

Franklin County Human Services Block Grant Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 18th, 2023

9:30 am - 11:00 am

Virtual Meeting

Voting Members

Virtual:

Greg Colbert, Kim Crider, Kim Wertz, Lorna Blanchard, Mike Straley, Thomas Reardon, Zachary McCauley

Absent:

Sherri Sullivan, Rev. John Kratz, Doug Wilburne, Rev. James Fox

Staff Members

Virtual:

Stacie Horvath, Hali Finniff, Charity Gorman, Cori Seilhamer, Dan Brown, James Eagler, John Gerak, John McPaul, John Thierwechter, Justin Slep, Kim Eaton, Leslie Bowers, Lori Young, Minnie Goshorn, Missy Reisinger, Misty Conner, Stacey Brookens, Stacy Rowe, Teresa Beckner, Tobin Kercheval

Guests

Virtual:

Julia Dovey

Acronyms:

C&Y = Children & Youth

D&A = Drug and Alcohol

DHS = Department of Human Services

EI = Early Intervention

ESG = Emergency Solutions Grant

FY = Fiscal Year

HCP = Healthy Communities Partnership

HSBG = Human Services Block Grant

HSDF = Human Services Development Fund

HUD = Housing and Urban Development

I&R = Information & Referral

MH/IDD/EI = Mental Health/ Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities/Early Intervention

SCCAP = South Central Community Action Program

TMCA = Tuscarora Managed Care Alliance

HS = Human Services

Meeting Documents Sent Out:

- HSBG Agenda - April 18th, 2023
- Block Grant Meeting Minutes 11-10-2022
- HSBG Committee Meeting Presentation 04.18.23

I. Welcome and Introductions:

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Ms. Stacie Horvath at 9:30 AM.

- Voting Members, Sherri Sullivan, Reverend John Kratz, and Reverend James Fox were unable to attend this meeting. Sherri Sullivan would like someone to proxy for her, Zachary McCauley stepped up as proxy. Rev. James Fox would like someone to proxy for him, Greg Colbert stepped up as proxy.

II. Review of Meeting Minutes:

Upon a motion by voting member Kim Crider, and a second by voting member Kim Wertz, with all in favor, the minutes of the November 10, 2022 meeting were approved.

Following the review of minutes. There were two members whose terms were going to be up this year. A need for a motion to approve Tom Reardon and Mike Straley for a second term. Kim Wertz approved the motion followed by Greg Colbert who seconded the motion for another two year term.

III. Discussion of Projects/Planning for RY 22-23 Retained Earnings:

Human Services Fiscal Manager Stacy Rowe presented to the committee, the Human Services Block Grant Fiscal Report, from April 18, 2023. FY 22-23 allocation remained flat. Total allocation for FY 22-23, including fiscal year 21-22 retained revenue of \$105,997, was \$7,413,244. The County is required to contribute 2.7% on all State Funded expenditures. County Match for FY 22-23 estimated to be \$155,000. Proposed retained revenue plan included \$105,997, estimated to serve 413 people. The programs within the retained revenue program are as follows:

1. Mental Health - Respite Nights Kids Therapy Zone (\$5,000)
2. Mental Health - Specialized Community Residence Repairs/Maintenance (\$34,197)
3. Housing Assistance Program- Shelter Support (\$20,000)
4. Human Services Development Fund - Data Warehouse CYS Conversion (\$10,800)
5. Human Services Development Fund - Military Share (\$36,000)
6. Human Services Development Fund - I&R Coordinator Wages/Benefits (\$18,000)

Recommendation to approve the transfer of \$18,000 from current year (22-23) funding to I&R to cover the anticipated program overage. Upon a motion by Mr. Tom Reardon, to approve the reallocation of funding to I&R in the amount of \$18,000.. Mr. Tom Reardon so moved and a second by Mr. Greg Colbert, with all in favor.

IV. 2022/2023 Fiscal Update:

Ms. Stacy Rowe reported to the committee the 22/23 Fiscal update as follows:

1. Our Fiscal Year 22/23 HSBG plan is pending State approval. The plan was submitted August 18, 2022.
2. The Fiscal Year 22/23 allocation was received November 1, 2022. Funding is flat as was anticipated. The total HSBG allocation is \$6,410,343.

