



*Office of County Administrator  
County of La Crosse, Wisconsin*

County Administrative Center  
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[www.co.la-crosse.wi.us](http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us)

**Memo To: La Crosse County Board of Supervisors**  
**From: Steve O'Malley, County Administrator**  
**Date: July 1, 2015**

**Re: July Monthly Report to the County Board**

Attached is the July Monthly Report to the County Board, providing monitoring information about department activities to the full County Board instead of reporting only to governing committees.

**REMINDER Monthly Reporting by roughly half the organization every other month.** While you will receive this report each month, the reports do not cover every department each time.

February, April, June, August, Oct. & Dec.

Planning, Resources & Development  
Public Works & Infrastructure  
Judiciary & Law Enforcement  
Corp Counsel & Child Support

January, March, May, July, September, November

Health & Human Services  
Aging & Long Term Care  
County Clerk, Finance, IT,  
Printing, Personnel, Treasurer

**“OF INTEREST”**

July 6, 2015 Policy Planning Meeting agenda

The meeting agenda includes a number of interesting items:

- Annual Report by Grace Jones of Coulee Cap
- An update from the Wisconsin Municipal Mutual Insurance Corporation
- Our Annual 2014 Audit by CliftonLarsonAllen
- Report on the internal controls to prevent fraud by Internal Auditor Jonathan Edwards

*If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by phone or e-mail.  
County Administrator direct line: 785-9789, cell phone 608-385-3316  
or e-mail [steve.omalley@co.la-crosse.wi.us](mailto:steve.omalley@co.la-crosse.wi.us)*

# MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

## Aging & Long Term Care July 2015

### Veterans Service Office

Over the last three months our office has been working with Dean Slindee to update our Veterans Database. Dean's vision and knowledge has taken the office from a simple version of a database to an instrumentally better veteran database. We are able to better record veterans' personal information, service information and benefits for which they are applying for. The new version will take us from paper files to a complete electronic version allowing us to scan old files and prepare for a move to a new office in 2016. Our gratitude to Dean for all he was able to do for us and the support of the IT Department as a whole.

In early June Sandi Valentine and I attended a National County Veterans Service Officer (NCVSO) training in Appleton, WI. The training took one week and provided us with national accreditation which will allow us to better assist veterans in La Crosse County. Appleton hosted over 500 County Veterans Service Officers from 34 states, to date the largest conference held by NCVSO.

*Adam Flood*  
*La Crosse County Veterans Service Officer*

### La Crosse County Aging Unit

#### **Tai Chi Grant Approved!**

Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) & Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging & the University of WI, Madison have coordinated a grant application to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to conduct research on the effectiveness of Tai Chi Fundamentals and its positive effect on preventing falls:

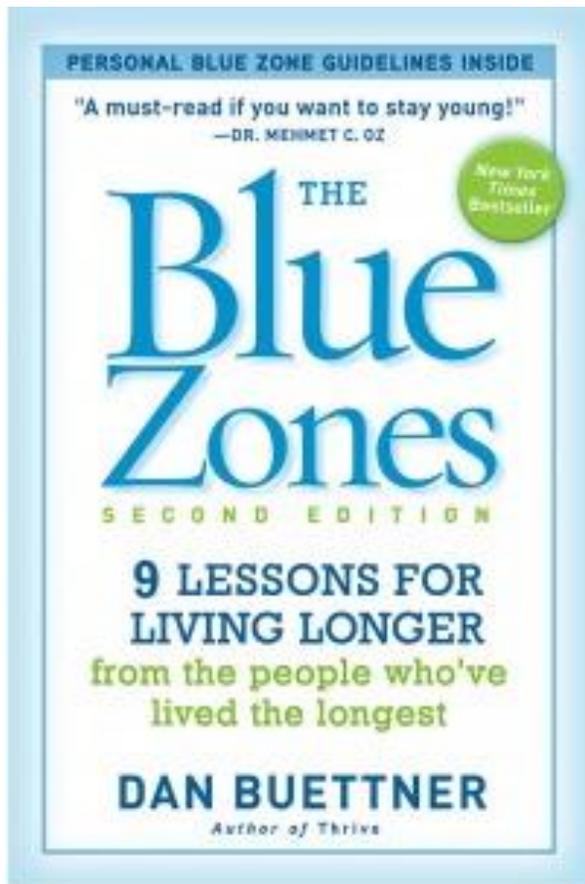
The La Crosse County Aging Unit is excited to be a partner on this study, "Falls Prevention For Older Adults Through Tai Chi Fundamentals". Wisconsin consistently ranks number one or number two for deaths resulting from falls compared to all other states. The growing aging population will double in about 20 years. The fastest growing segment, those 85 years and older, has increased vulnerability for falls. Falls prevention for older adults is critical as the human cost is great in addition to healthcare costs from resulting injuries which average \$8000, many costing well above that. Preventing falls is imperative. The La Crosse County Aging Unit will offer Tai Chi Fundamentals classes beginning spring of 2016. Please call Noreen at the Aging Unit for more information at 608-785-6148.

