Maximizing County Resources through Shared Services
Agenda for the Session

What does government look like? What will it look like?

Why collaborate with other entities?

Examples & Intros of Current Shared Services in Region Five

Licensing Models of Success – Benefits

Questions and Comments
Government In the Future
Using the Alliance for Innovation’s National “Next Big Thing” Study

• Good government will continue to operate nearly invisibly to citizens, tackling the work that citizens can’t do for themselves, **but with less money**

• Federal and State budgets will continue to be cut. This means that services that were once provided elsewhere will fall to local governments to sort out. City managers and elected officials will need to deliberate: What is important for our community? What should local government do? Who must we partner with? How do we pay for the services provided?

• **Government will have to collaborate and innovate to be successful, to do “More with More.”**
Why We Collaborate?

- **Cost Savings** – savings from consolidated efforts, affordability
- **Innovation** – idea sharing and generation amongst many instead of a few, promotes innovation and efficiencies
- **Vulnerability** – reduces vulnerability due to any risks being spread amongst many instead of one, more sustainable
- **Resources** – pools more resources together, so one entity has access to more instead of being limited to only immediate resources
- **Workforce Development** – ability to recruit talent and workforce due to full time work and a competitive salary, recruit expertise
- **Networks** – strengthens community networks and communication
Shared Service Must Haves

• Geographic Proximity
• History of Relationships, Politics, Networks, Collaboration
• Mutual Trust, Openness, Equality
• Financial Capabilities of all Parties
• Unanimous (or close to) support from Elected Officials
• EQUITY and MUTUAL BENEFIT
• Understood Liability
R5 Introduction & Examples

- **Region Five HHS Directors:**
  - Morrison County, Brad Vold
  - Crow Wing County, Kara Terry
  - Todd County, Jackie Och
  - Cass County, Michele Piprude
  - Wadena County, Tanya Leskey

- **Regional Contract Management (Initial Shared Service)**
  - 1 Regional Contract Management Specialist to serve Region Five Social Service Provider Contracts
  - Manages over 130 Social Service Contracts, 242 GRH Contracts, 15 AMHI Contracts for the Region
  - Provides efficiencies for the Counties having one person do the contract work, as well as providers dealing with only one person
  - Modeled off of other successful shared county contract management in MN

- **Regional Transition Specialist**
  - 1 Transition Specialist to serve Region Five + AMHI with mental health transitions of clients
  - Assist in locating services and beds for clients
  - Assist in transition of clients from statewide facilities, pre-admission, post-admission, etc.
Regional Licensing Specialist

• Regional Licensing Specialists
  – Manage the child care and adult foster care licensing for Region Five (2 Specialists)
  – Liability with Counties (466.131)
  – Counties pool their resources together to fund the position, hosted by NJPA
    • Todd County – 24,382 Population, 15%
    • Morrison County – 32,872 Population, 20%
    • Crow Wing County – 63,800 Population, 39%
    • Wadena County – 13,804 Population, 8.5%
    • Cass County – 28,555 Population, 17.5%
Regional Licensing Benefits

• **Provide consistency for licensing**
  – Providers in the Region have two people to work with who apply the same processes, forms, methods, interpretations, enforcement

• **Consistency for workforce for Counties (high expertise area)**
  – Retain staff people and the same two people consistently working on licensing (not bouncing among staff)
  – Recruitment of staff is easier because we are all pooling resources/funds to one position

• **Recruitment, training, technical assistance to providers (provider resources)**
  – Service Cooperative educational background and experience
  – Daycare Association with a Regional focus
  – Annual Trainings/Professional Development & Conference

• **Creating a providers network so they can talk and collaborate with each other**
Regional Licensing Benefits

- Online orientation being created, roll out in May 2018 (Anoka County model)
  - To be completed from their homes, to help make it more convenient and recruit more providers
- Online NJPA website for forms & info for providers (instead of needing to sort through DHS or County Websites)
- Cost effective, being split between 5 Counties based on % of population of the Region
  - Pooling funds helps us to be able to do MORE!
Regional Licensing Benefits

• Helping to solve child care crisis from the enforcement side and recruitment & retention of providers

• Able to process new providers quicker because it is the only thing we do (instead of wearing multiple hats)

• External Service Cooperative and Provider Dynamic/Relationship Building
  – Viewed as a resource for the providers, instead of enforcement
  – Able to build strong, open, professional relationships
*Insert Map of MN with just Region Five Counties “Popping out” – as well as Douglas & Becker
LGIA Lead Innovator Award

• 2018 MN Local Government Innovators Lead Innovator Award Recipient, awarded by U of MN Humphrey Institute

• “The Local Government Innovation Awards evaluate how the submissions create greater accountability; use incentives, charges, and targeting to meet those in need; orchestrate competitive contracting; fund consumers; manage collaboration or consolidation; deploy prevention strategies that eliminate the need for a service or divest current services to the community.”

• Up to 25 local government entities will be recognized. One project in each category will be recognized as a Leading Innovator and receive a professional video highlighting their work in addition to a $5,000 grant from the Bush Foundation.

• Partners in the awards program include the League of Minnesota Cities, the Association of Minnesota Counties, the Minnesota Association of Townships, and the Minnesota School Boards Association.
Questions & Comments
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