

COP/LONG-TERM SUPPORT PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
December 17, 2007

The Community Options Program (COP)/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee met on December 17, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Taylor County Community Building. Members in attendance included George Southworth, Judi Fillmore, Reiny Klingbeil, Dennis Fuchs, Ingrid Purvis, Nancy Nelson, Frances Smith, Diane Niggemann, Shirley Kleist, Nancy Doberstein, Shirley Sloniker, and Russ Blennert.

Nancy Doberstein made a motion to approve the September 17, 2007 minutes as printed. George Southworth seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Shirley Kleist made a motion to approve the agenda for this meeting as printed. Nancy Doberstein seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert provided the advisory committee with a report of Community Options Program activities and wait list information. According to this report, 108 Taylor County residents receive Community Options Program and Community Options Program – Waiver-funded services. There have been 81 Community Options Program assessments completed up to this date in 2007. There have also been 48 new Community Options Program Case Plans completed in 2007. Partially because of the wait list situation, many people who have received an assessment have not actually had a case plan completed for them. The client target groups are being served at the following percentages: elderly, 63.9%; physically disabled, 17.6%; developmentally disabled, 12%, and chronically mentally ill, 6.5%. The committee was also presented with information regarding the waiting list for the Community Options Program and related waiver programs. Currently, there are five people on the waiting list for CBRF services who are not receiving services at this time. There are 15 new people on the wait list for in-home services in Taylor County. There are 17 people on the waiting list for increases in in-home services, and there are four people waiting for CBRF services who are, at this time, receiving services in their own homes. Russ Blennert informed the committee members that this increase in the number of people on the waiting list for services in Taylor County is a direct result of a lack of increases in funding by the State of Wisconsin for the Long-Term Support Programs.

Russ Blennert presented the Committee with two requests for High-Cost Funds for special projects for Taylor County residents. This high-cost funding is in fact state funding, which also accesses a federal match. The committee was informed that these special one time high-cost funds are awards for projects in excess of \$1,000 that will benefit residents by keeping them in their own homes.

- ❖ This request is for a 90-year-old man who suffers from Alzheimer's disease and also has an unsteady gait due to spinal stenosis. The request is for a walk-in shower and other bathroom modifications. The total cost of this project is \$2,812. This modification will allow this individual to remain in his own home in the community for a longer period of time.
- ❖ This request is for an 87-year-old woman who resides in her own home but does need much assistance in order to remain there. The request specifically is for \$1,340 for the purchase of a lift chair which would be purchased through a medical supply company. This lady suffers from congestive heart failure, edema, and she is on oxygen. This lift chair will allow her to remain in her own home in the community as well.

Nancy Doberstein made a motion to approve this funding request for High-Cost Funds for both projects. Frances Smith seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert and Diane Niggemann of the Commission on Aging presented information regarding the Long-Term Support Re-design Initiative which the State of Wisconsin is attempting to carry out. There was discussion among committee members regarding the impact the Family Care Re-design would have on Taylor County residents. Some committee members expressed concern that Taylor County residents may not fare well under a regional managed care organization or by a private managed care organization should that happen in the future.

Diane Niggemann, Director of the Commission on Aging presented the committee with information regarding some of her programs and information regarding digital television conversion, a description of the 211 information and assistance program, and the Commission on Aging care call program.

Judi Fillmore from Memorial Health Center provided committee members with some information regarding dental services in Taylor County and the issue of acceptance of Medical Assistance as the payer source. There was some discussion among committee members regarding the non-availability of dental services for people on Medical Assistance in this area.

The next meeting of the COP/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee was set for Monday, March 17, 2008 at 10 a.m. at the Taylor County Community Building located at the fairgrounds.

George Southworth made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Russ Blennert
Secretary

COP/LONG-TERM SUPPORT PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 17, 2007

The Community Options Program (COP)/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee met on September 17, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Taylor County Community Building. Members in attendance included Diane Niggemann, Reiny Klingbeil, Ingrid Purvis, Nancy Doberstein, Frances Smith, Shirley Kleist, Nancy Nelson, Shirley Sloniker and Russ Blennert.

Nancy Nelson made a motion to approve the June 18, 2007 minutes as printed. Shirley Kleist seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Ingrid Purvis made a motion to approve the agenda for this meeting as printed. Nancy Doberstein seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert provided the committee with a report of Community Options Program (COP) activities and wait list information. According to this report, 114 Taylor County residents are receiving Community Options Program and COP-Waiver funded services. Sixty-three new Community Options Program assessments have been completed to this date in 2007. There have also been 46 new Community Options Program Case Plans as a result of those assessments. Assessment and plan activity is fairly high as compared to other years. Committee members were informed that the client target groups are being served at the following percentages: elderly, 66.7%; physically disabled, 16.7%; developmentally disabled, 10.5%; and chronically mentally ill, 6.1%. Waiting list information was also given to committee members via this report. Currently, there are three people on the wait list for Community-Based Residential Facility (CBRF) services. There are seven Taylor County residents on the wait list for in-home services and there are six current clients who are on the program who require an increase in services who are on the wait list for those increases.

