



# WRAPAROUND MILWAUKEE

Child & Adolescent Services Branch

News – A Monthly Publication

FEBRUARY 2009

## From the Director...



### **New Approaches to Independent Living and Transitional Services for Youth**

One of our goals for 2009 is to look at how we can improve services to youth transitioning to adulthood and independent living. In looking at youth who were successful in making the transition, the single best indicator of success was having a sustainable source of income, primarily a job. Success was correlated more to the job than having their own place to live. So for 2009, Wraparound Milwaukee wants to focus on assisting youth to access resources that will lead to more permanent employment. This includes acquiring job preparation skills, as well as job placement.

We want the sequence to be job preparation → job acquisition → supervised independent living. Independent living resources will need to be more structured, closely supervised, connecting youth whenever possible to a support person or mentor, and leading to an affordable housing option. We are fortunate to have Bill Herd, former Finance Coordinator for Wraparound Milwaukee, assisting us as a liaison to these youth and families. Bill is providing his time and energy to helping many of these youth.

Jeannine Maher, Wraparound Milwaukee's Provider Network Coordinator, will be working with Bill, our Care Coordinators, Providers and community agencies to improve transition programming for these youth. We will further share plans and updates as new resources are identified or developed.

Bruce Kamradt, Director

*tools needed to overcome the hurdles in his life. Ricardo was very active in his transitional planning for adulthood and advocated for what he felt was best for him. "Wrong Answer" was the reply the team would often hear from Ricardo when he disagreed with a suggestion.*

*Ricardo's transitional planning did have its hurdles, however. The child and family team struggled to find the best placement for Ricardo and relied upon the involvement of his mother to come up with an idea to keep Ricardo safe and supported. While Ricardo's mother had a difficult time finding ways to support her son in her home, she did have a strong voice that inspired team members and other system partners to work hard for her son. Ricardo's mother helped the child and family team understand how to better support Ricardo's mental health needs based upon her experience with him. In the end, it was the persistence of Ricardo's mother that allowed the transition plan to be successful.*

*Ricardo talks of his experience in Wraparound Milwaukee with appreciation and often states that if he wins \$80 million he is going to give it to his team members and the placement providers that were involved during the Wraparound process. Ricardo's adulthood is full of promise. His generous spirit, passion for cooking, sense of humor, persistence and charisma will allow him to make the most of all of the opportunities life has in store for him.*

(\* Name changed for confidentiality.)

Submitted by My Home, Your Home

## Wraparound Success Story...



*Ricardo\* loves cheeseburgers. He loves to spend time cooking in the kitchen of his loving, supportive grandmother, as well as his own home. Having turned 18 and recently disenrolled from Wraparound Milwaukee, Ricardo continues to receive additional support to help him develop the skills to cook, mow lawns and care for animals.*

*Ricardo is now an 18 year-old adult living in an adult home-type setting to help him develop the*

## National News...



### **Economic Stimulus Bill – What Does it Mean for Mental Health?**

This week Congress reconciled and President Obama signed the financial stimulus package called the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). While mental health is not significantly impacted or addressed in the Act, there are some health impacts that result from it. The ARRA does include an across-the-board increase in federal Medicaid funds to all states of 6% with a "bonus" structure based on the state's unemployment rate.

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The ARRA provides a payment of \$250 to Social Security beneficiaries and SSI recipients.

Additionally, the ARRA includes a moratorium on the Medicaid Outpatient Hospital Regulation, as well as six other Medicaid regulations, including extending the moratoria on the final rules for claiming of Medicaid targeted case management through June 30, 2009. Without the moratoria on targeted case management, child welfare, juvenile justice and some other entities would have been totally prohibited in providing and billing for case management services.

Health Information (HIT) grants were included in the amount of \$2 billion as developing electronic health records was a high priority for infrastructure development. The ARRA legislation also directed Health and Human Services to close and desist in promulgating changes in the Medicaid Rehabilitation Services rules that would otherwise restrict eligibility for certain mental health services.

Bruce Kamradt, Director

### **Public Policy Forum Reviews Potential Fiscal Impact on Milwaukee County for Returning 17 year-olds to the Jurisdiction of Juvenile Courts**

Wisconsin Act 27, adopted in 1995, defined 17 year-olds who committed a criminal offense as adults for purposes of court disposition. The Wisconsin Legislature is now considering a proposal that would return all 17 year-olds to the jurisdiction of Juvenile Court. There are many program and clinical merits to doing so, including improving the outcomes of 17 year-olds in the Corrections system. But, there are also some huge financial considerations.

The Public Policy Forum was asked by the Community Justice Council to review the potential financial risks. That report was presented to the Juvenile Justice Sub-Committee this past week. The return of 17-year-olds to the jurisdiction of Juvenile Court would shift costs from the adult system to the juvenile system. The Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB), Wisconsin County Human Services Association (WCHSA) and Milwaukee County Human Services Department (DHS) have prepared the following projected estimates:

- LAB            Statewide       \$53.5 -\$82.4 million
- WCHSA       Statewide       \$75.8 million
- Milwaukee      \$31.5 million
- DHS           Milwaukee      \$26.8 - \$31.7 million

The Milwaukee County calculation includes about \$6 million in additional Wraparound Milwaukee costs based on a projected 25 percent increase in enrolled youth and corresponding service expenditures.

