FRANKLN COUNTY SB40
RESOURCE BOARD

Date: February 10, 2025
Time: 7:00 pm
Place: meeting held in-person at the SB40 Union Office and via Webex

Board Present via Webex: Ms. Katherine Chambers, Ms. Laura Conley, Ms. Colleen Kuenzel, Mr. Paul LaVigne

Board Present in-person: Ms. Linda Sentivany, Mr. Steve Wilmesherr, Mr. Walter Murray Jr.

Board Absent: Mr. Larry Sikes

Staff Present via Webex: Ms. Diane White

Staff Present in person: Ms. Kimberlyn MacDonald, Ms. Rebecca Sinklear, Ms. Amanda Sammet

Agenda

MOTION was made by Mr. Walter Murray Jr., seconded by Mr. Steve Wilmesherr, to approve the agenda. Motion carried (7-0).

Public Comments-none

Exceptional Equestrians Request for Shift in Funds – Ms. Lindsay Mohr reported a need to shift FY2025 funds from licensed therapy and divide between therapeutic riding and job skills training to be able to bill for consumers who are receiving services in those areas.

MOTION was made by Ms. Colleen Kuenzel, seconded by Ms. Laura Conley, to approve EE's FY2025 request to shift a total of $9,000 from license therapy: $4,000 to therapeutic riding and $5,000 to job skills training. Motion carried (7-0).

FY2026 Funding Request Presentations:

a. Ability- Ms. Lori Schadler, Executive Director, reported on services to be provided including Life Ops, Community Supports, Residential Services, and Early Intervention. Ms. Schaedler reported on the number of consumers served and stated that the FY2026 funding request amount will be the same as FY2025.
b. Empac Group- Mr. Tim Poepsel, CEO, reported that they are currently serving around 160 consumers, 140 from Franklin County. Mr. Poepsel stated that the shops are continuously growing and staying busy, and the business model is the reason they are able to stay competitive. Mr. Poepsel stated he expects the FY2026 funding request amount to remain the same as FY2025.

c. Empac Employment Resources - Ms. Sara Gratzer, Director of Employment Services, provided an overview of the existing services and expectations to add additional sites for providing services in FY2026 as well as providing additional services with the high school students. Ms. Gratzer discussed a new program, Day Habilitation, that started in February 2025, with one consumer enrolled and is expected to grow with three consumers starting in Marth and several consumers starting April. Ms. Gratzer reported that the Day Habilitation was developed to provide a service for consumers who are of retirement age and consumers who have graduated high school and are needing to increase their job skills before working full-time in competitive employment. Ms. Gratzer stated the total of consumers in Franklin Co with IDD being served is 40-60. Ms. Gratzer reported the overall FY2026 funding request amount is expected to remain the same as FY2025 with adjustments to raise the amount provided for transportation and lower the amount provided for individual career planning services.
d. Exceptional Equestrians- Ms. Lindsay Mohr, Administrative Manager, provided an overview of existing services expected to continue in FY2026. Ms. Mohr reported a decrease in FY2026 funding request amount by $13 stating the minor decrease is due to EE's recent decision to increase the consumer rates.
e. OATS- Mr. Michael Burbank, Regional Director, provided an overview of existing services, routes and trips expected to continue for FY2026. Mr. Burbank reported on the continued changes in cost of insurance and fuel fluctuation affecting overall operations. Mr. Burbank stated there will be an increase of $0.02 per mile resulting in a slight increase in FY2026 funding request amount.
f. Service Coordination – Ms. Diane White, Director of Service Coordination, reported that Targeted Case Management currently provides services to a total of 679 consumers, 132 non-Medicaid consumers. Ms. White stated that the FY2026 funding request amount will remain the same as FY2025.
g. Temco – No representative attended the board meeting.

Minutes – Mr. Walter Murray Jr., requested correction be made to spelling error under the January 2025 minutes, motion to adjourn by removing the "MS" behind Wilmesherr.

MOTION was made by Mr. Walter Murray Jr., seconded by Mr. Steve Wilmesherr, to approve the January 2025 meeting minutes after correction is made. Motion carried (7-0).

Treasurer's Report- Ms. Amanda Sammet, Accountant, presented the January 2025 financial reports.

MOTION was made by Mr. Steve Wilmesherr, seconded by Mr. Paul Lavigne, to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried (7-0).

Executive Director's Report- Ms. Kimberlyn MacDonald reported that she will be attending MACDDS Legislative event in Jefferson City in March. Ms. Kimberlyn provided an overview of the legislative updates including eliminating the waitlist for people with developmental disabilities by supporting a supplemental budget for FY2025 and increased funding for FY2026. Ms. Kimberlyn reported the waiver wait list in January 2025 was 522 in home and 91 residential stating the numbers have increased in February 2025 to 579 in home and 96 residential. Ms. MacDonald reported the impact the waitlist has on individuals' health and safety and encouraged others to reach out to their legislators and provide knowledge of the impact and request change. Ms. MacDonald reported that Franklin County SB40 currently has 17 on the waitlist, 4 of the 17 needing residential placement. Ms. MacDonald discussed the need to increase statewide funding for TCM by $6.4M, as TCM has not had a rate increase since 2015. Ms. MacDonald reported on the need to ensure essential services for individuals with IDD by appropriating sufficient funding for competitive wages stating the competitive wage of $21/hour is required to be able to maintain an acceptable candidate pool for direct support professionals. Ms. MacDonald provided an overview of the 2024 Board Member Assessment Questionnaire reporting that the board continues to operate efficiently.

New Business- None

Old Business – None

MOTION was made by Mr. Walter Murray Jr., seconded by Mr. Steve Wilmesherr, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried (7-0).

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

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Katherine Chambers
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Ms. Katherine Chambers

Recorded by,

Rebecca Sinklear
Ms. Rebecca Sinklear

ATTACHNMENTS

Exceptional Equestrians Request for Shift in FY2025 funds
January Financial Reports
Executive Director Report
Newspaper Articles