

**FAUQUIER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
August 16, 2021**

Approved

Attendance:

Advisory Board: Beth Foddrell, PATH Foundation; Erin Kozanecki, Deputy County Administrator; Shel Bolyard-Douglas, Director, DSS: (Absent: Janelle Downs and Frank Finn)

Other: Mimi de Nicolas, DSS Program Manager; Kathryn Johnston, DSS Administrative/Accounting Manager; Cindy Giles, Family Service Worker, Jackie Kornegay, Family Service Worker, Sherri Carr, DSS Senior Program Assistant (Absent: Mittie Wallace)

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m. in the DSS conference room. A quorum was not reached with Ms. Foddrell and Ms. Douglas present. Ms. Kozanecki and other attendees participated virtually.

The minutes for the June 21, 2021 minutes were not approved.

Community Updates & Comments-Erin Kozanecki

Staff is reminded to stay home if they are sick with Covid or not. Telework if you can and call the clinic. The clinic has added a telehealth option to help with the transition of Dr. Rizk leaving and new Director starting in November. Fauquier County local government does not fall under the Governor mandate for employees to be vaccinated and weekly testing. County employees need to wear masks as much as possible.

Program Updates

Administration Support- Kathryn Johnston

Ms. Johnston stated with FY 22 starting, DSS has used only 15 percent of the budget. Admin/Accounting Staff have attended regular meetings with Finance on preparation with upcoming audits and OMB processes on the budget. The DV Grant has been successfully renewed. We are in the process of interviewing for the Front Desk.

Family Services – Mimi de Nicolas

Ms. de Nicolas reported that Carrie Smith has resigned Shawn Le Rue will be retiring in October with 40 years of service.

Another case of House of Refugee Resettlement has occurred in CPS. Ms. de Nicolas has been in contact with other localities and how they are dealing with taking over paying all the expenses. The appeals in Circuit Court is back logged due to the Pandemic causing more money.

Two new supervisors were promoted. Shannon Wilkinson for the Foster Care and Adoption Team .Barbara Crowling for the Prevention and CPS Team.

Ms. Douglas inquired could our lobby or legislator help us with Refugee Resettlement. A conversation will start with the Lobbyist by Ms. Kozanecki.

Benefits Programs and Medicaid Expansion –Helen Walters

Ms.Walters stated she is getting to know her team . The Public Health Emergency has been extended to October and could be extended again. During this time, case workers can not reduce, or close a Medicaid coverage. Ms. Walters is putting a plan in place before the Public Health Emergency is over to

help her team deal with all the renewals, closures and reapplications. The Pandemic Snap Supplements are being told at the being of each month if they are extended

Adult Services and Domestic Violence Advocacy Cindy Giles and Jackie Kornegay

Ms Giles and Ms Kornegay presented two cases from their work load. Ms. Douglas talked about how there is gap of services for clients with behavioral health issues for the Senior population. Ms Giles stated finding housing or placement has become an issue.

The Board members talked about different agencies that does not have the training due to the Pandemic or does not have the services at all. There seems to be a hole. These cases are hitting the APS team but they really aren't an APS case.

Children's Services Administration (CSA)-Shel Douglas

Ms. Douglas announced Tracey Wilson has been hired as the CSA Associate. Paula Galentine has stepped in to be our Interim as CSA Coordinator. The response back from the CSA Audit is a pay back of \$7600.00. Mimi de Nicolas has agreed to chair the FAPT meetings.

Announcements & Board Member Comments

Meeting adjourned at 4:39 pm.

Next Meeting Date: October 18, 2021