

**Carlton County
Coordinator/HR Office**

301 Walnut Avenue, Rm. 214
PO Box 510
Carlton, MN 55718
Phone: (218) 384-9141
Fax: (218) 384-9196
www.co.carlton.mn.us

Carlton County

County-wide newsletter brought to you by the County Coordinator's Office

Issue 03 July / August / September 2018

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Dave Lee Elected Chair of the Minnesota State Advisory Council on Mental Health



Carlton County Public
Health & Human Services
Director Dave Lee

The State Advisory Council on Mental Health was established in 1987 and is charged with making recommendations to the Governor, Legislature and State departments on mental health policies, programs and services. In 2015, Carlton County Public Health and Human Services Director Dave Lee was appointed by Governor Dayton to represent County Human Service Directors on the Minnesota State Advisory Council on Mental Health. Recently, Mr. Lee was elected to serve as Chair of the Advisory Council for the next two years.

State Advisory Council members include:

- individuals with lived experience of mental illness
- family members of individuals with lived experience of mental illness
- parents of children with a lived experience of emotional and behavioral disorders
- representatives of state departments and advocacy organizations, mental health professionals, legislators, county commissioners, social service agency directors and other representatives with experience in the mental health system.

For more information, visit mn.gov/dhs/mh-advisory-council.

Minnesota State Fair Mental Health Awareness Day



L-R: Dave Lee (Public Health & Human Services Director),
Ali Mueller (Public Health Educator), Joanne Erspamer (Public
Health Supervisor), Meghann Levitt (Public Health Educator)

Carlton County Public Health and Human Services staff, representing the new Northern Minnesota Suicide Prevention/Crisis Text Line funding, was one of over 40 organizations represented at Mental Health Awareness Day, August 27th, at the Minnesota State Fair. The day was organized by the Minnesota State Advisory Council on Mental Health (Dave Lee, Director, is a member), Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness Minnesota. The day included games, photo opportunities, trivia contests, engaging hands-on activities, giveaways, stage performances and valuable information on wide-ranging mental health and wellness topics. Overall, the event was a huge success and reached thousands of Minnesotans attending the fair that day!

Employee Service Awards



Sue Sorenson
(Sheriff's Office)
30 Years

Doreen Perrault
(Treasurer's Office)
20 Years

Sally Menze
(Auditor's Office)
20 Years

Leah Collier
(Sheriff's Office)
20 Years

Stephanie Upton
(Sheriff's Office)
20 Years

Brian Allen
(Sheriff's Office)
20 Years

Cammi Werner
(Sheriff's Office)
20 Years

Laura Gunderson
(Attorney's Office)
20 Years

Andrea Wetterlind
(Motor Vehicle)
20 Years

Dennis Genereau
(Coordinator/HR/PM)
20 Years

Kyle Holmes
(Assessor's Office)
10 Years

Continued on page 3.

Scholarship Opportunity for Law Enforcement Students

On August 28th, Sheriff Kelly Lake of the Carlton County Sheriff's Office announced the commencement of the Law Enforcement Scholarship Program for 2018. Sheriff Kelly Lake proudly announced that the Minnesota Sheriff's Association (MSA) Board of Directors has established a scholarship fund for the awarding of up to 15 \$600 scholarships for this year. These scholarships are due to the coordinated efforts of the 87 Sheriffs of the State of Minnesota.

The members of MSA give special recognition to the financial needs of students attending the peace officer skills course, or one of the two or four year law enforcement degree colleges. "The Board of Directors recognizes that peace officers in our country have increasingly complex duties to perform," said Sheriff Lake. MSA emphasizes the importance of pre-entry training for people considering law enforcement as their career choice. MSA also recognizes many students need outside help in meeting the costs of such training, even though they excel academically.

The Scholarship Committee, in making its selection of awards, intends on achieving representation from all geographical areas of the state. Scholarship awards will be announced by December 28th of the same year. Application forms and a statement of procedures are available at the Carlton County Sheriff's Office. Scholarships are only available to students currently enrolled in one of the following three categories:

1. Mandated POST Skills Program
2. In their second year of a two year law enforcement program.
3. In their third or fourth year of a four year college criminal justice program.

In order to qualify, students must have completed at least one year of the two year program or two years of a four year program. Students meeting these criteria are invited to obtain a scholarship application form from their local Sheriff's Office, or online at www.mnsheriffs.org.

