

Macon County Social Services Board

October 19, 2022

Minutes

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, Evelyn Southard, Page McCurry/HR, Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board, and Cathy Makinson, Business Officer designated to record minutes.

Agenda was approved on motion of Anne Hyder and second by Evelyn Southard.

Minutes

Minutes were approved on motion of Dale West and second by Evelyn Southard.

Financials & 75/25 Medicaid Claiming

Budget Officer, Cathy Makinson, reported that the DSS county audit was completed with no findings. New energy program process is to be implemented by the state where the state will be sending payments directly to the providers. We have not received much information or training on how this will be accomplished.

Both Cathy and Patrick discussed the new 75/25 Medicaid claiming changes. After completing the last trial run, we contacted our Local Business Liaison (LBL), for feedback on our results as a follow-up to the previous test. In the earlier test, Macon was projected as being very conservative in the Medicaid adjustments we had made according to state guidance. The LBL stated she did not have any of our data so we chose to contact her supervisor at the state level for feedback. The supervisor advised that our data looked like it had been claimed correctly and that the largest figure affecting reduction in revenues was our Indirect Cost Plan. Cathy reached out to Maximus to see if they were revising any ICPs for other counties and was it worth the time and effort at this point to revise the cost of space to meet the 75/25 revenue requirement. The response from Maximus stated they had not developed a plan at this time to revise counties. Cathy requested that it be included in the development of the ICP for next fiscal year. State is looking into providing hold harmless funds to offset the reduction in revenues for the current fiscal year since budgets had already been approved.

IV-E Adoption Assistance Appeal

Patrick advised the Board that the final appeal he had made to the DHHS Secretary was upheld and he agreed on the state decision. Patrick had spoken with DSS attorney regarding next steps. He recommended a cost analysis be considered if the decision was made to take it to Federal court for review. Patrick was informed that the penalty DSS would be responsible for was approximately \$54,000 federal funds, paid with county funds. Attorney will research attorneys that handle these type cases while Patrick will follow-up with County Admin. Attorney recommended asking the state for a payment plan. Patrick stated he had contacted another county DSS who had a large payback and was able to negotiate a payment plan. Patrick mentioned he had checked with the county risk assessment company on a prior Medicaid payback to learn that this was not covered under county liability policy.

Medicaid Expansion

It appears this is potentially coming through the General Assembly. Federal government will absorb 90% of the cost with 10% paid through the hospital association and PHP groups, as it benefits them more to cover this cost versus charity claims. This is tied to the certificate of needs that the hospital system is requesting be increased. Patrick stated the Directors' Association is asking DHHS if Medicaid expands, to delay immediate implementation so counties have time to hire and train additional staff. It takes six months to a year to train an eligibility caseworker. Secondly, to consider the need for additional space to

meet this demand. Senator Corbin is on the committee and feels overall that this would be good for the state and they want it to be successful.

Personnel Updates/Turnover Rate

Page provided an update to the Board on September and October changes. Samantha Smith and Hector Wilson have been hired as CPS social workers. At Senior Services, Nikki Hall was hired as the new Adult Day Supervisor and Sharon Darden hired as a CSSA. One transfer of Kayla Hardy from Medicaid to FNS. Lynne Kurimay was reclassified to SWI and Samantha Hood to PA III. John Jarvis, CPS SW, submitted his resignation to be closer to family. SW in permanency planning and front receptionist are still needed.

Meeting date changes

Patrick suggested changing from 9:00am on Thursday, November 17, to 10:30am, to coincide with the Thanksgiving luncheon. He also suggested changing the date and time in December to Friday, December 16 at 10:30 to coincide with the Holiday meal. Board will check calendars and email their response.

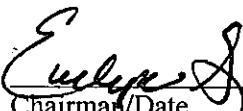
Closed Session

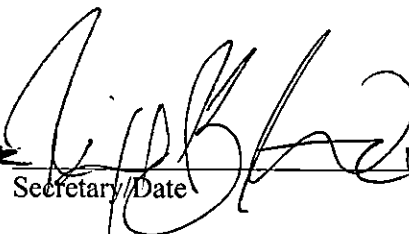
No Closed Session this month.

Next Meeting

Next Meeting is scheduled on Thursday, November 17, 2022, in the Admin Conference Room. Motion to adjourn made by Dale West, second by Evelyn Southard.

APPROVED BY:

 11/17/2022
Chairman/Date

 Nov. 17, 2022
Secretary/Date