

Macon County Social Services Board

March 14, 2012

Minutes

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Wendy Dalton. In attendance were Wendy Dalton, Jim Garner, Dinah Mashburn and Jane Kimsey.

Minutes

Open and Closed Session Minutes of the February 15, 2012 Board meeting were reviewed. Recommendation was made to change the word "state" to "DHHS" in the Closed Session Minutes. Minutes with recommended change for this meeting were approved on motion of Dinah Mashburn, second by Jim Garner.

Financials

Monthly financials were briefly reviewed. Money has been identified in this fiscal year to replace carpet that is over 11 years old. Carpet replacement has been discussed with Finance Director and with County Manager, which they are acceptable with replacing carpet now due to projected state and federal reimbursements being cut over the next few years.

Program Reports

State monthly Medicaid and Food & Nutrition Reports were highlighted. 5,786 people received Medicaid as of March 1, 2012, with \$3,760,798 in benefits paid to Medicaid providers of services for Macon County recipients in February. 6,411 Food & Nutrition Services recipients received \$814,858 in benefits for February.

Old Business

Child Support Call Center report showed that calls from Macon County to the call center have decreased and feedback from front desk receptionists is that the child support calls have also declined.

Meeting will be held with Smoky Mountain Center on transitioning Guardianships to DSS. At this time, legislation will be introduced to remove Mental Health, Health Department and Senior Services as potential appointees for disinterested public guardians, leaving only DSS to be appointed. Meeting has been held with ARC who provides contracted guardianship services through Mental Health for persons with mental illness and substance abuse, which the plan is to continue contracting in Macon County for services with ARC for this population since DSS social workers are not trained in this area of expertise.

Task Management/Case Banking for Economic Services implementation has been delayed due to required software upgrades. Intent is to begin this new way of providing intake and processing of applications and reviews by end of March.

New Business

Cathy Makinson, Business Officer I, presented the proposed FY '12-'13 budget. Projected cuts in TANF and IV-E revenues were over \$100,000. When more information

is determined on status of Work First, this program revenues and expenses will be budgeted. Contract for Guardianships was also included at \$25,000 all county expense, which total increase in county requested appropriation is approximately \$52,000, which is a net of \$27,000 county increase excluding Guardianship cost. Total federal, state and county budget requested for next fiscal year is \$55,246,899, which includes county funds of \$1,499,190 or 3% of the total budget. Board unanimously approved recommended budget as presented on motion of Dinah Mashburn and second by Jim Garner. Board Chair thanked Business Officer for her work in developing the budget. Copy of budget narrative is attached to the minutes.

Director requested Board consider approval of Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) with Family Finding and with Mountain Projects. Family Finding is a service to locate and engage relatives of children in the legal custody of DSS that are placed in foster care. The goal is to provide each child with the lifelong connections that only a family can offer. Funding for the services would be provided through special state incentive funding. Dinah Mashburn made motion to approve MOU with Family Finding, Jim Garner seconded. Requested MOU with Mountain Projects is for Senior Services to partner with Mountain Projects to provide Senior Companion volunteers with persons with disabilities in accordance to established procedures. On motion of Dinah Mashburn, and second by Jim Garner, Board approved MOU with Mountain Projects after DSS legal counsel reviewed and approved agreement terms.

Closed Session

Dinah Mashburn made motion to go into Closed Session to discuss confidential case information, personnel and contracts. Jim Garner seconded, and motion carried. Board returned from Closed Session.

Next Meeting

Next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at 9:00 am in the DSS Administrative Conference Room.

Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman/Date

Secretary/Date