Fiscal department advised the Block Grant Members to keep in mind that if we continue to receive flat funding, as the services and costs continue to rise, some bigger decisions will need to be made.

V. Human Services Administration Program Departments Review:

Ms. Stacie Horvath informed the departments will be speaking about any updates and crucial information going on. This is to keep the public and the Block Grant Members informed.

Mental Health, Intellectual Developmental Disabilities, and Early Intervention with Mental Health Housing (MH/IDD/EI):

Administrator Stacey Brookens, MH/IDD/EI Administrator, reported to the committee things are going well in the programs, although they remain very busy.

The MHIDDEI department is down a fiscal officer in IDD/EI and will be down an Administrative Assistant soon. Everything else is fully staffed.

They have a new provider and are looking into a day program with no other details. They have the community mobile nurse that started this year. That has been a great success. They are planning to keep that in the budget for the next fiscal year.

A local mother wanted to start an all inclusive program for autism. This will be something that grants may be able to assist with. Stacey Brookens is currently following up with the mother to see what they would be able to assist with and helping this get started.

This is the 10th year for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). Program Specialist and CIT Coordinator Cori Seilhamer reported they have received two grants this year for Crisis. The third co-responder started in March. The one grant is to be able to bring in a consultant to look at the Crisis system to see if they can make any recommendations to make it more effective. The second grant is to make recommendations from the consultant.

Stacie Horvath asked Stacey Brookens would like to add anything in regards to the First Start Partnerships opening a new building in Franklin County. The new building is set to open by August. They will be able to have 120 children with a total of 6 class rooms. This will be income based for the children to be able to attend. Stacie Horvath stated Franklin County is lacking in child care, if that would be: staffing issues, closed during Covid, or funding. There are funds being used from ARPA. This will help the community to get back to work and to be able to have somewhere they can take their children to get the proper Early Intervention needs.

Veterans Affairs Department:

Mr. Justin Slep reported the Military Share Program is a huge help to the community. Justin reported that they have had to split the distributions into 2 separate days due to the amount of individuals that are now being served and the pounds of food that are ordered/needed.

The trucks have a limit on how much the trucks can hold, a weight limit of 11,000 pounds. They require two trucks to be able to meet all of the needs of the Military Share Program. They are able to help 1,024 veterans. Justin provided an age breakdown: family members ages 0-17: 74 individuals; ages 18-59 years 269 individuals; ages 60 and over: 681 participants.

If someone in this program does not show up two times within a calendar year without notice, they will be removed from the program. This helps with the waitlist and keeping things moving for those who want to be a part of the program. They get a calendar with a map upon signing up.

This gives them all the information they need for the whole year with the days, times, contact information, where it needs to be picked up at.

Since the VA program is not income based, eligibility is based on needs from a self questionnaire that veterans complete which include some questions about service dates and length they have served.

The Military Share program has been funded from start-up funds through the Human Services Block Grant (HSBG) and will continue to be funded through community grants obtained and other public/private donations. Recently, Tuscarora Managed Care Alliance (TMCA) was able to grant the use of medicaid reinvestment dollars to help the VA with this program. Even if the veteran is not medicaid eligible, and they have someone else in the household that is medicaid eligible, VA is able to use funds from TMCA (\$20,000). The VA primarily covers Franklin County. If there is a veteran in need from Fulton County, they would be able to pull from the TMCA fund to help.

Stacie Horvath asked Justin Slep, VA Director, to discuss the amount of claims he and his team of 4 staff have been able to assist with Veterans obtaining. Franklin County VA has helped generate over the last fiscal year about \$20 million dollars into Franklin County. This does not allow them to count for outside of the county and who all they help. They help more than just veterans in Franklin County.

Justin also discussed the Veterans Expo event which is coming up soon. Staff are planning on serving about 300 veterans with meals and will set it up in a drive through style at a local VFW parking lot area. There will be vendors present to give out information and speak with individuals and a Go-Bag with community info and other goodies will also be given out. The Franklin County VA annual Golf tournament is coming up this September, this is the biggest event of the year.

