Call to Order: Sup Gross called Health and Human Needs to order at 5:30 p.m. Human Services Board and the Youth Commission were called to order as subcommittees. Nichols called the LTS Committee to order at 5:41 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of 6/10/04: Sup Worzala moved and Sup Gross seconded the motion to approve the minutes of 6/10/04. Approved 4-0.

Public Comment: Casey Behrend, Executive Director of Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin, distributed a handout entitled “You Can Pay Me Now or You Can Pay Me Later.” He feels that the cuts that the Department is asked to take are not in the long-range benefit to our community. Funding is not keeping pace with the cost of doing business and increasing population. We have come to the end of available efficiencies, so additional budget cuts will reduce services. Research indicates that human services and juvenile justice programs save dollars in the long run. Cutting programs is a short-term strategy that will cost more in the long run. We must develop long-term strategies and initiatives for funding juvenile justice and human services programs. Wilcox asked Behrend if he had any recommendations for long-term strategies and initiatives. Behrend stated that the Consortia United will be coming to the committee with this information soon. Sup Gross noted that Steve Aos, a researcher from Washington state, publishes cost benefit analysis data that may be helpful.

Chair’s Report/Announcements:

Committee Reports: Sup DeSmidt reported that Sensitive Crimes Domestic Abuse Subcommittee met last week, and United Way gave a presentation on motivating volunteers.

Per Diem Requests: None

Dane County Resolutions:
- Res 33, 2004-05 – Accepting Older Americans Act and Mental Health Revenues – ACS Division: Sup Kesterson moved and Sup Bruskewitz seconded the motion to approve Res 33. Genter reported that there was a decline in home delivered meals in 2003 so funding was
reduced for 2004. This decline in utilization didn’t continue, and the Older Americans Act money will fill this gap through the Home Health United meals contract. The MH/AODA Managed Care Project money weren’t all used in 2003 so these funds are carryover. The CSP waiting list initiative and services generated more Medicaid revenue than expected. These funds are allocated to the Mental Health Center of Dane County to continue the CSP programming. Sup Salov questioned whether staff considered declining the MH/AODA revenues as it is almost all administrative activities. Genter assured the committee that they are sensitive to what will happen when money runs out and have informed the Mental Health Center that we can’t fund this if that happens. We do need to have an up-to-date functional screen. Wilcox suggested that we will benefit from having input in the development phase of the screening tool. Res 33 approved, 7-0.

**Future Agenda Items:** The following agenda items were suggested:

- A presentation from each Division at their location.
- A presentation from Consortia United at an agency site.
- Sup Gross suggested taking the first Monday of each month off unless there is urgent or pressing business.
- Sup Bruskewitz would like to convene focus groups of service providers in a more informal dialogue setting. This would allow more of an exchange rather than a formal presentation. She will compose a set of general questions to distribute to agencies ahead of time that may help facilitate dialogue. These focus groups could be held at normal Monday meetings.
- Green informed the committee that we have several functional consortiums that have done some good presentations about current concerns, trends and answering questions. These could be scheduled by division systems.
- Issue papers will be formatted differently this year and may take longer than before depending on the meeting schedule.
- Sup Wheeler would like to see outcome and statistic reports. Green replied that we have been producing POS data every year, but it still needs refinement. We will make every effort this year to produce information trends, rising concerns, etc. Sup Salov believes that as a policy setting committee, they need to bring focus on the core problem and talk freely even without statistical data about limited resources and what are we going to do about it.
- Sup Worzala would like a breakdown of population served in the various areas and the best guess into future. This could be part of the Division presentations.
- Sup Worzala also suggested a discussion about federal funding and what it entails.
- Nichols informed the committee that the LTS Autism Subcommittee will have a report for HHN.
- A report on RFPing of CSP’s since it is the first budget that quite a few of our key services have gone to bid.
- We should spend some time developing a strategic plan for the Committee itself. We need to step back and look at what we do, what role we play in policymaking and how we function as a committee, our mission and goals.
- Mally reported that the Task Force on Aging Report will be distributed to Supervisors in the coming week and may be a topic for discussion at a future meeting.
- Sup Gross asked whether members would like to hear speakers from different counties or states. Committee members thought this may be a good idea, so Sup Gross will arrange them. Sup Bruskewitz asked if the County has facilitators available to them. We do but we may want to go to people outside the County. The University Extension or purchased community may do this voluntarily as well.
- Sup Salov noted there are many other groups of concerned consumers that have never been invited to speak to us, i.e., town officials. We need to reach out to them.
• Wilcox suggested that since we have been pushing to have agencies combine administrative costs for bookkeeping, payroll, hiring, training, etc., we should follow up on the effects of this with those that have done this. Positive and negative factors should be discussed.

