

MINUTES

ASSET Administrative Team

December 4, 2019, 12:15 p.m.

United Way of Story County, 315 Clark Avenue, Ames IA

The Analysis of Social Services Evaluation Team (ASSET) Administrative Team met at 12:15 p.m. at United Way of Story County, 315 Clark Avenue with the following members present: Jody Eaton, Sandra King, Jean Kresse, Tim Lubinus, Lisa McCoy, Anneke Mundel, Deb Schildroth, and Karla Webb.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 6, 2019 MINUTES

Moved by Schildroth, seconded by Webb, to approve the November 6, 2019 minutes. Motion declared carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

YSS – Outpatient Service Coordination and County Funding – Ms. Webb told the group that CICS received clarification from DHS at the end of October regarding county general fund dollars paying for mental health services. She explained that language in Iowa Code prohibits counties from directly funding mental health services. Ms. Webb said three programs within the CICS region have been identified that are currently being budgeted for by county general funds and will need moved to within the regional budget, privatize, or move to a non-county entity. She said those programs are not ASSET programs, but in reviewing them the CICS administrative team is concerned that Service Coordination, a service provided by YSS and funded by county dollars (previously dollars that went through Juvenile Court Services), could be viewed as a mental health service. She said in 20/21 the region could be liable if, in the County audit, it appears the County funded any mental health services. Ms. Eaton said this portion of the code has been a slippery slope. She said the interpretation is that the Board of Supervisors should not be making allocations to local providers unless approved by the region. She said the only funds counties are supposed to be using for mental health services are regional funds. Ms. Eaton said CICS staff doesn't like being in this position, but wants to make sure allocations are made correctly.

Ms. Kresse said Service Coordination was a new service request from YSS and the request was considerably less this time. Ms. Schildroth provided the history on the County/ Juvenile Court/ YSS contractual agreement. In the mid-1970's the court ordered County to pay for services for youth involved with the Juvenile Court System. YSS as the sole agency in the County to provide the services, so a contract was developed that involved all three entities – County, Juvenile Court, and YSS. She said there were approximately seven services covered under the contract and Juvenile Court approached the County requesting to transition these services over to the ASSET process as they no longer wanted to be the "middle man". YSS and the Story County Board of Supervisors agreed to proceed with a transition that began by moving half of the services into the ASSET process in FY 17. Ms. Schildroth said \$80,000 was the amount YSS was receiving under the previous contract and they were using it for mental health therapy. Ms. Schildroth informed YSS that the dollars could not continue paying for the direct delivery of that service, so YSS agreed to use it to

fund service coordination or intake functions and avoid paying for therapy. Ms. Schildroth said a school-based mental health service through LSI was funded by the County, the funding was used for therapist training and not therapy. Ms. Schildroth said she wants to be cautious in naming YSS a mental health services provider because they offer many other non-mental health services.

Ms. Kresse said it's a large amount of funding within a service YSS believes is needed in the community. She said she believes the County would need to approve funding a different service instead.

Ms. Webb said funding draw down by YSS for 2017/18 and 2018/19 was looked at. She said they were looking to see if there were any non-mental health services that run out of funding quickly. Ms. Kresse said the only program where YSS has a significant increase to the request to UW is transitional living.

Ms. McCoy asked what the Administrative Team wants to ask YSS. Ms. Webb said YSS is very concerned about potential the loss in funding, and she said CICS does not have funding to offer this service to all ten other counties within the region. Ms. Eaton said the region is not making decisions for the County, rather working within the guidelines they have been given. Ms. Eaton said some agencies make money in outpatient mental health, and some are making their money in SCL services.

Ms. Meis, Ms. Dickerson, and Mr. Allen joined the meeting. Ms. Webb said she doesn't know how to offer a solution regarding Story County funding for Service Coordination. She told YSS staff that in 2020/21 CICS will be liable to reimburse Story County for any mental health services that are funded.

Mr. Allen asked how this came up. Ms. Eaton said as she understands it another region reached out to DHS to see if county general funds could fund a particular service. It was noted that there are other counties going through similar conversations.

Mr. Allen told the group he talked with Bob Lincoln, CEO in a northern Iowa region, and he was unaware of this. He suggested county funds across the state are funding mental health services in jails. Ms. Eaton said that should not be happening but concurred it probably is in many situations. Mr. Allen said he feels like YSS is being singled out.

Ms. Webb highlighted some other providers that are having a similar discussion with the region. Mr. Allen asked if they are being put in the same category as mental health providers. Ms. Eaton said no. He asked what Story County can do when this is a service that the County wants. He said the situation they're in is most funding is funding of last resort. He noted Eyerly Ball is the designated mental health provider for adults and Orchard Place is the designated provider for kids. Mr. Allen explained that Eyerly Ball used to split federal block grant dollars with YSS to help subsidize losses, but when the regions rolled out mobile crisis and Eyerly Ball got that contract they stopped sharing those funds. He said YSS lost \$240,000 last year in the outpatient mental health program. He said if there weren't so many Medicaid clients they could do better. After working much harder to cut expenses, YSS is still losing about \$10,000 per month and that loss factors in the \$80,000 from Story County.

Mr. Allen said his understanding was that the County wants to continue receiving these services. He said the cost to provide services is more than the Medicaid rate. Mr. Allen said he doesn't feel like receiving more funding in another area will keep the original intent of the funding, rather the County needs to figure out how to fund the services. He said counties are working with the region to fund programs for kids.

Ms. Meis asked about next year since the proposal has already been submitted. She asked what they need to do to prepare for the hearing in January. Ms. Kresse said it's possible to sequester the funds with the intent YSS would meet with the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Schildroth said a restated budget could be submitted. It was noted the ABF 5, ABF 7, and ABF 7A would need updated. It was agreed that a restated budget could be submitted on or before January 3, 2020.

