

FAUQUIER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
April 20, 2022

APPROVED

Attendance:

Advisory Board: Janelle Downes, Director, Human Resources , Erin Kozanecki, Deputy County Administrator; Shel Bolyard-Douglas, Director, Nick Napolitano, FCPS, Beth Foddrell, PATH Foundation

Other: Helen Walters, DSS Program Manager, Kathryn Johnston, DSS Administrative/Accounting Manager; Cindy Giles , APS Supervisor , Sherri Carr, DSS Senior Program Assistant, Shannon Wilkinson, Foster Care and Adoption Supervisor,(Absent : Mittie Wallace).

The meeting began at 11:01 a.m. in the DSS conference room. A quorum was reached with Ms. Kozanecki , Ms. Douglas, Mr. Napolitano, Ms. Foddrell and Ms. Downes present. Other attendees participated virtually.

The minutes for the February were approved with an edit spelling of a last name. .

Community Updates & Comments-Erin Kozanecki

Ms.Kozanecki went over items from the budget that was adopted last week. The pay increase for staff. The Board taking the increase for the health insurance.

Program Updates

Administration Support- Kathryn Johnston

DSS is now in Quarter 4 of the State and County budget. The agency has 17 percent left of funding till the end of the fiscal year.

The department is 92 percent staffed with 5 vacancies. We are hopeful to fill those positions soon.

Ms. Johnston talked about VDSS funding for and goals for FY23.

Family Services –Shannon Wilkinson

Ms. Wilkinson talked about the process of how a child can enter foster care and the process of the court system. Stats were given on how many are in foster care, working on returning home, QRTP/PRTF placements, and adoptions.

Champion for Children raised \$1900.00 in sponsorship this year. The funds are used when an items is not covered in the monthly foster care stipend/CSA/IV-E In the past we have used Champion for Children for a child's birthday presents, graduation presents, sport equipment and for a child to attend their parent's funeral in Arizona.

Ms. Wilkinson presented the Child Protective Services/In-home Services portion of their department. April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Pins were presented to the board. .

Benefits Programs and Medicaid Expansion –Helen Walters.

The Public Health Emergency has once again been extended till July 16 and Snap waiver till June 30, 2022.

Ms. Walters discussed the fraud plan and new MOU put in place in February. The Sheriff's Office, police department, the Commonwealth Attorney's office and Ms. Walters met to define roles and processes when a fraud case crosses between departments.

The Disaster SNAP Plan and General Relief Plan are in the process of being updated with the help of the supervisors.

The screening position is currently in the process of being interviewed.

Adult Services and Domestic Violence Advocacy Cindy Gile

Ms. Douglas introduced Cindy Giles as the new APS Supervisor. Ms. Giles gave stats on the DV unit for February, March and April.

Table Talk has started at Oak Apt for the 55 and older community. Each Table Talk has activities to help open the conversation. Safe Dates have wrapped up in the county schools.

APS had a busy month in March with 60 reports. The average reports per month are 40.

July 1 guardianship may require monthly home visits. At the present moment there are 160 cases that could be added to the team case load.

Ms. Giles stated screenings are up. Most people want to stay at their home. Ms. Douglas explained the screening process to the Board.

The Companion Program has hired two new providers. There is still a waiting list.

APS has two new team members Angela Atkins and Effie Doyle.

Children's Services Administration (CSA) Shel Douglas

Ms. Douglas is in the interview process for the new CSA Coordinator. Adrienne Robinson has left the position.

Lisa Trapani has been promoted to CSA Program Specialist. Ms. Douglas stated CSA is in the final FY 22 quarter paying all payments and making sure all purchase orders are with the vendors. Procurement has changed their role in the process of contracts. Ms. Douglas, Ms. Trapani and case managers are making sure all new contracts are up to date for FY23.

Announcements & Board Member Comments

Ms. Foddrell mentioned the Path grant cycle opens July 6. There should be an outreach to the food banks during the non-profit meeting in June. The food bank need to be aware of the grant. Ms. Douglas offered to be present at the meeting.

Ms. Douglas talked about Mimi deNicolas vacant position. There are some interviews in the next few days but waiting is ok. We are looking for a great candidate not just someone who will do.

Ms. Douglas asked Ms. Kozanecki to take back our appreciation to the Board. We thank you for keeping us moving forward with the cost of living, taking the increase in health coverage, new days approved for paid leave, and focusing on the folks here.

Ms. Kozanecki says all counties state and local are not retaining staff nor are they returning. The recruitment is taking longer to fill the positions.

Ms. Douglas inquired if all county employees could wear blue on Friday, April 29, 2022 to raise awareness for Child Abuse Prevention.

Next Meeting Date: August 17, 2022