

# Shaping Minnesota's Human Services Future:

A MACSSA Policy Vision

# Purpose of Policy Paper

- Provide leadership in the future delivery of human services in Minnesota
- Outline the factors and trends impacting human services
- Define the role of government in the delivery of human services and the unique role that counties play
- Guide the future through recommendations/ foundations

# Mission of Human Services

- Promote and integrate a proactive, adequately funded, cost effective, and community based human service system that improves the health and well-being of families, adults and children
- Assure that Minnesotans are safe, healthy, independent, and able to support themselves and their families.

# Environmental Factors and Trends Impacting Human Services Delivery

- Ongoing stress on government funding as a result of the demographic trends – more baby boomers retiring, more school aged children, and less tax payers in between
- Focus on program outcomes will continue and strengthen
- More clients and families will want to direct their services (consumer directed)

# Environmental Factors and Trends Impacting Human Services Delivery

- Emerging technology will drive changes to the delivery of services (Smartphones, etc)
- Health care reform will create changes to human services; inter connectedness between systems
- New governance models are under consideration

# The Role of Government

- Protect vulnerable populations for as long as it is needed
- Expend public funds and therefore are accountable to publicly elected officials
- Maintain or develop a strong infrastructure through partnership and oversight of the private sector

# The Unique Role of Counties

- Only local organization that is responsible for well-being of all in the community; positioned to integrate services
- Needs vary by county; positioned to respond with innovations and piloted projects to address those needs
- Natural communities may cross county borders; positioned to identify gaps, avoid duplication and bring expertise to address local community needs

# The Unique Role of Counties

- Regional variations in needs; proven capacity and willingness to define regional solutions through voluntary multi-county service networks
- County is third leg of funding stool; ensure local tax dollars used to address local needs

# Guiding the Future; Foundations for an Evolving Human Services System

- Eliminate disparate service levels and outcomes; access to services in equitable manner
- Strong State-County partnership
- Continue to focus on performance measurement and outcomes

# Guiding the Future; Foundations for an Evolving Human Services System

- Change to meet consumer expectations; access services through technology and promote ease of navigation
- Retain the county role of delivering critical services; local officials aware of local needs
- Empower counties to tailor delivery of services to meet unique local needs; even when Standards benefits levels exist.

# Guiding the Future; Foundations for an Evolving Human Services System

- Maintain the ability of counties to integrate services across disciplines
- Continue opportunities and incentives that enable counties to be centers of innovation.
- Utilize county experience and knowledge to develop strategic adjustments where needed
- Align expected outcomes with resources/funding available

# Guiding the Future; Foundations for an Evolving Human Services System

- Sufficient state resources; providing for the welfare and safety of Minnesotan's must be adequately resourced
- Policy development based on practices that deliver better outcomes per tax payer dollar
- Management of health care and long term care costs

Questions?