Children & Youth Services:

CYS Director Minnie Goshorn reported they will be working on the new Need Based Budget for FY 24/25. The Needs Based Budget (NBB) grant is a 3 year process - it focuses on monies spent for the current year; monies approved and projected to be spent the upcoming year; and then a projection with a narrative and plan for the 3rd year out. It is an immense and multi-step process.

They are looking for prevention programs to support the children within the community now.

Plan of Safe Care Grant, they are looking into using funds to help infants. This is a grant from the state that helps substance abused infants under the age of one. They were having a hard time for the mothers signing up for the program. Some of the funds were awarded to go to any family that has substance abuse issues when they give birth. Finding other ways to help out with the funding such as buying items that are a need for mothers, like pack and play, car seats, and starter kits. This way it opens the door to get the mother services. Trying to continue to work with the hospital so that if any of the pregnant women fall into that category, they are able to get the help they need. Minnie.Goshorn stated "they are not there to take the kids, but are hoping to help them."

Family first funds, new initiative to keep kids in the homes, those funds were extended until June 2024 the initial amount \$400,000. They have about \$200,000. of those funds left. They are looking to find ways to spend that for the needs of preventative services. Trauma informed care services that the state is pushing for all CYS employees to participate in the training. The state is

pushing for not only all CYS employees but all of the individuals that are working in the placement type services to attend the training. Referrals are at an all time high.

Franklin CYS had the highest number of referrals last month, then they've had in 3 years with 406 calls for referrals. They had to investigate 315 of the 406 calls.

They are in need of 12 caseworkers. Some of the interns they have on staff now are looking for employment with Franklin County when they graduate. Hopefully the need for caseworkers will be filled during the summer months. They are continuing recruiting efforts for those positions.

Another task they are working on is working with the courts. This is primarily for children with autism and special needs within the court system. Trying to put a roadmap or some guidelines in place to help those individuals when they go into the court house. The children may not try to be rude or disrespectful. They have needs that may not be visible or are on the autism spectrum. This will also help the judges decipher what steps may need to be taken in order to help relieve any stress on the child within the system.

Franklin/Fulton SCA Drug & Alcohol:

Administrator James Eagler reported that Franklin Fulton SCA Drug and Alcohol is fully staffed. The new staff are fully trained, completing level of care assessments, taking on new caseloads, and providing services to the community. The staff is reaching out to the community and families to see if they can provide any training or services to help better serve the community. Funding trends are a month behind, that is how the providers invoice them.

In February they had a total of 65 individuals who needed D&A services. 49 identified male and 16 identified female. 36 of the 65 were for alcohol use disorder; 35 male and 1 female. When it comes to Opioid 9 male and 8 female for a total of 17. Stimulants 5 male and 3 female for a total of 8. When it comes to Cannabis 4 male 0 female. When adding up the opioids, stimulants, and cannabis, it does not reach the number of individuals struggling with alcohol use. Franklin County's primary drug of choice is alcohol. Drug & Alcohol is reaching out to the community to provide Save a Life Trainings as well as other tools and resources. They are reaching out to Franklin County Jail and providing training for individuals that are housed there. Those individuals are provided naloxone upon release which can reverse opioid overdoses. Training is going to be held by a Certified Recovery Specialist (CRS). The CRS is also going to be holding a recovery support group.

Recovery liaison started around 2017-2018, with grant funding. This was a great program that helped individuals stay in recovery and deflect from the criminal defense system. They pulled funds together to be able to have this program in place. This helps place individuals into treatments and helps families with other resources. Just this year they have served 39 individuals: 18 male and 21 female. Broken down further of the 39, 24 priority population and needed services within 24 hours. 3 were pregnant women who inject drugs, 5 were a person who injects drugs, and 16 were overdose survivors. Referral sources were from law enforcement 13, 9 from the district attorney's office, 17 were family and friends. Of the 39 that have interacted with the Recovery Liaison, 31 accepted a referral to treatment services. They are looking to improve tracking referral outcomes to treatment, if they have begun treatment and for how long. Of the 39, 24 accepted referrals for medication of opioid use disorder. Of the 39, 26 accepted narcan kits. Of

the 39, 17 were transported to treatment. Number of phone calls on the individuals 174. Peer support contact with 39 referral 98 calls.