In the end, it is still uncertain whether legislation to return 17 year-olds to Juvenile Court will get

reintroduced and passed in this legislative session. It is clear that if it does get passed, there will need to be a mechanism that ensures Milwaukee County will be reimbursed the actual costs related to treating 17 year-olds as juveniles.

Bruce Kamradt, Director

### *Mobile Crisis News...*



In January, the Mobile Urgent Treatment Team (MUTT) helped a West Allis collaborative formulate goals and strategies for youth in their community. West Allis has done some innovative approaches with youth and families, in an effort to increase access to mental health services and reduce school displacements. MUTT has also been active in the development of a pilot to bring more mental health services to Milwaukee Public School (MPS) students.

Finally, MUTT welcomes Angie Bowe, a UWM School of Social Welfare student, to the team as an intern.

Dr. Chris Morano, Mobile Crisis Director

### *Quality Assurance News...*



#### **BCAP Project Update**

Wraparound Milwaukee continues to participate in the Best Clinical and Administrative Practices (BCAP) Initiative being administered through the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS). The initiative over the past 2 years has focused on improving health care outcomes for those children in the Child Welfare system. In our final stages of involvement with the CHCS, all eleven national project sites, which were chosen to be part of the initiative, will come together to address "common measures" or data indicators in which all sites can contribute similar information. At this time, the group will most likely be looking at data reflective of demographic information, access to care and coordination of care, and family engagement. More to come!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to give me a call at (414) 257-7608 or e-mail me at [paerdman@wrapmilw.org](mailto:paerdman@wrapmilw.org).

Pamela Erdman, QA/QI Director

#### **Quality Quote of the Month**

*"However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at results."*



## Finance News...



### 2008 Invoices

Please remember that all Invoices are due within 60 days of service provision. **The deadline for submitting all 2008 Invoices is February 28, 2009. Any Invoices submitted beyond this date will not be paid.** We ask that you review any outstanding Invoices and submit them within the time frame allowed. We understand that sometimes a Provider may be waiting for a Care Coordinator to enter a Service Authorization Request (SAR), so toward this end all Care Coordinators have been informed of the February deadline. If you have not been able to make contact with the Care Coordinator, please contact that Care Coordinator's Supervisor. If you continue to have difficulty with authorizations, please give me a call at (414) 257-7597.

Also, we would like all of our Providers to take a good look at the checks they receive from Milwaukee County. If you look closely, you will notice that **"not valid after 60 days, a \$15 replacement fee will apply"** is printed on each check. We ask you to be aware of this, ensure that checks are cashed within the time frame allowed and know that the replacement fee will automatically be applied if a check is re-issued.

Janet Friedman, Finance Coordinator

## Upcoming Events...



### MARCH 2009

- Mar. 2** **WM QA Executive Com. Mtg.**  
10:00-12:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 212
- Mar. 4** **DHHS Centralized QA Mtg.**  
9:00-11:00am BHD-Day Hospital – Room 212
- Mar. 5** **Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting**  
8:15-10:00am BHD-Day Hospital – Room 212
- Mar. 5** **High Risk Reviews**  
11:00-1:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
- Mar. 6** **Disenroll Reviews**  
9:00-5:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
- Mar. 6** **Brain Development Seminar**  
1:00-3:30pm MCW Auditorium
- Mar. 11** **Child Psych. Cons. – Parent**  
12:00-1:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
- Mar. 12** **High Risk Reviews**  
11:00-1:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
- Mar. 17** **New Care Coordinator Training**  
8:30-4:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416
- Mar. 18** **New Care Coordinator Training**  
8:30-4:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 416
- Mar. 19** **Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting**  
8:15-10:00am at REACH – St. Aemilian's
- Mar. 19** **High Risk Reviews**  
11:00-1:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
- Mar. 25** **Child Psych. Cons. – REACH-StA**  
12:00-1:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253
- Mar. 26** **High Risk Reviews**  
11:00-1:00pm BHD-Day Hospital – Room 253

## Announcements...



### Positive Recognition Awards

The following have been recipients of "Positive Recognition" awards:

#### **Melissa Carpenter – Willowglen Community Care**

Nominated by Barbara Bush - Parent

*"This young lady breaks her neck helping my family. I truly admire her and praise her for all her hard work she's providing. I don't know about your other workers, but Melissa is top-notch in her job. She listens, works with you, understands, is sweet and does a superb job."*

#### **Lawson's Transportation**

Nominated by Amanda O'Day – Running Rebels

*"Lawson's Transportation has proven to be reliable and easy to work with during our Suspension Accountability Program. Their customer service and people skills are top-notch."*

#### Editor

*Debra Jansen, Consumer Relations Coordinator - (414) 257-6532.*  
For more information on Wraparound Milwaukee, go to our Website at [www.county.milwaukee.gov](http://www.county.milwaukee.gov) and search using the keywords "Wraparound Milwaukee".



## Happy Valentine's Day

### Greater Milwaukee Major Events

|          |                                   |                           |                |
|----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| 2/21-3/1 | Greater Milwaukee Auto Show       | Midwest Airlines Center   | (414) 908-6001 |
| 3/7-3/8  | Indian Summer Fest. Winter PowWow | Wisconsin State Fair Park | (414) 604-1000 |
| 3/14     | Downtown St. Patrick's Day Parade | Downtown Milwaukee        | (414) 276-6696 |