FSR Board Consent Agenda

1-24-24

*Mission: Family Service Rochester will provide community based social services of the highest quality and maintain a commitment to excellence in all operational areas.*

*Brand Message: Family Service Rochester is a community-based organization providing mental health, senior independence, child wellbeing, and family stability services. We listen to what people need and together, we build better lives.*

Executive Director’s Report:

Programming Updates:

Dementia Support Services: We are exploring a potential partnership with Mayo Clinic and/or Olmsted Medical Center to provide services to support those with Dementia (and their caregivers). The Geriatric Emergency Care Applied Research (GEAR) Network on Advancing Dementia Care is a National Institutes of Health funded program to advance the science supporting emergency care for people with dementia. It brings together key stakeholders from emergency medicine, geriatrics, nursing, and social work representing health care systems, clinicians, researchers, medical specialty organizations, advocacy organizations, caregivers, and, most importantly, people with dementia.

Senior Housing: We have had some preliminary discussions with Olmsted County about the possibility of providing management of and supportive services to the senior housing complex Olmsted County is building on Mayowood Road.

Dakota County: We have had some preliminary discussions with leadership from Dakota County about expanding some of our services into their communities.

Housing Stabilization Services: We have had some preliminary discussions with Olmsted County about providing housing stabilization services. Housing Stabilization Services is a Minnesota Medical Assistance benefit to help people with disabilities, including mental illness and substance use disorder, and seniors find and keep housing.

United Way: United Way of Olmsted County merged with United Way of Dodge County. United Way leadership is consulting with us about jointly establishing a stronger presence in Dodge County.

Community Connect: FSR is helping to organize this year’s Community Connect event being held on Friday January 26th at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. A flier for this event is included in this board packet.

Peer Recovery Specialist Training: Two of our staff are attending training to become Peer Recovery Specialists. Peer Recovery Specialists help a person become ready and willing to seek treatment (if needed) and enter recovery by helping the person explore their options for recovery or treatment.

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy Training: Two of our staff are attending training to provide Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT). DBT is a type of talk therapy for people who experience emotions very intensely. It’s a common therapy for people with borderline personality disorder, but therapists provide it for other mental health conditions as well.

**Operations Update**:

Solar Panels: Through a series of donations over a number of years from an existing employee (April Sutor), we have approximately $30,000. April would like us to spend the money towards “green” initiatives. We will be exploring the possibilities and costs to add additional solar panels onto our south building or adding panels to our north building. We understand there are new financial incentives for nonprofits that were not available when we previously installed solar panels.

Health Insurance Update: We were trending to save a significant amount of money (in comparison to a fully insured plan) with our 2023 self-funded health care plan until our November and December claims came through. However, we are very pleased to be on such a plan. Please review the attachment included in this board packet.

Shared Nonprofit Space: A conglomerate of nonprofits continues to explore shared office space. We have been in discussions with a developer, Sherman and Associates, to include our concept in a development proposal they intend to submit to the City of Rocester to develop the downtown riverfront. They have agreed to include our idea into their proposal. The nonprofits involved in this endeavor include FSR, Families First, IMAA, Legal Aid of Olmsted County, Elder Network, Workforce Development Inc, and Listos Preschool.

**Grant/Contract Updates**:

Olmsted County:

* 2024 Contracts: Olmsted County approved all our contractual requests for 2024. Our requested increases were higher than typical due to the loss of our TCM contracts, and the continuation of fixed and administrative costs spread across less programs.
* 2023 Contracts: Olmsted County modified our 2023 contracts at year end to reflect the actual payer makeup and billable activities. This is something that we typically have done with Olmsted County. However, for many years it has meant that we would refund dollars to the county. The 2023 modifications allowed for us to receive an additional $86,989.
* PTO Payout: We had requested Olmsted County reimburse FSR for the PTO that we would have to pay, in excess of 80 hours, to our employees transitioning to Olmsted County. The total amount was $28,921.48. Olmsted County has agreed to pay half or $14460.74.
* Health Care Costs: Olmsted County has agreed to pay some health care expenses that may be accrued in January for our employees who transitioned to Olmsted County. It is likely that very few expenses will be incurred. Nearly all our employees who transitioned to Olmsted County did not elect COBRA coverage.

United Way of Olmsted County: United Way has released a request for proposals that address food insecurity. We have received support for our Meals on Wheels program from United Way for many years. In this proposal will also include our efforts through “FSR Fresh” to additionally provide fresh fruits and vegetables to seniors. We will be notified by February 5th if we are to receive this grant.

Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation: We submitted a grant request asking for $50,000 to support our mental health services. We were notified we did not receive this grant, but the correspondence included in the notification indicated we may have received grant funding if our request was around $10,000 to $15,000. We plan to resubmit a grant request.

**Marketing/Fundraising/Volunteer Updates:**

Martin Luther King Day: Family Service Rochester was one of the sponsors for this year’s MLK breakfast. Several of our staff attended.

Save the Date: Our Denim and Diamonds fundraiser to support Meals on Wheels will be Saturday March 23rd, 2024. More details at this board meeting will be provided.

Volunteer of the Month: Our Volunteer of the Month for January is Bob Yennie. Bob finds fulfillment in volunteering for various FSR opportunities. “Volunteering helps fill the void, if you know what I mean,” says Bob. You’ll find Bob volunteering almost every day of the week. He assists with transportation, Meals on Wheels, food box delivery, food donation pickup/delivery, delivering holiday gifts, snow shoveling, errand running, picking up Senior Café meals, and more. In 2023, Bob fulfilled over 900 volunteer requests! The flexibility of FSR volunteer opportunities allows Bob to choose activities that align with his interests and schedule. “Be as busy as you’d like or take a day off. I really enjoy that you can choose what you want to do,” explains Bob.