**Also attached to this report is a flier for a complimentary lunch & lecture about The Blue Zones a book that investigated why in certain areas people lived productive lives at 100 years old & beyond. If you would like to go be sure to reserve your spot soon as I expect the event will fill up quickly.**

#### **POWER UP - Empowering Caregivers**

The purpose of this event is to give caregivers an opportunity to learn, connect and relax.  
**Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 10AM at the Black River Beach Community Center. Flier is attached.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Noreen Holmes, Director



# Health & Longevity Across the World

*Sponsored by the Helen Bader Foundation*

Join life coach **Luann Alemao** for a look at The Blue Zone strategies, as outlined in the best-selling book of the same name by Dan Buettner. Our conversation will touch on how aging continuously evolves as new research and approaches towards longevity and health emerge.

In 2004, National Geographic magazine researchers sought out pockets of the world where an extraordinary percentage of the population lived to age 100 and beyond. The team sought to identify the common factors that might play a role in the longevity of these elders.

Dubbed "The Blue Zones," these areas have inspired a global effort to help communities of all sizes enable their older adults to live full, fascinating lives.

We invite our partners and friends from across Wisconsin to join us and think how we can make our home state's diverse communities become Blue Zones of their own.  
***Come as Our Guest!***

**Wednesday, August 5, 2015, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Location:** La Crosse Radisson, 200 Harborview Plaza

**Please RSVP by July 31 to: [kim@bader.org](mailto:kim@bader.org) or at 414-224-6464**

# THANK YOU

## Gold Sponsors



*La Crosse County  
Aging Unit*

**GUNDERSEN**  
HEALTH SYSTEM®

**BrightStar Care**®  
HOME CARE | MEDICAL STAFFING  
*A Higher Standard*

 **ResCare**

Life In  
**Harmony**  
Music Therapy, LLC

## Silver Sponsors

**SpringBrook Community  
Assisted Living**

## Bronze Sponsors

**Independent Living Resources  
Home Instead Senior Care**



*La Crosse County Aging Unit  
County of La Crosse, Wisconsin  
Administrative Center • Room 2260  
400 4th Street North • La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601-3200*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# POWER UP

## Empowering Caregivers

**Tuesday, August 4th, 2015**

**10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

**Black River Beach**

**Community Center**

**1433 Rose St | La Crosse, 54603**

**The purpose of this day is to  
give you an opportunity to learn,  
connect and relax.**



**Respite care** is available if you would

like someone to be with your loved-one while you are at this event. It is provided at no cost to you by the La Crosse County Aging Unit. Reservations are required. Please call 608-785-6438 to make an arrangement.

## PROGRAM:

9:30—10:00 a.m

**Registration, Community Resources**

10:00—10:50 a.m.

**Welcome**

**Speaker—Janet Zander, MPA, CSW**

An Advocacy & Public Policy Coordinator for GWAAR (Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging, Resources ). Learn small steps to making big impacts in caregiving.



10:50—11:00 a.m.

**Break 11:00-11:50 a.m.**

11:00—11:50 a.m.

**Speaker—Dr. Ellen Rozek**

A professor in the Psychology Department and Co-chair of the Gerontology Emphasis at UWL-La Crosse. Respite is crucial for self care. What does research say and how is it related to your health and wellness?