Drug checking kits also known as fentanyl testing strips. Their department is waiting on guidelines from DDAP (Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs) in regards to funding. Or who will be providing the guidelines to the county. D&A are providing self harm reduction training. Narcan is looking to be an over the counter item, unsure of what the cost may be.

Franklin County is looking for ways to prompt that anyone reach out to the county and get that provided to any individual free of charge. Prevention updates, medication lockboxes, they have plenty on hand that can be provided. This is a great tool provided to members of the community in order to keep children safe. Children, when they are experimenting with most of the medication they are getting it from their parents, grandparents' medication cabinet that they have access to. This is a way to keep children of Franklin County safer.

Deterra drug deactivation system, this is a system where you place medication into it, add some water, seal it and shake it. This process will break down the medication to where it can't be used. This is a safe product to use and is green certified. This can be a product you can safely place in the trash to be disposed of.

Tuscarora Managed Care Alliance (TMCA):

Missy Reisinger, Executive Director, reported the loss of medicaid coverage due to the end of continuation rights that started April 1 2023. Those individuals will be contacted by the county assistance office to submit redetermination paperwork. TMCA has received a file from The Department of Human Services estimated 14,004 in both Franklin and Fulton County have overdue redetermination or have failed redetermination during the continuation period. Franklin and Fulton Counties had, at the end of February, about 39,304 medicaid eligibles. PerformCare is sending out notifications to behavioral health providers names of individuals that the provider currently services who need to redetermine. PerformCare is also reaching out to those individuals via postcards, text messages. Missy reported that during 2022 the two county area has 42,432 individuals covered by Medicaid. The number just for Franklin County was 38,501. TMCA paid for 7,446 individuals to receive a behavioral health service in 2022 (6,854 Franklin residents). TMCA in the process of recruitment for a data engineer. There is a subcontract with the prior engineer to help maintain services until a permanent replacement can be hired. Missy discussed the use of reinvestment dollars to support Medicaid eligible individuals's social determinants of health. TMCA is doing this through such programs as Recovery Housing, Bridge Rental Subsidies to help those who are on the waiting list for section 8 housing. Not only does this program help pay for housing, this is a program that helps in other ways by setting those individuals up for success. The program also will assist with finding housing where the individual wants to live and provides staffing within the individual's home to assist with activities of daily living. Another program, the Community Navigator, will assist individuals with other resources to meet SDOH needs within the community. If there are no programs out there that can help, TMCA has funds they can assist with unique cases.

Grants:

Dr. Kim Eaton, Director, reported on behalf of Community Connections, and stated they are currently fully staffed after hiring 2 new staff members to assist with Housing and case management duties.

From the Grants perspective, the Grants Director was able to secure a grant which has helped fund additional reentry housing. This will help with placing people out of the jail and in boarding homes, for the final step to go into their own apartments. They have a new boarding house that is opening downtown Chambersburg.

Housing support programs under HUD services are full.

They are finalizing the whole home repair grant that is for homeowners. If someone falls below 80% income they can apply to the grant. This is for issues around their home being habitable or needing assistants to update the home to be handicap accessible. A homeowner could get up to \$50,000. for repairs. The second part of that program would be workforce development, through career tech.

Another role that Dr Eaton holds is to help Franklin County Administration and Commissioners to give out the ARPA Impact grants. They have successfully awarded 127 community and nonprofit grants to date.. They are continuing to look at applications. They currently get a lot of requests for grants.

VI. Community Comments or Discussion

Mike Straley stated Leah's Legacy Foundation has their main fundraiser ***Fiddlin in the Field*** on June 15th, 2023 at 6:00 pm. All tickets have to be purchased beforehand and more information can be found on their website.

VII. Adjournment

Kim Wertz made the motion to adjourn with a second by . Mike Straley, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 am.

VIII. Next Scheduled Meeting: To be determined.