

Macon County Social Services Board

August 21, 2019

Minutes

Call to Order

Patrick Betancourt called the regular meeting of the Macon County Social Services Board to order. Members in attendance were: Lisa Leatherman, Anne Hyder, Evelyn Southard, Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board and Cathy Makinson, Business Officer designated to record minutes. Additionally, a representative from the Franklin Press was in attendance.

Minutes

July minutes were approved on motion by Evelyn Southard and second by Anne Hyder.

Financials

Monthly financials were provided in the Board books.

Program Reports

Patrick included Program Reports under New Business.

Old Business

Both Anne Hyder and Evelyn Southard had attended SSI and affirmed School of Government as such a valuable resource. Patrick also attended and reported feedback was given in the Medicaid audit session regarding expectations.

Patrick gave an update on the SSBG and IV-E monitoring. Macon DSS had appealed a finding centered on the definition of deprivation of a child. He reminded the Board that it is a complex process that is completed jointly between Income Maintenance and Social Workers to determine eligibility of a child when one comes into care. The monitor had found that deprivation of a child existed and, therefore, DSS should have utilized IV-E funds instead of TANF to SSBG funds. The appeal included documentation that the child had access to the parent at the time of removal and did not meet the definition of deprivation. State staff reached out to Macon DSS and said it was to our benefit financially to claim IV-E in this situation and felt because they had argued this same type situation to the Federal monitors that Macon's appeal would not be successful. Macon DSS sent a letter to the State office to withdraw the appeal but stated Macon still maintains concern around the definition of deprivation and how it was being interpreted. Cathy Makinson, Business Officer, worked on the adjustment in three different areas including cost of care for child, administrative time and contract services, for approximately one week and also met with Social Workers to explain the importance of coding correctly on their daysheets.

Patrick reported that following the threat to a DSS employee made last month, that Don Willis from the Sheriff's Department, came and assessed the security of the DSS building and sent the final report to Patrick. After reviewing the report, DSS will be able to address some of the items within our budget this year. The higher priority items that have significant cost were forwarded to the County Manager to consider within the Capital Improvement Plan that is being completed. Training will be given to all employees and safety and evacuation plans will be updated and communicated to staff.

New Business

Patrick displayed data reported in the first month of the FY 19-20 MOU agreement with the State. Performance measures are being tracked in 13 of 26 areas. Most areas will be looked at monthly, however, Child Support will be evaluated annually since it is cumulative. Goals are being met in the areas of Work First, FNS, and Program Integrity. No energy applications have been processed at this time. For the benefit of our newest Board member, Patrick gave a brief overview of Macon County's Electing County status.

Closed Session

Anne Hyder made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel information as allowed under G.S. 143-318.11. Lisa Leatherman seconded, and motion carried.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 18th, 2019, at 8:30am in the Administrative Conference Room at the Human Services Building.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman | Date

Secretary | Date