

THRIVING WAUKESHA COUNTY ALLIANCE

CHARTER

Approved August 26, 2014

Mission

The mission of the Thriving Waukesha County Alliance is to create long term sustainability and optimal capacity of the health and human services sector.

The Thriving Waukesha County Alliance is an advocate and catalyst by:

Building Capacity:

- Promote, connect, and improve agency access to capacity building resources
- Educate leaders on governance, management efficiencies, and best practice
- Cultivate and encourage strategic collaboration among agencies
- Improve operational efficiencies

Informing Donor and Funder Resource Investments:

- Educate funders on community issues that impact outcomes (collective impact)
- Improve information exchange and best practice among funding organizations
- Host educational opportunities for funder board and director leadership

Educating community regarding health and human services:

- Educate the community on the value of the health and human services sector
- Improve community/recipient navigation of services

Organization

The Thriving Waukesha County Alliance (TWCA) will be referred to in this document as the “Alliance.” It is an unincorporated advisory group that derives its authority from its sponsoring organizations, the wisdom of its vision and actions, and the cooperation of non-profit agencies that value strategic collaboration in the interest of their common clients.

Alliance Sponsor Organizations

The following organizations sponsor the Alliance:

- United Way in Waukesha County
- Waukesha County Community Foundation
- Waukesha County Executive’s Office
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation

Responsibilities:

- Fund the activities of the Alliance through the United Way in Waukesha County acting as the fiscal agent
- Review and approve annual Alliance budgets and plans
- Select their Sponsor Organization Representative to serve on the Alliance

Alliance Sponsor Organization Representatives

Each sponsor organization will assign one representative to serve as a member of the Alliance. These assignments will be confirmed each year along with the sponsor organization's continued sponsorship.

Responsibilities:

- Represent the interests of Sponsor Organization
- Provide periodic Alliance updates to their Sponsor Organization
- Identify and support additional resources to support the mission
- Serve as a member of the Alliance Steering Committee.
- Serve as a member of the Alliance

Alliance Steering Committee

The Alliance Steering Committee will be comprised of the four Sponsor Organization Representatives plus the Alliance Chair or Co-chairs.

Responsibilities:

- Recruit and select other Alliance members for annual terms
- Recruit and select the Alliance Chair or Co-chairs
- Develop and approve the Alliance meeting objectives, schedules and agendas
- Develop and present the annual Alliance budget to the Alliance and to the Sponsor Organizations for approval.
- Identification and deployment of resources; both volunteer and professional.

Alliance Members

Alliance membership, in addition to the Sponsor Organization Representatives, will be comprised of individual's selected by the Alliance Steering Committee from human service funding organizations, community leaders and non-profit providers of human services. The Alliance will be composed of approximately 10 – 20 members. The Alliance will meet at least four times per year as scheduled by the Steering Committee.

Responsibilities:

- Maintain focus on mission
- Establish and hold accountable initiative teams
- Remove initiative obstacles
- Accept, review and approve recommendations
- Measure and evaluate initiatives
- Participate in or lead teams implementing key initiatives

Alliance Chair or Co-Chairs

Each year the Sponsor Organization Representatives will recruit and select a Chair or Co-Chairs for the Alliance.

Responsibilities:

- Lead Alliance in development of goals and strategies
- Lead Alliance and Alliance Steering Committee meetings
- Represent the Alliance to the Community and Press

Decision-Making

The Alliance will use a consensus decision-making process. The purpose of this process is to assure that all members of the Alliance can support each decision of the Alliance. That is not to say that each decision will be the preferred choice of each member but it does mean that each member will be able to say that they were given the opportunity to 1) make the case for their preference, 2) were heard, 3) they can live with the “consensus” of the members and 4) will go out of the meeting and provide public support for the decision of the group. Decisions will not be made by the Alliance unless consensus has been reached.

Staff Support

Staff may be secured through contract to support the Alliance and implement its priorities. Staff will report to the Alliance Steering Committee.

Financial Accountability

Fiscal Year- Budgets, membership and priorities and objectives will be based on the calendar year.

Accountability - Annually a report of finances, actions, priorities and plans will be presented to the sponsor organizations. Sponsor organizations will reaffirm sponsorship for the subsequent year or notify the other organizations and Alliance Steering Committee members of the intent to withdraw sponsorship.

Fiscal Agent - The United Way in Waukesha County shall serve as the fiscal agent for the Alliance. A separate account of the United Way will receive, hold and disperse funds as authorized by the Alliance Members in the annual budget or by special resolution. Significant funds authorized by special resolution will be agreed to by the sponsoring agencies.