. There is \$283,000 remaining in the COVID fund. This fund has received no application since early Summer. The committee is reconvening in January to discuss next steps.

The downtown Human Services Office is currently open with staff rotating through the office. Drug testing of diversion clients has been suspended. Pre-Adjudicated youth are only drug tested if ordered by the court. One of our biggest challenges continues to be the heightened risk level of youth diverted from detention to community supervision through our office. Securing community service hours for youth in diversion to complete also remains challenging.

ASSESSMENT STATS BY RACE
07/01/2020 - 09/30/2020

RACE	TOTAL	
	REF	ACC
ASIAN/PAC ISLAN	3	3
BLACK	15	14
HISPANIC	9	8
NATIVE AMERICAN	3	3
RACE UNKNOWN	4	4
WHITE/CAUCASIAN	64	59
TOTALS	98	91

ASSESSMENT STATS BY GENDER
07/01/2020 - 09/30/2020

GENDER	REF	ACC
FEMALE	39	37
MALE	59	54
TOTALS	98	91

ASSESSMENT STATS BY AGE
07/01/2020 - 09/30/2020

AGE	TOTAL	
	REF	ACC
10	1	1
11	2	2
12	9	9
13	7	7
14	8	6
15	9	8
16	32	30
17	29	27
18 and over	1	1
TOTALS	98	91

ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES
07/01/2020 - 09/30/2020

OUTCOME	TOTAL
FILED IN COURT	10
JUVENILE DIVERS	34
NO CHARGE	37
PENDING	17
TOTAL	98

ASSESSMENT NON ACCEPTANCE REASONS
07/01/2020 - 09/30/2020

REASON	TOTAL
PARENT DECLINED	2
YOUTH INELIGIBLE	1
NYS COMPLETED WITHIN 6 M	4

TOTALS	7

NON-ACCEPTANCE STATS BY RACE
07/01/2020 - 09/30/2020

	BLK	HIS	WHT	TOTAL
PARENT DECLINED			2	2
YOUTH INELIGIBLE	1			1
NYS COMPLETED WITHIN 6 MONTHS		1	3	4
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GRAND TOTAL	1	1	5	7

July 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020 Project RESTORE Numbers

Total Number Referred: High School: 5 youth (1 accepted, 4 ineligible)

Middle School: 0

Total Youth: 5 youth (1 accepted, 4 ineligible)

All Referrals by School

- High School
 - 20% East (1)
 - 40% North Star (2)
 - 40% Yankee Hill (2)

Accepted Youth

- 1 Male
- 1 Caucasian
- 1 East
- 1 Disturb the Peace

Diversion Plans

- 1 referred for Restorative Justice Victim-Offender Dialogues

Ineligible/Unaccepted Youth

- 4 Male
- 2 Caucasian, 1 African American, 1 American Indian/Alaska Native
- 2 Yankee Hill, 2 North Star
- 4 Total: 2 Disturb the Peace, 2 Assault

Reason Why Not in Program

- 3 Referred to Court for a current or prior law violation
 - 1 Caucasian, 1 African American, 1 American Indian/Alaska Native
- 1 Other – County Attorney decision/threat of school shooting
 - 1 Caucasian

Successful Discharges

- 1 youth currently in the program

Diversion-

- 48 new diversion referrals
- 2 youth did not enroll due to county attorney requesting referrals to be returned to his office
- 11 youth were discharged
- - 6 youth were successfully discharged
- 5 youth were unsuccessfully discharged
- 3 youths referrals were requested by County Attorney to be returned to his office
- 2 youth had a new law violation
-

OTP-

- 10 referrals received, all 10 referrals entered the OTP program
- 15 youth successfully discharged from OTP this quarter
- 0 unsuccessful discharged
- 85 youth currently active

Truancy Diversion

- Lincoln High- 2 youth were returned to court, 1 youth transferred to home schooling. 11 active youth
- Southeast- 4 active youth, 0 discharges
- Northeast- 6 active youth, 0 discharges
- NorthStar- 3 active youth, 0 discharges
- East- 4 active youth, 0 discharges

PACS Program:

For the months of **July 1, 2020 –September 30, 2020** there were a total of **21** youth under **PACS** supervision. Of those youth, **7** came from Youth Services Center. Detention alternatives **10** and **4** from court (1st appearance). The electronic monitor was used for **17** of the **21** youth or **80.9 %**. Demographics for those youth were 15 males and 6 female w/ race identified as; Black (M) **5** and **3** (F); White **6** (M) and **3** (F); Hispanic (**1**) M; Native American (**3**).

Petitions range from Auto Thefts 3 (Fel), Assault **2**, Possess Weapon/gun **4** (Fel); Burglary 7, Fraud of financial services 1, Felony. Attempt Flee to avoid arrest **1**, FEL, Criminal Mischief **5**. Obstruction of Police officer **1**. Successful completion **15**, Violation of court order- resulted back to Detention **2** and cases dismissed **2**. Supervision days increased to about **23** days as some youth, entered denials and asked for formal hearings.

NO Warrants program:

The **No Warrant** program for the months of July 1 2020 –September 30, 2020, served 0.