

WACOSA Program Committee Agenda

Monday November 13, 2023 @ 5:00pm – 6:00pm via Zoom

Present committee members: Nancy, Lynn, Mary, Jeanie, Jennifer, Mollie, Joe

Meeting time: 5:00-5:40

Agenda:

General program updates:

North, South, Annex, Whitney, Sauk Centre, 1st Avenue, ThriftWorks, DocuShred

- Ambassadors for Respect class: The Ambassadors for Respect (AFR) program brings adults with disabilities into 4th grade classrooms to teach students to include others, to use Person First language, and to advocate for themselves and others. 11 clients from our Annex and South programs have signed up to be Ambassadors. Weekly classes starting late Oct/early Nov followed by presentations in the Spring.
- Pause on intakes due to staffing.
- 10/13/23 Corey Mueller (Sauk Centre) presented Senator Aric Putnam with the MOHR Making a Difference Award at St John's. Senator Putnam was the chief author in a bill which will increase EE funding by 5 million dollars over the next 2 years.
- Sauk Centre will be doing a mural project with Dan Mondloch in 2024. Grant through Central Minnesota Art Board.
- Thrift re-strategizing (Nancy): **Open 10 yrs in May. Due to increasing costs of running the store, we are looking at how we price and how we sort donated items. We are receiving lower quality goods- need to look at re-salability and educating staff on what is trending right now and what are other thrift stores in our area selling items for. We are also looking at our training program models- we have exhausted our list of clients that are interested in skill building before community employment. Looking at Having people that were once part of the training program that were not ready the 1st time around, try again. Also getting referrals for PRE-ETTS students.**
- MOHR region 6 will be hosting an open meeting via Zoom and in person at Options in Big Lake for parents/guardians to share information on the upcoming changes with 14c. **January 18 6-8pm**

KPI Recommendations

- Number of clients served monthly – 524 as of 10/31/23
- Client funding utilization rate – average utilization rate is 92%
- Employment Exploration Services (EES) – 2
- Employment Development Services (EDS) – 2
- Employment Support Services (ESS) – individual: 88
Group: 85

Vulnerable Adult/Abuse Prevention Review

- None to report.

2023 meeting dates: Mondays from 5-6pm, February 13, April 24 (Zoom), August 7 (in person, at Granite City on patio!), and November 13 (Zoom) Continue to have committee meetings 2 weeks before board meeting in 2024. Will set dates once 2024 board meetings are scheduled. Will also discuss zoon meetings or in-person meetings.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR WACOSA – YOU ARE APPRECIATED!