

**FAUQUIER COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES  
February 15, 2023**

APPROVED

**Attendance:**

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

Other: Helen Walters, DSS Program Manager, Kathryn Johnston, DSS Administrative/Accounting Manager; LaCora Harris, DSS Program Manager, Cindy Giles, APS Supervisor, Sherri Carr, DSS Senior Program Assistant,

The meeting began at 11:03 a.m. in the DSS conference room. A quorum was reached with Ms. Kozanecki, Ms. Douglas, Ms. Foddrell, Ms. Downes, and Mr. Napolitano are present. Other attendees participated virtually.

The minutes for October were approved . . .

**Community Updates & Comments-Erin Kozanecki**

Rick Gerhardt and Kevin Carter will seek reelection to the Board of Supervisors in the Fall. Ms. Kozanecki praised Helen for an amazing job presenting to the Board on the unwinding of the Heath Emergency. Fish will be moving to Industrial Road across from Walmart. Thursday will be their last day at their Pelham Street location.

**Program Updates**

**Administration Support- Kathryn Johnston**

Ms. Johnston went over the current budget with an increase of .25 percent with the FDSS pass through. Expenditures are on target for the year. APS Covid money has now ended. APRA funding is being used towards clients. The agency has 3 positions vacant.

**Family Services/ Domestic Violence Advocacy- –LaCora Harris**

Barbara Crowling is retiring February 28, 2023 after 40 years of service. Stacy Cundiff has accepted the Supervisor position and will start in the role March 1. The Foster Care and CPS team are on a rotating on call schedule with supervisor and manager available for questions.

A foster care child has been diagnosed with Neuroblastoma. The agency is working with Duke Hospital for the first assessment. Ms. Douglas talked about the logistics of working with Medicaid and travel expenditures.

The DV team's support group is working on healthy relationships and how to set boundaries. APS, Foster Care and DV teams discussed cases that are overlapping. Which department will be taking the primary on the case to keep it moving smoothly.

**Benefits Programs and Medicaid Expansion –Helen Walters**

Ms. Walters stated April 1 the benefit team will be returning to business as usual prior to Covid. The allotment will be removed in March for SNAP. Many examples were presented to the board on how a client might be dealing with the allotment removal.

Once the unwinding hits, the agency will need to be prepared for more lobby traffic, phone call and possible increase in appeals.

At the present time the Benefit team has one vacancy.

### **. Adult Services - Cindy Giles**

Ms. Giles went over APS stats and APS Dashboard located on the DAR website. The APS Dashboard will provide a visual representation on how the local social services are performing.

The next Multi Disciplinary meeting topic is hoarding. Skylar Yeatts will be representing the agency at the Fauquier County Triad Program in April. This will be a meet and greet with the local Law Enforcement, Attorney General's office and Triad Board .

On February 21, the APS team will be fully staffed with Brittany Antezana .

### **Children's Services Administration (CSA)- Michael Mahoney**

Mr. Mahoney went over budget numbers and how many cases the program has in care. The Parental Co-Pay was discussed and the criteria on how some parents will have to pay towards services. Mr. Mahoney will be attending the CSA Academy in May for all new coordinators . In March Mr. Mahoney and Ms. Yeatts will be attending a Special Education program at Fauquier High School. Ms. Yeatts will talk about how APS can help with after you graduate while Mr. Mahoney will go over how CSA can help them while in school.

### **Announcements & Board Member Comments**

Ms. Foddrell talked about the increase of folks needing rental assistance, homeless and living in hotels. How does DSS handle those phone calls? Ms. Douglas stated all phone calls for housing are referred to Foothills Housing Network. The DV program would use a hotel until SAFE has an open bed. DSS may use a hotel for an emergency and negative weather conditions.

Ms Foddrell asked the question if the board was aware of CDR Resource? This nonprofit is at Faith Christian every first Saturday of the month. They will help individuals in Culpeper, Fauquier and Rappahannock with supplies, hygiene, and necessities.

Ms. Kozanecki suggested Hope Heals to refer clients needing clothing and also anyone who would like to volunteer.

Ms Douglas announced Ms Wallace retired in December. Taylor Villasenor from the Foster Care team will be stepping away to focus on family. Angela Walters has resigned from the DV team. This position will be left unfilled to help the grant cost.

**Next Meeting Date: June 21, 2023**