

Macon County Social Services Board

January 15, 2020

Minutes

Call to Order

Patrick Betancourt called the regular meeting of the Macon County Social Services Board to order. Members in attendance were: Lisa Leatherman, Anne Hyder, Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board Cathy Makinson, Business Officer designated to record minutes and HR Planner/Evaluator, Page McCurry. Evelyn Southard notified Board she would be unable to attend.

Minutes

December minutes were approved on motion by Anne Hyder and second by Lisa Leatherman. Discussion ensued regarding Open Meeting and quorum needed by Board to approve motions. Consideration of a Board Chair for next year is deferred until April meeting.

Program Reports

Jennifer Alexander and Jeana Capaforte presented on NVRA, National Voter Registration Act, requirements of DSS. Certain public agencies are required to make available registration as well as any change on Voter Registration Forms for any clients receiving program benefits. When a client comes in to DSS and sees an intake worker, they have to be offered the opportunity to register or update. There are required posters in the lobby as well as intake interview rooms. The option is now included in the application rather than a separate sheet as in the past. DSS also has to inform clients that staff are available to assist in completing the forms if needed. If the client is homeless, they can check the area they live on the form. Staff can assist in form completion but cannot advise in politics or party to affiliate, etc. If a client declines to complete a form, they are given a form to take home. If the client fails to sign the form or ignores the request, the caseworker will mail the form to the client and document in the case file. State representatives check at monitoring to confirm we are abiding by all regulations. When completed, the intake workers turn in the forms to the receptionists. At the end of each week, the forms are totaled and entered on an agency transmittal form and are sent to the Macon County Board of Elections.

Financials

Business Officer, Cathy Makinson informed the Board we still do not have a meals contract for Senior Services with HCA and DSS continues to make attempts at contacting HCA regarding this. Cathy updated the Board on the Energy Admin. allocation. With restructuring the energy application/intake process and utilizing a former staff member as a contract energy worker, we have been able to maximize our admin. dollars. Changes were necessary following the application process last fiscal year. LIEAP funds are expending quickly due to the increased allocation amount and opening to all income eligible families on January 1st. There is still a larger remaining Crisis allocation that can be utilized when LIEAP is completely spent.

Old Business

Page presented the first 6 months data in the areas included in the MOU program performance requirements. Except for Child Support data which is cumulative and evaluated annually, other areas are evaluated monthly and are currently being met or surpassing the required percent in each area of FNS, WF, and Energy. DSS Board asked that Page commend staff on these accomplishments.

New Business

Patrick requested and was given support by the Board to approach the County Manager regarding DSS terminating the managing of the Emergency Food and Shelter Grant which we are basically a pass-through of funds to local agencies. DSS no longer has capacity and would like to transfer to another, more appropriate county agency.

Closed Session

Lisa Leatherman made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel information as allowed under G.S. 143-318.11. Anne Hyder seconded, and motion carried.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 8:30am in the Administrative Conference Room at the Human Services Building.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman | Date

Secretary | Date