Mr. Allen said YSS really needs ASSET's support. He said Story County is the best in the state with services for children and families.

Mr. Allen, Ms. Meis, and Ms. Dickerson left the meeting.

Ms. King said Alliant Energy has expressed interest in community funding.

Ms. Eaton said more community mental health centers have been approved and perhaps that could be an option to explore.

MICA Update – The response from MICA to ASSET's questions following the November meeting was reviewed and discussed. Ms. Webb asked if MICA is still providing family development services. Ms. Kresse said yes, FaDDs is still being provided but Steps to Success is not. She said if the family development program is still happening, 13% (\$15,365) of the state grant (\$500,000) was allocated to FaDDs money last year. She wonders if Story County is getting its portion of that grant. She said the case for ASSET picking up a larger share is not strong. It was noted that MICA is receiving a state grant to provide family development services to its catchment area and it appears that Story County is receiving 13% of the grant.

It was noted that the increase in request is to cover the overhead and expenses of the center.

Scorecard Access for Funders – Ms. Mundel distributed information on Scorecard user information. She said there are various rights for Scorecard users. She asked the group which user rights are desired. It was noted that each license costs \$240. She said there's a way to create links to send people so they can access a portion of Scorecard.

Ms. Mundel explained that United Way of Central Iowa (UWCI) does not give independent access, rather exports the document at decision-making time. She said there have been times where there could be questions. Mr. Hobson said with Education, Income, and Health, this could be good information to view. Ms. Schildroth asked how easy it is to create reports. Ms. Mundel said the reports are easy to export. Ms. Webb asked if the information would be helpful during liaison visit time. Ms. Kresse said the trend lines will be very helpful down the road. Ms. Webb asked if there is a tool to compare services among agencies. Ms. Mundel said there isn't a way to do that; rather she

can pull data into an aggregate scorecard. Ms. Kresse said certain things can be determined such as: of the four childcare centers, 75% of parents can stay employed or in school full-time. Ms. Mundel said now that all agencies have new outcomes, maybe common threads/comparable outcomes could be compared.

Ms. Webb asked if other UWs use scorecard. Ms. Kresse said UWCI does. She said UWSC will be reporting the data nationally. Ms. Kresse said the Scorecard data could be pulled up and accessed during the work sessions.

GivePulse Follow-Up Discussion – Ms. McCoy said she believes the presentation at the November ASSET meeting went well, but wonders if volunteers thought it was geared toward agencies. It was discussed that the Education volunteers would meet after the ASSET meeting next week to discuss GivePulse further. Ms. Schildroth said many agencies have their own volunteer coordinator or a staff member performing those functions to recruit volunteers themselves. It was noted that over \$100,000 is being paid by ASSET each year for a system that is not being enhanced and that GivePulse could be another option. It was noted that the Education volunteers could meet to discuss the GivePulse opportunity and how it could affect the funding process.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of GivePulse being used to recruit volunteers for human services agencies. It was noted that there is more information needed about VCSC's role in community projects. Ms. McCoy asked if ASSET has communicated the need to VCSC. It was noted that ASSET communicated with VCSC over a year ago about desired services needed for the human services agencies.

Draft ASSET Agenda – The agenda was discussed and changes were made.

OLD BUSINESS

Lectio – Ms. Kresse said an agency has not responded about wanting to participate.

'Isms' training by Dr. Kesho Scott – Ms. Kresse discussed options for equity trainings. She said some things will be brought to UWSC Board on how they can be more inclusive in presentations. She said Ms. Mundel reached out to Ms. Scott about fees to provide training, and also reached out to Dr. Stephen Biggs at ISU. Ms. Mundel said if ASSET is interested in hosting a training there are options.

Ms. Schildroth asked if agencies would be charged to attend. It was discussed agencies could be charged a small fee. Ms. Kresse said Dr. Scott appeals to her because she really connects with audience members. Ms. McCoy said it could be time to increase the yearly fee that funders pay for ASSET expenses. Ms. Kresse said she could allocate up to \$250 to supplement the general fund in bringing in a speaker.

Moved by Kresse, seconded by Schildroth, to increase the general fund contributions by ASSET funders to \$800 per year beginning in 2020/21. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hobson asked about time of day for the training. It was noted that agencies would be more likely to attend if it was during the day.

Human Services Council Update – Ms. Schildroth said there was an inquiry at the last meeting about the Resource Guide and whether the City could host it on its website. She said the Story County Quality of Life Alliance web site is still active, and could be an option. Ms. Kresse told the group that the statewide calling center is working to make 211 the primary resource guide.

It was noted that the ASSET Policies and Procedures will need updated if HSC ceases to exist.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS/ CONCERNS

Ms. Schildroth said ASSET allocations will be considered by City Council on December 17, 2019. She said the total requests to the City are up \$158,000 over last year. Ms. Kresse said the increase in request to UWSC is \$122,589 and will be considered by the Board on December 20, 2019. Ms. Webb said Story County's increase in request is \$141,515.

Ms. McCoy noted that Lucy Dougherty suggested ISU Student Government would be considering an increase for next fiscal year.

Ms. Schildroth said HIRTA has hired their part-time outreach staff person.

Ms. Schildroth said she recently learned about Martha's House of Hope, an agency that received a grant from Story County Community Foundation. It is a home for pregnant mothers and opened October 1, 2019.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

- Next ASSET Administrative Team Meeting – February 5 at 12:15 p.m. (United Way)
- Next ASSET Meeting– December 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. (City Church)
- Agency Hearings: January 8, 9 at 4:30 p.m. (City Church)
- Agency Work Sessions: January 13, 15, 16 at 4:30 p.m. (City Church)

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.