11:50—12:10 p.m.

**Break, Community Resources**

12:10—12:50 p.m.

**Lunch**

12:15—12:45 p.m.

**Lunch Speaker, Amy Schaack, MT-BC**

A Music Therapist specialized in Neurologic Music Therapy. She is owner and Director of Services at Life in Harmony Music Therapy, LLC. Caregivers will be inspired to use music in ways that will promote socialization, motivation, emotional regulation, & memory recall of their loved ones with Alzheimer's or Dementia.



12:45—1:00 p.m

**Closing and Door Prizes (must be present)**

Tuesday, August 4th | 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Black River Beach Neighborhood Center  
1433 Rose St. | La Crosse, WI 54603

## Register Today!

\_\_\_ There is no cost to attend for family caregivers but **registration is required by Wednesday, July 29th, 2015.**

\_\_\_ \$15.00 for Professional Caregivers

Please make check payable to:  
La Crosse County Aging Unit  
**Mail check and registration form to:**

La Crosse County Aging Unit  
400 4th Street, N., Rm. 2260  
La Crosse, WI 54601

**Please complete one form for each person.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs:

Please indicate any special needs you may have:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to invite other caregivers. Simply have them contact us. For more information, please call La Crosse County Aging Unit at 785-9710.



# **Lakeview Health Center**

## **LAKEVIEW CAMPUS UPDATES**

Construction of the replacement Lakeview campus continues...



The interior design concept and interior finishes were reviewed with our architect this month. Initial work has begun to identify furnishing needs for resident living areas. This initial process includes 1) identifying equipment/furnishings that may be re-used in the new building and 2) meeting with a variety of nursing home and community staff to determine safety and durability features that are most necessary in furnishings for these areas. This process will continue throughout the next several months.

Lakeview staff also continue to work with LaCrosse Facilities and IT departments to finalize nurse call and security, wander management, and communication systems.

## **LAKEVIEW RESIDENT RELOCATION PLANNING**

Plans have started with the State of WI to develop a resident relocation plan. This plan is intended to 1) ensure understanding of the applicable State codes as they related to resident relocation during a facility rightsizing process, 2) gain approval from the WI Department of Health Services for this plan, and 3) ensure residents' right to choice is respected and honored during this process. This plan will be developed and submitted to the Department of Health Services in the next few months. In addition this plan will help us develop move-in procedures to ensure an orderly relocation to a new building. We will be discussing these plans with residents and their families and legally authorized decision-makers as we progress through this planning process.

Submitted by:  
*Wanda Plachecki, Administrator*  
[wplachecki@lacrossecounty.org](mailto:wplachecki@lacrossecounty.org)  
608-786-1400  
*Lakeview Health Center*

# MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD

## Health & Human Services July 2015

### Health Department

#### **2014-2017 Strategic Plan**

**Mission: Protect, Promote and Improve the Health of all People to Enhance the Quality of Life**

#### **Goal #1 – Prioritize the work we do**

##### **Actions**

- A. Health Education staff worked with County Board members and Environmental Health Manager to draft and implement an educational plan on climate change as a public health issue.
- B. Staff members continue to participate in Safe Kids/Slide into Safety and Child Death Review Team meetings to identify/implement strategies to prevent childhood injuries and death.
- C. Tick activity remains high. Spring is the time of year that the majority of human infections with tick-borne diseases occur.
- D. Staff created and submitted Action Plans to the Public Health Accreditation Board. This board will review action plans in August and determine Dept's progress towards accreditation status.
- E. Environmental Health staff conducted a follow-up inspection at an apartment building with a basement full of sewage.
- F. Vector staff completed the pretreatment for long term mosquito control in certain types of long standing water retention areas.

