

**FAUQUIER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
October 18, 2021**

APPROVED

Attendance:

Advisory Board: Janelle Downs, Director, Human Resources , Erin Kozanecki, Deputy County Administrator; Shel Bolyard-Douglas, Director, Frank Fin, FCPS, : (Absent: Beth Foddrell)

Other: Helen Walters, DSS Program Manager, Kathryn Johnston, DSS Administrative/Accounting Manager; Cindy Giles , Family Service Worker , Sherri Carr, DSS Senior Program Assistant(Absent : Mittie Wallace and Mimi de Nicholas).

The meeting began at 4:03 p.m. in the DSS conference room. A quorum was reached with Ms. Kozanecki and Ms. Douglas present. Other attendees participated virtually.

The minutes for the June and August were approved with edits on absentees on both meetings.

Community Updates & Comments-Erin Kozanecki

In October employees will receive the additional 2% to reach the 5% raise. County operating budgets are due in October. The next Board of Supervisor meeting, Shawn LeRue will be recognized for her 40 years of services with a proclamation and presentation.

Program Updates

Administration Support- Kathryn Johnston

Ms. Johnston recognized Nanette Robinson and Sherri Carr for obtaining their notary license and helping with CSA. Jacque Denecke joined the Admin Team as our new Program Assistant. Ms. Denecke worked in our APS department. .

Thank you to the Benefit team and Ms. Walters for help pending applications till the two vacancies are filled. Ms. Johnston went over budget submittals and highlighted line items for FY 23.

Family Services –Shel Douglas

CPS welcomed two new supervisors in July, Shannon Wilkinson for Foster Care and Adoptions and Barbara Crowling, Child Protective and Prevention.

Family First put forth new federal mandates. CPS needs to use federal dollar first instead of local and state dollar.

The mental health treatment change for our children has caused more work flow and work load to the workers.

A Family Service Worker II was hired with Family First paying the salary.

We are encouraging community private providers to be approved on the Federal List of providers. This would help reduce CSA cost.

Shawn LeRue will be tiring after 40 years of services. Ms. Douglas highlighted many services that Ms. LeRue had a hand in bringing to Fauquier. She will be missed by all and was an asset to DSS.

Benefits Programs and Medicaid Expansion –Helen Walters

The Energy Assistance Program for heating assistance has opened with 92 apps as of today. Devon Woodward will be assisting in the application process and registration.

The Benefit Team is covering applications and processing for the Admin Team till they fill their 2 positions. Once the vacancies are filled BPS Supervisors will be helping with their training.

Ms. Walters spoke about changes she would like to make on the General Relief program. There is still no medical renewal dates set yet for Medicaid. Agencies will be given at least a 60 day notice and have a plan in place once this occurs.

Adult Services and Domestic Violence Advocacy Cindy Gile

The department is still seeing an increase in DV and APS numbers. Ms. Gile updated the Board on the two cases discussed during August meeting.

Brittany Antezana will be returning from maternity leave. Effie Doyle who was a team member of CPS has joined the APS team.

Ms. Gile made note that the Companion Program is struggling to find providers.

Ms. Konzanecki talked about “crisis intervention team assessment center”(CTAC). The County will fund a one year pilot program starting January 1, 2022 with the Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services and Fauquier Hospital.

Children’s Services Administration (CSA) Adrienne Robinson

The CSA team is getting caught up to September invoices. Ms. Robinson says her and Ms. Wilson are in a learning stage. They are working to be more efficient with their paperwork and improve the process.

The parent rep for FAPT is ready to join the team.

Announcements & Board Member Comments

Mr. Finn suggested to appoint someone else to his position from the school division. Mr. Finn will be retiring. A new employee will be taking his role on January 1, 2022. Ms. Douglas will be starting her first term after filling in for Mr. Ledden term.

Warrenton Police John Dolan has reached out to DSS to join a task force compliance in local motels. Ms. Douglas has asked Helen Walters, Jackie Kornegay, Collen Shaffner and Angela Atkins to represent their departments on the task force. The goal is making sure minimal displacement and increase access to resources and services. DSS should not pay for bed nights unless the hotel is a contracted facility.

Ms. Konzanecki brought up shifting the Advisory Board meeting day and time. The Board was to contact Ms. Carr if Wednesday at 11 am or 3pm worked better for them

Meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Next Meeting Date: April 20, 2022