

Macon County Social Services Board

May 27, 2009

Minutes

Social Services Board met this date for regular monthly meeting. Members in attendance were Dom D'Ascoli, Wendy Dalton, Mark West and Director/Secretary. Chairman D'Ascoli called meeting to order.

Minutes

Board minutes of the regular and closed meeting sessions held on April 22, 2009 were approved on motion of Wendy Dalton and second by Mark West.

Financials

Revenues and expenses are within budgeted amounts. No state cuts have been finalized that would impact the local DSS budget.

Old Business

Biennial Child and Family Services review of child protective services and foster care services has been postponed due to state travel restrictions and inadequate state staff to complete review.

Results from the Food and Nutrition Services Management Evaluation monitoring have been received, with no findings or corrective action required.

Rising caseloads were discussed. NC Budget and Tax Center developed a brief in May detailing the rising caseloads in the Food and Nutrition Program which Macon County was noted as having increase of more than 50%. In April 2009, 4,589 individuals in families received Food and Nutrition Services, a 52.3% increase from December 2007 and the third highest increase in the state. 4,589 individuals represents 13.4% of the total population for Macon County.

New Business

Memo on Open Meetings Act from the Governor was shared with the Board. Governor Purdue had requested all state boards and commissions to uphold standards of openness, transparency and to fully comply with NC Open Meetings Act. Reviewing these statutes, Board was found to be in compliance with Open Meetings Act.

Proposed state budget cuts were briefly discussed. One of the proposed state cuts is to transfer operations of child support enforcement to the remaining 28 counties that currently have state operated child support enforcement. Macon County is one of the 28 counties, and will incur 34% of the total cost of operations with federal reimbursement at 66%. Additional cuts include reduction to foster parent reimbursement rates, reduced Medicaid provider rates, and elimination of various state optional Medicaid services. Board reviewed proposed policy on specialized foster care board rate when foster child qualifies for special needs categories. Payments are to be supplements to the standard board rate for DSS licensed foster homes to provide and maintain stable placements for foster children who are difficult to place due to special care needs. Wendy Dalton made motion to approve policy as presented, Mark West seconded and motion carried.

Closed Session

Board went into Closed Session on motion of Mark West and second by Wendy Dalton to discuss contracts and personnel. Board returned from Closed Session.

Board reviewed and approved the DSS vendors and contracts for FY 2009-2010 on motion of Mark West and second by Wendy Dalton. Motion carried. Approved list of vendors and contractors is attached.

Next Meeting

Board will meet on Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at 9:00 in the DSS Administrative Conference Room.

Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman/Date

Secretary/Date