

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
October 16, 2012**

The October 16, 2012 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Commissioners' boardroom in the Courthouse located at 200 E. Virginia, Gunnison, Colorado. Present were:

Phil Chamberland, Chairperson
Allen Brown, Vice-Chairperson
Hap Channell, Commissioner
Paula Swenson, Commissioner

Renee Brown, Health and Human Services Director
Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Other Persons Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Chamberland called the meeting to order at 10:28 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Moved** by Commissioner Channell, seconded by Commissioner Swenson to approve the meeting minutes for August 21, 2012 and September 18, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Staff Accountant Maureen Eden presented the financial report dated August 31, 2012 for discussion and approval. **Moved** by Commissioner Swenson, seconded by Commissioner Channell to approve the financials for August 31, 2012 and authorize the Chairperson's signature. Motion carried unanimously.

EBT ISSUANCE AND PROGRAM UTILIZATION: HHS Director Brown briefly discussed the information that was supplied in the packet, as follows:

1. Healthcare Reform. This will be a significant influencing factor for her department, along with negative impacts to statewide funding if sequestration goes forward. Essentially, this would result in immediate cuts to many programs and tax increases on working people.
2. Client Assistance. During SFY2010, her department assisted 15,194 clients, compared to 18,768 year-to-date for SFY 2012. The staff is meeting and exceeding standards for customer care.
3. Public Assistance. There were a total of 1,036 applications submitted during SFY2010, compared to 1,269 year-to-date for SFY2012. There were 1,143 ongoing cases in SFY2010, compared to 1,409 year-to-date for SFY2012. Between SFY2010 and SFY2012, 247 additional children residing in Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties were covered by public insurance.
4. Electronic Benefit Transfers (EBT). Senior Accountant Eden presented this information. During SFY2008, there was a total of \$467,000 in food assistance, compared to \$1,467,000 during SFY2012. The cost of out-of-home placements has decreased because of the use of foster care and other programs in lieu of institutionalism. HHS Director Brown noted that the increase in the cost of food assistance is a result of the recession and legislative changes.

FEDERAL CHILD WELFARE IV-E WAIVER AND DATA REPORT: HHS Director Brown informed the Board that Colorado received the IV-E Waiver, which will allow her department to use the same amount of funding that would otherwise be spent on out-of-home placements for other purposes. Funding will no longer be based on the amount that is spent on treatment centers, which can cost \$6,000 per month per child. Gunnison County has the lowest out-of-home placement costs of any other county in Colorado.

SENIOR RESOURCES AND ADULT PROTECTION PROGRAM: HHS Director Brown informed the Board that Senior Resources Program Manager Karin Stewart is very busy keeping up with the demand. The number of client contacts went from 6,154 in 2010 to 9,134 in 2012. Adult protection cases rose from 12 in 2010 to 42 in 2012. County Manager Birnie noted that a new staff position was added to the Senior Resources Office. Additional draft changes within requirements are projected to carry a 15% increase in workload without the guarantee of additional funding. The Gunnison County Senior Resources Office is being used as a model for how to successfully implement the Adult Resources for Care and Health (ARCH) program. HHS Director Brown indicated that self-neglect is the most common issue in the adult-protection field, though financial exploitation may be the most heard of. As adults are unable to meet their own needs and are resistant to assistance, competency standards are assessed. Some abuse cases have also been reported in our community.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for November 20, 2012.

ADJOURN: **Moved** by Commissioner Swenson, seconded by Commissioner Brown to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:22 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved December 18, 2012:

Phil Chamberland, Chairperson