

## **Macon County Social Services Board**

May 18, 2016

Minutes

### **Call to Order**

Patrick Betancourt called meeting to order. Members in attendance were: Jim Garner; Lisa Leatherman; Dinah Mashburn; and Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board. Attending guest included incoming Board member Darlene Anthony-Green. Patrick confirmed that email correspondence with Clerk of Superior Court Vic Perry stated that he will be in attendance at the July 20, 2016 D.S.S. Board Meeting to swear-in Darlene at 9:00 a.m.

### **Minutes**

Open Session and Closed Session Minutes of the April meeting were approved after motion by Jim Garner, and second by Lisa Leatherman.

### **Financials**

Monthly financials were provided in the Board books. Patrick reported on the fiscal monitoring provided by the NC Division of Social Services which was held April 25-26. Initial feedback from the fiscal monitoring was positive and the agency awaits the final report from the NC Division of Social Services.

Contracts for SFY 2016-2017 were discussed and Patrick requested the Board's approval for those contracts. Motion to approve the contracts as presented was made by Dinah Mashburn with a second by Jim Garner.

### **Old Business**

Patrick reported that Macon County's FNS processing timeliness for the past three weeks since the last D.S.S. Board Meeting for the county and state were as follows:

	April 18-22, 2016	April 25-29, 2016	May 2-6, 2016	3 Week Average
Macon County	96.30%	100%	100%	98.77%
North Carolina	96.84%	96.78%	97.52%	97.05%

Patrick also explained that the Division of Social Services was in discussions with USDA about the possibility of considering a change in the calculation methodology for timeliness to include both Quality Control (QC) data as well as weekly benchmark data from NC FAST.

Senior Services SCOPE packet was passed to Area Agency on Aging for preliminary review with some minor corrections recommended. Following corrections, that packet was submitted to the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) on Friday, May 13, 2016. On May 17, 2016, Shelia Jenkins received an email from DAAS indicating a need to move the scheduled inspection date. Patrick expressed concerns of moving this date after so much time had been spent preparing the community members for participation in the inspection date and rescheduling at such a late hour. Also discussed was the concern of potential certification funding impacting the Center's ability to hire a third part-time employee. This potential increase in funding would enable hiring of a part-time employee to replace the loss of volunteer hours of Senior Aides because they had fulfilled their three-year commitment which is

ineligible to be extended. Patrick sought and received approval by the Board to send a letter of concern to DAAS Director, Suzanne Merrill, if an agreeable rescheduled date was unable to be determined.

Based on the Special Adoption Incentive Fund (SCAIF) discussion held at the last Board meeting, the agency moved forward with contracting with an individual to assist with completing adoptive and licensure home studies for the families preparing to adopt children currently in care or families that recently completed Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting (MAPP) curriculum. Patrick and Lisa Hilliard, Foster Care Supervisor, also contacted David Moore, contract attorney, to discuss the possibility of using some SCAIF funding to hire a temporary, part-time paralegal to assist with completion of the legal aspects for achieving permanency for approximately 13 of the children currently in foster care.

Patrick discussed that the Single County Audit was held last week (May 10-11, 2016). The auditors from Martin Starnes & Associates discussed two issues preliminarily: 1. Economic Services second party review process; and 2. computer lock screen procedures. Patrick explained that second party reviews, while occurring in Economic Services are, according to the auditors, not occurring with the predictable regularity that they would prefer to see or logged anywhere. While these two issues are not findings at this point, the Economic Services supervisor is already developing a more formal procedure for second party review process. Patrick spent some time outlining the potential new process and let the Board know that the new procedure would be brought before them in June for their input and approval. Patrick also explained that a new computer lock policy would be forthcoming to address the concern of unsecured terminals when staff are not within eyesight of their workstation.

Patrick reported on two other monitorings other than the fiscal and single county audit events previously discussed:

1. Adoption Assistance SSBG / IV-E monitoring (April 19-20, 2016) – no errors
2. Work First / Child Care Subsidy (April 28, 2016) – no errors

**Program Reports:** As Gwen Taylor presented on Human Resources and overall Program Reports process at last month's Board Meeting, last SFY's Program Reports have concluded. Program Reports for this current SFY (2015-2016) will resume after the start of next SFY.

### **New Business**

Patrick reported on the Crawford Center's potential partnership with Macon County EMS in a grant application to the Evergreen Foundation for a Community Mental Health approach modeled after the current Community Paramedic Program. Patrick briefly explained that the aim of the program would be similar to the aims of reducing the 30 day readmit to the Emergency Department but focused on patient discharges from psychiatric facilities. Commissioner Beale was a part of initial discussions between the Evergreen Foundation, EMS, and the Crawford Center and added his support for the possibility indicating that because Law Enforcement typically transports discharged clients back home from the psychiatric facilities, the potential number of service recipients would be known to the system for follow-up. EMS staff will be conducting planning meetings in preparation for a potential grant application. The Board was in full support of this level of community initiative.

Continuing with updates related to the Crawford Center, Patrick informed the Board of the need to issue a no trespass letter following an incident on May 16<sup>th</sup> in which Franklin PD had to be called to the

Center following a congregate meal client's threatening comments to another member. Patrick stated that a message regarding the incident had been left with the County Manager and that Patrick had spoken directly with Commissioner Beale (Crawford Center liaison to the County Board of Commissioners) regarding the incident. Related to this security concern, Patrick informed the Board that Commissioner Beale indicated at the end of the May 2016 Board of County Commissioners' Meeting that he would be bringing a request to consider funding for some security updates to the Crawford Center out of this SFY budget.

Patrick informed the Board of the upcoming Foster Parent appreciation banquet picnic scheduled for Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Big Bear Shelter at Wesley's Park. The Board requested Patrick express their appreciation to the foster and adoptive families of Macon County for their dedication and service to the children of this county.

**Closed Session**

Jim Garner made motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel and confidential case information. Lisa Leatherman seconded, and motion carried. Board returned from Closed Session with motion from Jim Garner, second by Lisa Leatherman.

**Next Meeting**

Next Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the DSS Administrative Conference Room.

APPROVED BY:

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Chairman | Date

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Secretary | Date