

Macon County Social Services Board

November 16, 2016

Minutes

Call to Order

Patrick Betancourt called meeting to order. Members in attendance were: Lisa Leatherman, Darlene Green, Dinah Mashburn, Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board and Cathy Makinson Business Officer designated to record minutes. Location of the meeting had been changed to the Crawford Senior Center.

Minutes

Open Session and Closed Session Minutes of the October meeting were approved after motion by Dinah Mashburn, second by Lisa Leatherman.

Program Reports

Sheila Jenkins reported on performance measures for Senior Services for FY 15-16. There was an increase in every area. Greatest accomplishment was completing the process for SCOPE and becoming a Center of Excellence. This gave the Center credentials for things they were already doing and showed the need to increase community outreach. The Newsletter has expanded and now has a Spanish version. There are waiting lists for classes Members have grown to more than 600 in Congregate and classes only while funding has not increased. Sheila explained that the classes were just as important as the food as it provided opportunity for socialization. This Center exceeds other county senior centers in the region in donations. Set up of the kiosks has been completed and clients check in as they come through the door with a identification card they scan and then choose the activities for the day they would like to engage.

Financials

Business Officer, Cathy Makinson gave a brief report on the energy programs which began November 1 with approximately 88 households having been approved to this date. Monthly financials were provided in the Board books.

Old Business

Patrick gave an update on the new security cameras that are currently being installed at DSS and stated there would be a demonstration next month. He also reported on the safety glass to be installed next month. The vendor was waiting on the Health Department order which needed a budget amendment and PO to be completed. It will be 4-6 weeks until product delivery. Patrick deferred an update on the Senior Services parking issue as information from the County Commissioner's meeting the evening before was unavailable.

Patrick also reported on the contact he had with Duke Energy regarding the possibility of providing a generator. After the load review/usage for the entire building, he chose to cancel further progress in this direction as it would be cost prohibitive. At that time Duke reported we would be the only facility in the western part of the state using this service.

USDA timeliness since last Board meeting has remained at 100%. Patrick spoke on receiving the first report card for Medicaid timeliness as there are different categories that are evaluated for applications

and percent of application processing times for Family and Children's and Adult Medicaid categories. In order for the county DSS to pass, they have to pass in all areas every month. Macon County did not fare well but now that we know what areas are being evaluated, Supervisor Sheila Conley believes she knows what is triggering the negative numbers. The new requirement will not include corrective action until January 2017.

Patrick informed the Board that he had brought back the two outpost workers from Angel Medical Center as of November 1, 2016. One has been assigned to Family and Children's Medicaid and one to Adult Medicaid. DSS staff are still available and on call to go to the hospital to take applications as needed.

New Business

Patrick reported on the recent wildfires and that DSS is staying ready to open the Red Cross Emergency Shelter when needed. Nantahala Outdoor Center had opened some cabins for some families that had been displaced in that area through the weekend. Patrick shared he had attended the Incident Briefing held Friday, Veteran's Day, at the Caterpillar building and expounded on the incredible operation taking place there. Health Department and DSS have been meeting every morning for briefings here at the Human Services Building. Patrick also mentioned he had had regular contact with the Asheville Red Cross.

Our FY 15-16 audit is still not finalized as of this date. There were some questions on Medicaid cases that had used "forced eligibility" where workers had to use the system work arounds to get benefits to clients that were eligible. Sheila is gathering the response on this issue. The County Finance has some issues requiring follow up as well.

Closed Session

Lisa Leatherman made motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel and confidential case information. Darlene Green seconded, and motion carried. Board returned from Closed Session with motion from Lisa Leatherman, second by Darlene Green.

Next Meeting

Next Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, December 21st, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the DSS Administrative Conference Room.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman | Date

Secretary | Date