

## **Macon County Social Services Board**

Thursday, November 16, 2023

Regular Meeting Minutes

### **Welcome/Call to Order**

Patrick Betancourt called the regular meeting of the Macon County Social Services Board to order. Members attending were Anne Hyder, Dale West, Mike Williams, Patrick Betancourt (Executive Officer and Secretary to the Board), Beneth Aiken, and Amy Sanderfur.

### **Proposed Agenda**

Agenda was approved on motion of Dale West and second by Anne Hyder.

### **Minutes**

October minutes were approved on motion of Anne Hyder and second by Mike Williams.

### **Personnel Tech Intro**

Beneth Aiken, incoming Personnel Tech, transferring from the Social Work unit, introduced herself. Board members each introduced themselves.

### **Child Care Subsidy Presentation**

Sheila Conley and Amy Breedlove gave a presentation on the Child Care Subsidy Program and provided handouts with details outlining the program. Also discussed was the Child Care Subsidy monitoring that occurred in March 2023. Patrick outlined the discussions with NC Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) in response to a monitoring payback finding imposed despite the case eligibility being validated by DCDEE. Patrick explained the payback was imposed because the agency failed to have the parent come back in and sign a document, which must be manually generated because the eligibility system, NC FAST, does not create the correct workflow. DCDEE acknowledges this "temporary" workaround, which has been in place since 2017, did not alter eligibility in this specific case but because the policy states the manually generated document must be signed by the parent, DCDEE elected to impose a financial penalty equal to the subsidy payments for the period being reviewed. Patrick reviewed the agency's appeal of the finding to DCDEE but found they were unwilling to waive the penalty despite the "fault" being a state system issue. The Board expressed its support for the agency's appeal and expressed that it would also be supportive of a letter to DCDEE expressing concern over such a finding which should be considered an Internal Control issue rather than a financial penalty as eligibility was not impacted.

### **Fiscal Update**

Amy Sanderfur provided a brief update with particular mention of continued training with Cathy Makinson and increasing understanding of the many facets with each month. Of particular interest is the CCU/MCU drawdowns of funds related to Medicaid Expansion. Macon County is doing well in that area, requesting clarification from the State in order to assure the drawdown of all of the funds allotted in the most appropriate/timely fashion.

### **Personnel Updates/Agency Exits**

In addition to filling the Personnel Tech position as referenced above, we had three resignations in the Medicaid unit, two of which were no-shows after less than two weeks on the job, which make them ineligible for rehire. One of the resignations was due to a serious medical diagnosis.

**Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

The Board opted to keep next month's meeting at the scheduled day and time of Thursday, December 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Today's agenda was revised to show this date and time.

The Board was invited to attend the Agency Christmas luncheon, which will be held Friday, December 15, 2023, at 12 noon.

Motion to adjourn regular meeting made by Dale West, second by Mike Williams.

APPROVED BY:

 12/21/23  
Chairman Date

 dec. 21, 2023  
Executive Officer/Secretary Date