#### **Goal #2 – Ensure a competent, trusted committed and motivated workforce**

##### **Actions**

- A. It is with great sadness to report that Pat Danielson, Environmental Health Sanitarian, lost her battle with cancer. She was an outstanding member of our department and highly respected by the clientele she served.
- B. The yearly Employee Satisfaction Survey results have been compiled for review.
- C. Tobacco control staff presented on E-cigarettes and pending state legislation to the La Crosse Healthy Living Collaboration.
- D. Two staff attended Wisconsin WIC Association Board Meeting; agenda included revising by-laws and writing the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan.
- E. Educational programs and news releases concerning tick-borne and mosquito-borne diseases were provided in 12 counties.
- F. Staff attended FDA training on special processes related to preservation of food in licensed establishments.
- G. Two staff persons attended a national Public Health Preparedness training.
- H. Public Health Nurse attended training in Milwaukee to serve as our department's lead risk assessor for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

#### **Goal #3 – Balance fiscal responsibility with innovative funding**

##### **Actions**

- A. Sponsor meeting held with IT and Finance Departments to develop process for selecting future electronic health record software. Staff is assisting with implementing the process.
- B. Additional funding of \$3,195 received from Dept of Health Services for WI Well Woman Program transition from county to regional service provider role.
- C. Staff initiated two quality improvement projects targeting our Preparedness and WIC programs.
- D. Health Education staff and Lab manager put together grant application to obtain funding for lab equipment to test for Arsenic and other metals in drinking water.

**Goal #4 – Participate in, lead and build effective community partnerships**

**Actions**

- A. Participated in the Public Health Preparedness Health Care Coalition Training Kick Off.
- B. Training provided to 19 local WIC vendors on “eWIC”. eWIC is the new debit card system to replace paper checks.
- C. Nutrition Manager attended “Finding your Way” Head Start Conference with the goal of building relationships with Child & Family Support Services, the Parenting Place, Head Start and other local partners with a focus on early childhood.
- D. Community car seat fitting stations were implemented at two (West Salem, Onalaska) Brenengen Chevrolet locations from April to September, 2015.
- E. Tobacco Control staff provided education to two Wisconsin legislators and one US legislator on e-cigarette and tobacco prevention and control.
- F. WIC & Nutrition Manager begins term as the State Breastfeeding Coalition Fiscal Committee Lead.

*Submitted by Sarah Spah, Director*

**Human Services Department**

**INTEGRATED SUPPORT & RECOVERY SERVICES**

Circle of Security Informed Care Training for Community

A Circle of Security Informed Care training was offered by ISRS and funded by the La Crosse Community Foundation. 25 clinicians in the region received training that builds upon the recent Trauma Informed Care project content and increases our community’s ability to work with children and families with significant trauma related needs. 120 community members attended a single day training to increase knowledge of trauma informed care.

Western Region Integrated Care (WRIC)

**Pilot Project:** Implement shared services approach for a core set of mental health/substance abuse services across partner counties by the end of 2016.

**Updates:**

- 5 of the 32 Core Benefit services that will be delivered through this project are operating within the consortium.
- A new timetable for implementation of services has been developed due to the delay imposed by Medical Assistance and the additional year of funding.

**COMMUNITY ACCESS & RESOURCES SECTION**

2015-2017 Biennium State Budget

The Joint Finance Committee voted on motions pertaining to the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and publicly funded long term care programs (Family Care and IRIS) on May 27. All changes proposed in the Governor's budget for the ADRC were rejected. Three studies are requested regarding ADRCs, two regarding core services and one to study merging ADRC functions with Income Maintenance. The significant long term care program changes proposed by the Governor were modified but many of them remained in the budget. The final budget has yet to be passed by the full legislature.

## **JUSTICE SUPPORT SERVICES**

### Project PROVEN

Western Technical College (WTC) received a grant to provide employment readiness services in the jail and a transition to the college once the person has been released from the jail. The grant is also funding Moving On (cognitive-behavioral curriculum for women) and for a staff person to attend a training for trainers in Thinking For A Change. The partnership between the jail, WTC, and JSS has been strong in providing services to those incarcerated. The grant funding will terminate in July 2015.

### OWI Treatment Court

After a process and outcome evaluation was completed in 2013, the OWI Treatment Court Policy Team has worked toward implementing numerous recommendations of the evaluation. As a result of the evaluation and based on research, fewer people are involved in OWI Treatment Court which is manageable for Judge Levine to preside at both sessions of the OWI Treatment Court and allows for Judge Horne to focus on the Drug Treatment Court.