Russ Blennert presented committee members with requests for funding for special projects which have been submitted to the State of Wisconsin for one-time high cost funding awards. These high cost funds are in addition to the regular LTS allocations by the state and are made up of state and federal funding.

1. This request is for the purchase of a lift chair for a 64-year-old disabled Taylor County resident who requires this equipment in order to remain in her own home in the community. The cost of this equipment is \$1,300.
2. An 81-year-old Taylor County resident who has had an amputation now requires handicapped modifications for her bathroom that are extensive in nature. The total cost of this project is \$4,993.16.
3. A 56-year-old Taylor County resident requests a lift chair in order to remain independent and in his own home. He has a number of serious medical conditions and his disability requires that he have this piece of equipment in order to remain in his home.
4. A request is received from a 51-year-old Taylor County resident who is in a wheelchair as a result of a stroke and paralysis. This request involves modification of her home in order to make it accessible to her with the use of a wheelchair. The total cost of this modification would be \$2,344.
5. A 24-year-old developmentally disabled person requests funding for a lift ramp which would make it possible for her to remain in her home in the community. The total cost of this equipment is \$3,420.

6. A 69-year-old Taylor County resident who suffers from a number of serious medical conditions and utilizes a wheelchair for ambulation requests funding for a ramp to the entrance of his house. The total cost of this modification would be \$1,422.05.
7. A 46-year-old Taylor County resident who is an amputee and suffers from other medical conditions requests funding for a wheelchair ramp for the entrance of her house to make it possible for her to have access more easily. The total cost of this modification is \$1,070.

A motion was made by Diane Niggemann to approve these requests for high cost funds for special projects. Frances Smith seconded this motion. The motion was passed.

Committee members discussed the recent information received from the State of Wisconsin regarding CBRF funding. Russ Blennert notified committee members that there has not yet been a formal memorandum from the State of Wisconsin regarding the use of COP or Waiver funds in a CBRF that is attached to an institution. It is anticipated that such information will be coming in the near future which will clarify whether or not these funding sources can be used for this type of CBRF service.

Diane Niggemann, Director of the Commission on Aging and a committee member presented the committee with information regarding some activities upcoming from the Commission on Aging office. A "Final Affairs" seminar is scheduled for September 26, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Multi-Purpose Building. The Commission on Aging is also involved in a "Safe Steps of Taylor County" program for fall prevention. Presentations are going to be made at various sites around the county, including at the nutrition sites, in the near future. Diane informed the committee that a visual impairment seminar is going to be held on October 12, 2007, and Diane can be contacted at the Commission on Aging if someone wishes to register for this seminar. Diane Niggemann also informed the committee members that the Senior Health Fair is going to be held this year at the Medford Senior High School on October 25.

The next meeting of the COP/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee was set for Monday, December 17, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Taylor County Community Building located at the fairgrounds.

Frances Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Doberstein seconded the motion. The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Russ Blennert
Secretary

COP/LONG-TERM SUPPORT PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
June 18, 2007

The Community Options Program (COP)/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee met on June 18, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Taylor County Community Building. Members in attendance included Shirley Sloniker, Elaine Paulson, Shirley Kleist, Dennis Fuchs, Nancy Nelson, Reiny Klingbeil, Frances Smith, Diane Niggemann, Ingrid Purvis, Mary Liegl, and Russ Blennert.

Nancy Nelson made a motion to approve the March 19, 2007 minutes as printed. Shirley Kleist seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert presented the committee with a report of Community Options Program activities and wait list information. This report shows that there are currently 109 Taylor County residents who are receiving Community Options Program and Community Options Program-Waiver funded services. There have been 46 new Community Options Program assessments completed thus far in 2007. There have been 38 Community Options Program Case Plans that resulted from these assessments. This report also shows that the target groups are being served at the following percentages: elderly, 64.2%; physically disabled, 19.3%; developmentally disabled, 11%; and chronically mentally ill at 5.5%. This report also indicates that there are currently two people on the waiting list for Community Options Program funded Community-Based Residential Facility (CBRF) services. As of this date, there is no one on the waiting list for in-home services under the Community Options Program or the Waiver programs that serve elderly or physically disabled people in Taylor County. Russ Blennert indicated, however, that a waiting list may be forthcoming in the future for in-home services as a result of projections made for the year 2007.

Russ Blennert presented the committee with requests for special project funding, otherwise known as high-cost funds for Taylor County residents. These high-cost fund requests are also submitted to the State of Wisconsin for approval. The monies, both Community Options Program and Waiver funding that are awarded come from both state and federal funding.

