DATE:       June 16, 2022
TO:         WCA Board of Directors
FROM:       Lynn Fitch, Sawyer County Clerk
RE:         Resolution #2022-34 Restructuring of Community Support Programs

To Whom it May Concern:

Please accept this resolution for consideration at the Annual WCA Business meeting scheduled to place on September 18, 2022. Should you have any questions regarding attached resolution, please feel free to contact me.

I look forward to receiving a confirmation notice by June 22, 2022. Thank you,

[Signature]
Lynn Fitch
Sawyer County Clerk
10610 Main St
Hayward, WI 54843
County Clerk Office 715-634-4866, ext. 3242
RESOLUTION 2022-34

RESTRUCTURING OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMS (CSP)
FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

WHEREAS, Wisconsin counties are tasked with primary responsibility to address the needs of persons with mental illness and substance use disorders; and,

WHEREAS, this includes providing direct care or contracting for care with providers to deliver mental health services and substance abuse services that meet the needs of individual constituents; and,

WHEREAS, Counties are required to provide a number of human service programs for persons in crisis—regardless of their County of residence— including 24-hour telephone and in-person service, mobile crisis response, walk-in services, and short-term voluntary and involuntary hospital care; and,

WHEREAS, the costs of operating these programs for Counties has increased significantly but State aids supporting them have not kept up; and,

WHEREAS, Counties are experiencing a growing tax levy burden to support these programs and provide matching dollars for State and Federal program funds; and,

WHEREAS, the burden of these increasing costs has a detrimental effect on County budgets already limited by other mandates and levy caps; and,

WHEREAS, counties use existing mental health programs including:

  Community Recovery Services (CRS) — helps teens or adults with mental illness through outpatient services for their unique recovery needs.

  Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) — all ages support by addressing individual’s unique needs related to mental health and substance abuse outside of an inpatient setting, but if unaddressed could result in in-patient stay during crisis.

  Community Support Programs (CSP) — programs for adults that are living with a serious mental illness, minimal to intensive services, typically most significantly impaired individuals, often through an involuntary Chapter 51 commitment (court ordered)

WHEREAS, while the State of Wisconsin elected to fully fund CCS programs in 2013 which greatly expanded access and use of the program, CSP is not fully funded and whose clients typically represent the highest costs and liabilities for Counties; and,

WHEREAS, Sawyer County consistently has a disproportionately higher number of CSP clients and has incurred high cost in-patient placements which causes ongoing budget difficulties; and,

WHEREAS, if the CRS and CSP programs were to be similarly structured to the CCS program whereby the State funds the non-federal share, counties would be able add and expand CSP services and have more control over their budgets; and,

WHEREAS, a change to the CRS and CSP programs would aid counties with additional funds and tools in responding to mental health and substance abuse crisis needs.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors does hereby request that the Legislature and Wisconsin DHS restructure the Community Recovery Services (CRS) and Community Support Programs (CSP) similarly to Comprehensive Community Services (CCS), and fund the non-federal share of the costs of these programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA), Wisconsin County Human Service Association (WCHSA), and Sawyer County’s State Legislators.

This Resolution was presented to the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors this 16th Day of June, 2022 by the following Sponsor and Co-Sponsor:

Tweed Shuman, Supervisor

Dale Schleeter, Supervisor

This Resolution is hereby adopted by the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of June 2022.

Tweed Shuman,
Sawyer County Board of Supervisors Chairman

Lynn Fitch,
Sawyer County Clerk
County Board Member Roll Call

Date of County Board Meeting: 6/16/2022

Agenda Item: To approve the Funding for Out-of-County Placements

Motion by: Boettcher  Second by: Buckholtz

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Voice Vote
Roll Call Roll Call