Pinwheels for Prevention Award to Carlton County Community Partners

Minnesota Communities Caring for Children presented Carlton County Community Partners with the 2018 Pinwheels for Prevention Award. Since 2003, the Pinwheels for Prevention Award has recognized communities that exemplify a strong commitment to the prevention of child abuse and neglect through collaborative efforts on public, non-profit, and community services, activities, and initiatives. The criteria for receiving this award include: nomination, demonstration of continued work in prevention awareness, maintenance of family strengthening efforts, and knowledge of communities utilizing innovative programs.

The 2018 Pinwheels for Prevention communities support a combination of prevention and services that include partnerships and active community collaborations. Recognition has included parent support outreach programs, new initiatives that focus on protective factors and early brain development in children, adverse childhood experiences, crisis nursery services, unique efforts in alternative response, parent education and support groups such as Circle of Parents, safe exchange and home visitation programs, and a wide array of community awareness activities.

2018

PINWHEEL AWARD

MN Communities Caring for Children

presents this award to

**Carlton County
Community Partners**

for excellence in the prevention
of child abuse and neglect


Shelley Jacobson
Chief Executive Officer, MN Communities Caring for Children



Showcasing County Child Safety and Permanency Work

Carlton County Family Social Services takes a collaborative approach to Child Safety and Permanency (CSP) work. This approach has helped their team maintain performance in an increasingly challenging environment.

Carlton County, like many counties in Minnesota, has seen a dramatic increase in CSP cases in recent years. According to Rhiannon Carey, Family Social Services Supervisor, and Annie Napoli, Deputy Director of Public Health and Human Services in Carlton County, a growing number of factors have challenged their team in recent years as well. These factors include multigenerational drug use; limited resources to assist parents (transportation, stable housing, chemical dependency counseling, etc.); and balancing fieldwork, policy compliance, and increasing paperwork. Despite the demanding environment, Carlton County has outperformed the state average in the three CSP measures reported by the Performance Management system.

Carey and Napoli attribute this success to team dedication and collaboration. They highlighted several strategies working well in the county:

Collaborative decision making

The screening team involves a number of key stakeholders including representatives from Public Health, Human Services and the Fond du Lac Tribal community, but the collaboration goes beyond screening. Group decision-making is used at every level of the case. This strategy brings multiple perspectives into the conversation and allows for more well-rounded decisions.

Strong community relationships

Building and maintaining positive relationships

within the community is a priority set by Carlton Human Services Director Dave Lee. Multidisciplinary committees meet regularly to discuss work being done in Family Social Services. The Community Child Protection team involves representatives from probation, mental health, correctional facilities, schools and the Fond du Lac Tribal community. Family Services staff also attend meetings and trainings with judges, law enforcement, service providers and others to ensure strong stakeholder relationships. Additionally, Family Services staff provide educational opportunities for law enforcement, school staff, nurses and others who want to better understand screenings and the work to protect children. The expectation is that Family Social Services will work with the community in a positive way.

Family partnerships

Carlton County uses the Parallel Protection Process (Triple P) to bring families together for out of court, mediated conferences to identify challenges and create case plans together. This gives parents and their support network an opportunity to be heard, have their questions answered and be a significant part of the planning process.

Ongoing review of work

The DHS dashboard and SSIS reports are reviewed monthly to help the team manage timelines. Reviewing these reports with workers can clearly show how they are doing and let them know if they are meeting timelines.

(Article credit: MN Department of Human Services Performance Management e-Newsletter)

Employee Service Awards



Ann Rust
(Extension Office)
10 Years

Brandon Jestus
(Transportation)
10 Years

Mark Westphal
(Land Department)
10 Years

Jenny Westendorf
(PHHS)
10 Years

Dan Tempes
(PHHS)
10 Years

Children's Book Drive for the Courthouse

The Little Blue Bookshelf program recirculates gently used children's books back into the community where they are made available free for families. The program is an early literacy effort that places bookshelves at key locations throughout the community where children and families often visit. Children can enjoy the books where they are and/or take them home if they are in need. Little Blue Bookshelves were installed on the 1st and 3rd floors of the Courthouse in August by the Wild Dabbler 4-H Club who painted the shelves that were donated by Teamsters General Local Union No. 346. The Teamsters also made a donation to Carlton County 4H to purchase additional books and supplies for this project. Our local community connect sewing group donated their time and material to sew "busy bags" to hold the coloring books and crayons, many of which were donated by other Courthouse employees. The Carlton County Community & Family Initiatives Department is also working to make the jail waiting and visiting areas more family friendly and has installed another book shelf and children's furniture in the jail. Donated books, color crayons, and coloring books will be accepted on an ongoing basis at the Extension Office @ 317 Chestnut Avenue in Carlton to help keep this project going. Thanks to everyone who has donated books and other materials to help launch this new local initiative and help share the love of books and joy of learning with area children!