**Strategic Plans Final Recommendations:** Green opened the discussion by asking members to speak regarding concerns, questions or comments on the Strategic Plan presentations. Sup Salov brought up the issue of administrative costs – where do we draw the line? Green responded that there are a number of areas in the Plans that directly address administrative cost. For example, the effort that put a 15% ceiling on administrative costs last year after a couple years of transition. This year they had to limit these costs to the same percentage each program had in 2003 or below. We have become acutely sensitive to push as much money as possible into direct service rather than administration. On the other hand, if the funding we receive is subscribed to administrative costs, i.e., producing a functional screen, then we have no choice. If we don’t use the money the way funders want, we won’t get it. We believe the administrative overhead in POS agencies and in the Department is very much in control. Workload issues mean we have to prioritize and can’t do everyone that is desired. It is hoped that the Strategic Plans reflect some of these efforts and priorities.

Sup Bruskewitz asked about overhead expenses like the increasing cost of health insurance and how POS agencies can absorb this into their administrative ceiling. Health insurance is a huge issue, and we are hoping to produce an option for the POS community to pool insurance and control costs. We have gathered data from the POS community with over 90% participating, and Mortensen, Matzell and Meldrum are pulling the information together and presenting it to insurance carriers. We are hoping to have some options to present to the POS community by July. Sup Bruskewitz wondered whether Workers Compensation may be another area to look at as it was reported that there are many injuries to direct care workers.

Green thinks of the POS community as an extension of the Department, and they are treated the same as we treat ourselves. The Department and POS agencies are absorbing rising costs in administration, health insurance, etc., by cutting staff, centralizing operations, etc. Sup Worzala believes we should spend time talking about what we’re trying to achieve and getting measurements rather than getting more funding because it doesn’t look like that’s going to happen. In order to get these measurements, we need to make sure agencies have appropriate equipment (i.e., computer systems). Information about unit costs will be helpful.

Sup Bruskewitz feels that the future of the BPHCC building should be included as a strategic goal. Wilcox noted that the task force already decided that we are responsible for caring for this population. We need to take action on the best way to go about staying in the nursing home business. It should be part of the Strategic Plan that this committee will accomplish this in a certain period of time.

Sup Worzala believes the strategic planning process should incorporate what we want to achieve for the community we serve and how do we get there. Green stated that the Department’s strategic planning effort is relatively new, and we plan to get an outside facilitator back in this fall to look at what we’re doing. The original intent was to help people make decisions in tight fiscal times. We will keep the committee involved in terms of where we go from here.

Garrett-Thomas brought up the issue of becoming more culturally competent. She wondered how we can increase diversified staff when we have to cut back and wondered whether training is optional or mandatory. Green responded that we had great hopes for this area but with the loss of the Associate Director, we don’t have the staff capability to do it. Freezing positions and not filling vacancies doesn’t allow diversifying staff and there is very little training money. Sup Eggert invited Green to an Equal Opportunities Commission meeting to discuss this. She will call Isadore Knox to get on the agenda.

Sup Gross thanked Lynn and Department staff for preparing the strategic plans and expressed the committee’s appreciation.
**Director’s Report:** Green distributed the Pathfinders report from November including demographics and what was occurring at that point. There were only ten enrollees in the program and it was struggling; however, we feel as though we’ve turned a corner this year. There have been 17 new admissions in 2004 – all referrals from the sheriff. We need to get more referrals from the Courts and have prepared two one-page documents on the referral process and what the program is about which were distributed. We are looking at other people occupying the county jail on OWI and probation and parole holds that were not eligible before. If we can defer them through this program, it will be cost effective for the County. We are trying to build up criteria in these areas and getting the assessment and intake process clarified and on paper. We continue to feel this model has great potential if we can get the feeder system going. The program appears to be having good results and outcomes. Sup Eggert asked whether the demographic breakdown for 2004 admissions is included in the report. It is not, but Green will get this information for the seventeen admissions this year.

Green distributed Clare McArdle’s (The League of Women Voters of Dane County) letter to Kathleen Falk which was requested at the last meeting.

Green informed the committee that the results of the algae testing shows it present in all lakes in Dane County, but we don’t know that it’s at a toxic level. We are advising cautionary measures. No beaches are closed.

**Adjournment:** Sup Bruskewitz moved and Sup Worzala seconded the motion to adjourn HHN. Sup Eggert moved and Bruhn seconded the motion to adjourn LTS. Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Recorded by Dawn MacFarlane