## **FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SECTION**

### Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) has approved a funding request for a second round of Clinical TF-CBT training for up to 30 local and regional behavioral health therapists. DCF will pay for all costs incurred (approx \$22,000) and La Crosse County will be the host site and provide all of the coordination for the year long clinical training collaborative. The year long collaboration will start in October of 2015 and conclude in September of 2016. Our coordination has already begun and at this time Vernon and Monroe Counties are referring clinicians. Any interested La Crosse County staff will be able to attend Day One of the clinical training to get an overview of childhood trauma and TF-CBT.

# **MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COUNTY BOARD**

## **Internal Departments July 2015**

### **Treasurer's office**

I can continue with the good news that I mentioned back in May from the Treasurer's office is that for the first six months of 2015 we have collected more interest/penalty on delinquent tax bills as compared to the first six months in the past five years. Maybe this is a true sign of the economy turning around for individuals. We can only wait and see. This month we have sent up the final list to our Corporation Counsel on the properties that will be a part of the foreclosure process for 2010/2011. The list started with about 85 different parcels and the list that we took up will only have 38 parcels. We still have sometime before it is finished so hopefully we can shrink the list even further. I mentioned in May that we sent out postponed cards for second half payments that are due to the County for property taxes. So as of today there is still about \$18 million to collect. Our biggest response always happens in the month of July so be patient and wait for the next report. In July we will be moving forward on the sale of county properties that we did not sell the first time as well as the two properties in which we had an eviction. The list will include 24 parcels with most of them being mapping issues that happened in the Village of West Salem. In June I attended the WCTA conference which was held in Marathon County. As always there was good discussion from State representatives from the Department of Revenue, good showing of vendors marketing their products as well as discussion on the upcoming legislation for the change in the tax bill. By the end of the conference there was a pretty good vibe that we will not be seeing the changes on the tax bill as was originally drafted. Again we will see more in the next month on this issue. Also if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to stop by or contact me.

Respectively submitted,

*Shawn Handland*  
*La Crosse County Treasurer*

### **Finance Department**

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is now completed for 2014, and the copies will be placed in your lockers sometime this week. We have submitted the CAFR to the Government Finance Officers Association for the tenth consecutive year. The auditor's will still be here this summer working on the testing of Federal and State programs related to the Single Audit, which is due on Sept 30th. Thanks to all of the finance staff throughout the County who have worked so hard to complete all of their year end work.

We have also completed our first Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for 2014. The PAFR is an unaudited summary report of the financial activities of the County and is prepared primarily from detailed information contained in the County's 2014 CAFR. The PAFR has been prepared to simplify the information in the CAFR and better inform the public

about the overall financial condition of the County, without the heavy use of technical accounting terms or excessive detail.

Electronic copies of these two reports and other financial reports can be found on the County website at: [La Crosse County Finance Department](#)

Currently, we are getting started with the budget process, having completed the budget workshop last week. Departments are now in the process of preparing the budget worksheets and will be gearing up for the budget meetings with Steve and the finance staff in August.

Finance, Personnel and Information Technology Departments have been working for the past year in developing an RFP (Request for Proposal) for an ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) system. Our goal is to implement a new financial, human resource and payroll system for the entire county over the next two – three years. ERP is a business process management software that allows an organization to use a system of integrated applications to manage the business and automate many back office functions related to technology, services and human resources, payroll and financial management. We have narrowed the vendors down to two companies, and we will be viewing two day demos from each company in July. We hope to have a decision made by August so the cost can be included in the 2016 budget.

Purchasing is currently leading two major procurement projects and has completed several smaller equipment procurement projects since January. The first major project is the ERP (Enterprise Resource Program) described above. The second major project is the Health Department Software System. The end result of this project is to present a recommended comprehensive software system that encompasses client, management, fiscal management, health records, and interfaces with multiple state software systems. Within the Highway Department RFPs have been completed for an excavator, single & tandem axle trucks, and the installation of equipment for the purchased trucks. In addition, purchasing facilitated the sale of used trash containers at the Solid Waste Department. Purchasing continues to assist Lakeview Health Center with the purchasing of items for the new campus such as the nurse-client communication system. Purchasing also oversees the management of the procurement card program.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sharon R Davidson, CPA*