2018 Carlton County Board of Commissioners



Dick Brenner
Vice Chairperson
218.879.5572

District 1
Dick.Brenner@co.carlton.mn.us



Marv Bodie
Member
218.879.2085

District 2
Marv.Bodie@co.carlton.mn.us



Thomas Proulx
Member
218.348.4288

District 3
Thomas.Proulx@co.carlton.mn.us



Susan Zmyslony
Chairperson
218.380.2170

District 4
Susan.Zmyslony@co.carlton.mn.us



Gary Peterson
Member
218.380.4949

District 5
Gary.Peterson@co.carlton.mn.us

*Board meetings are held at the Transportation Building on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 8:30 a.m. and the 4th Monday of every month at 4:00 p.m.

Come and Learn About the Potential for a Blue Zones Project in Carlton County



Blue Zones Project is a community well-being initiative designed to unite our worksites, grocery stores, restaurants, schools, and residents toward one common goal: making healthy choices easier.

Join us to hear how Blue Zones Project can improve well-being for everyone in Carlton County.

Blue Zones Project Presentation

Thursday, October 25th

Two Sessions:

2:30-4pm

5:30-7:30pm

Location:

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
2101 14th St.
Cloquet, MN 55720

For more information, call Jenna at 218-384-4281 ext. 243 or email Jenna.zmyslony@co.carlton.mn.us



THE HEALTHY CHOICE CAN BE THE EASY CHOICE.
Lift Your Students. Strengthen Your School and Community.



THE HEALTHY CHOICE CAN BE THE EASY CHOICE.
Attract Healthy Attention. Strengthen Your Community.

Carlton County Committee's

Building Committee -

2nd Tuesday of the month immediately following the County Board meeting (Transportation Building -TB)

Committee of the Whole -

1st Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. (TB)

Diversity Committee -

3rd Thursday of the month at 8:30 a.m. (PH&HS)

Finance Committee -

1st Tuesday of the month at 2:30 p.m. (TB)

Policy Committee -

3rd Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m. (Law Enforcement Center - LEC)

Management Team -

1st Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. (TB)

Supervisors Committee -

3rd Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m. (Varies)

Wellness Committee -

1st Wednesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. (PH&HS)

For a more detailed Carlton County Committee list [click here](#).



Are you interested in submitting an article in the next Carlton County Newsletter? Email or mail your articles and pictures by the December 21, 2018 deadline to:

Shanny Hurst
Carlton County Coordinator's Office
P.O. Box 510
Carlton, MN 55718
shanny.hurst@co.carlton.mn.us

*Please note that all submissions are subject to editing, as needed.

Carlton County Sheriff's Office Receives Federal Boating Safety Sub Grant

On May 8, 2018, the Carlton County Board of Commissioners approved accepting a \$33,905 federal boating safety sub grant by and between Carlton County and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of acquiring various water safety patrol equipment for the Carlton County Sheriff's Office. This grant money is funded through a competitive federal grant program. Carlton County also received \$4,500 from another federal supplemental grant for overtime patrol on area lakes. The new patrol boat was used over the summer for these patrols. The Sheriff's Office applied for these grants through the MN DNR in addition to the yearly boat and water safety grant that it receives.

The Sheriff's Office purchased a boat with motor and trailer (pictured below) as well as 51 life jackets and 51 rescue bags for deputy vehicles and local fire departments.



Levitt, Carlton County Lead Way in Battling Suicide

Meghann Levitt teaches a suicide prevention class on QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) to teachers and staff at Marshall School recently. Since joining Carlton County Public Health and Human Services 10 years ago, Levitt has been instrumental in establishing the Suicide Awareness Walk and starting the TXT4Life service.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

(Article and photo credits: Duluth News Tribune, John Lundy, Steve Kuchera)



Carlton County Health Educator and Suicide Prevention Coordinator
Meghann Levitt

New Carlton County Restorative Justice Employee

Stephanie (Sal) Lee is excited to join the Carlton County Restorative Justice Team. When not working, she enjoys gardening, cooking and eating good food. Welcome to Carlton County Sal!



"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

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