



Dane County Department of Human Services

Director – Shawn Tessmann
1202 Northport Drive, Madison, WI 53704-2092
PHONE: (608) 242-6200 FAX: (608) 242-6293

Joe Parisi
DANE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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TO: HHN Committee, other interested parties
FROM: Shawn Tessmann
RE: August 2020 Update

Below is my update for August, 2020.

The Department is wrapping up the first deliverable of the new strategic plan – the new Vision, Mission, and Value statements. The Department started this process in May by sending out a survey to all Department employees to gather their feedback. 288 employees took the time to share their thoughts. This information was used to facilitate 4 workshops that involved about 40 employees to develop draft vision, mission, and value statements. Below is our new Vision and Mission.

VISION: *Empowered people thriving in safe, just, and caring communities.*

MISSION: *Provide access to effective, innovative, and evidence-based services and resources that support wellbeing, opportunities to thrive, safety, and justice to persons of all backgrounds.*

We also developed the following context statement to accompany our Vision and Mission.

DCDHS acknowledges the harm caused by systems that contribute to socio-economic and other disparities and inequitable outcomes, especially among communities of color. DCDHS understands that these systems still exist and seeks to chart a path of improvement by committing to a new aspirational vision, mission, and set of values.

In other strategic planning activity, we have also reached out to 58 organizations to schedule an interview and ask them about their vision for Dane County, what we should focus on to make that vision a reality, how we could better partner with them, and any other feedback they had for the Department.

There have been 51 interviews conducted (as of 8/28) by our leadership team and our strategic planning workgroup. We are currently working on compiling those notes and themes. This was a significant activity over the last few weeks.

We are also working on developing surveys for all human service agencies and for past or current recipients of services through the Department or one of our POS agencies. The survey will provide the community an opportunity to provide feedback to the department on service quality, service needs, and other community assets we should be aware of. That will also happen in mid to late-September.

My final note for this month is a reminder that the Department's budget request will be made available to the public tomorrow, August 28th. It will be on the DCDHS homepage as in previous years. I look forward to all subsequent discussions, including the public hearing on September 10th.