1. A request was made for the purchase of a hospital bed for a 44-year-old disabled Taylor County resident who requires this type of equipment for his disability. The total cost of this equipment will be \$2,113. Diane Niggemann made a motion to approve the use of Community Options Program funding in this case. Shirley Kleist seconded this motion. The motion was passed.
2. The request for the purchase of a lift chair for a 79-year-old Taylor County resident who requires this particular assistance in order to remain independent in her own home. The total cost of this equipment would be \$1,020. Frances Smith made a motion to approve funding for this request. Ingrid Purvis seconded this motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert requested that the committee approve the use of \$3,122 in Community Options Program carry-over funds from the year 2006 to the year 2007 for the purpose of client services. The county and this committee have the option of choosing to use the carry-over monies under this program for either services for clients or for administration. Dennis Fuchs made a motion to use the carry-over monies for client services. Frances Smith seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert presented the committee with a proposal to offer those Taylor County residents who would be entering a CBRF a consultation rather than a full Community

Options Program assessment, as has been done in the past. Either a consultation or an assessment is required if a person should ever want or need public funding at a CBRF. At this time, a consultation with information regarding Long-Term Support Programs could be completed more quickly and really would make more sense because it must be done within a short timeframe prior to admission to the CBRF. After some discussion, Shirley Kleist made a motion to approve the use of a preadmission consultation for those entering CBRFs. Elaine Paulson seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert notified committee members that the State of Wisconsin has recently notified counties that CBRFs that are attached to nursing home facilities may no longer be eligible for Community Options Program funding because, in essence, they are too institutional-like. At this point it appears that the state will allow continued funding of the current residents. There also may be a method to obtain a variance in order to fund new people at Memorial CBRF in the future. There will be more information coming from the State of Wisconsin, and Russ Blennert will keep the committee updated on this issue.

There was a brief discussion among committee members regarding the state's efforts to re-design the long-term support system. Further expansion of the Long-Term Support Re-design or Family Care at this point seems to be contingent upon the state's biennium budget that is currently being developed in the legislature.

Diane Niggemann, Director of the Commission on Aging presented the committee with information regarding some of her programs, including the upcoming final affairs seminar, an adult respite program through Black River Industries, a blind and visually-impaired support group, Project Lifesaver, and the Commission on Aging's Powerful Tools for Caregivers program, which will be running again in the near future.

The next meeting of the COP/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee was set for Monday, September 17, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Taylor County Community Building located at the fairgrounds.

Shirley Kleist made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mary Liegl seconded the motion. The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Russ Blennert
Secretary

COP/LONG-TERM SUPPORT PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 19, 2007

The Community Options Program (COP)/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee met on March 19, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Human Services building boardroom. Members in attendance included Diane Niggemann, Mary Liegl, Nancy Nelson, Shirley Kleist, Reiny Klingbeil, Nancy Doberstein, Shirley Sloniker, Ingrid Purvis, Judi Fillmore, and Russ Blennert.

The committee recognized the passing of former member Mary Haider with a moment of silence.

Nancy Doberstein made a motion to approve the December 18, 2006 minutes as printed. Shirley Kleist seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert presented the committee with a summary report of the Community Options Program (COP) activities and wait list information. This report indicates that there are currently 100 Taylor County residents receiving Community Options Program and Community Options Program – Waiver services. During the month of January and February there have been 14 new COP assessments conducted, which have resulted in eight new COP case plans. Russ Blennert informed committee members that in addition to COP and COP-W, there are additional Taylor County residents served under the Community Integration Program (CIP) II and most recently there are residents served under the Nursing Home Diversion Program and the Nursing Home Relocation Program. This report indicated that the target groups served under COP and COP-W are served at the following percentages: elderly, 67%; physically disabled, 18%; developmentally disabled, 12%; chronically mentally ill, 4%. This report also indicates that there are currently two people on the waiting list for Community-Based Residential Facility services in Taylor County and there are no people in the Long-Term Support Unit (elderly and physically disabled) on a waiting list for in-home services.

Russ Blennert presented the committee with requests for special high-cost funds for one-time projects for Taylor County residents. These requests are also submitted to the State of Wisconsin for approval, and the monies come from State and Federal funding.

- 1) A request for approval for a modification of a bathroom to make it more accessible and also for the installation of a ramp to make the home handicapped accessible for a 55-year-old disabled Taylor County resident. The cost of these projects combined is \$4,355.
- 2) A request for bathroom modification for a 73-year-old Taylor County resident who requires modification for accessibility. This project will cost \$3,226.
- 3) A request for purchase of a hospital bed larger than that available through Medical Assistance or Medicare funding for a 44-year-old disabled Taylor County resident who requires this equipment because of his disability. The cost will be up to \$3,500.

Nancy Doberstein made a motion to approve the first two requests. Nancy Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was passed. The committee requested that more information be gathered regarding the third request and that it be brought back to the committee at the next meeting.

Russ Blennert presented the committee with the 2007 COP Plan Update which is a requirement of the State of Wisconsin. This COP Plan Update was reviewed by committee members. Diane Niggemann made a motion to approve the 2007 COP Plan Update as

printed. Nancy Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Russ Blennert and Diane Niggemann presented the committee with a brief update of the Long-Term Support Redesign Initiative that is being pursued by the State of Wisconsin. There was some general discussion regarding implementation of the redesign.

The next meeting of the COP/Long-Term Support Planning and Advisory Committee was set for Monday, June 18, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the Human Services building boardroom.

Shirley Kleist made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Russ Blennert
Secretary