

Macon County Social Services Board

February 15, 2017

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.

Minutes

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

Old Business

Patrick updated Board on continued 100% processing timeliness of FNS and Board agreed to have Patrick only report future changes in this area rather than ongoing monthly percent. In regards to Medicaid processing timeliness, the percent of reports processing timely increased to 83% while the average processing time percent decreased. The NC FAST system understands there are special applications (apps) where the time clock stops because other agencies have to provide additional info before the application is finalized, such as DDS. Some of the workers didn't understand these applications need to be opened under admin apps. Sheila provided training for staff in this area to open apps under the correct headings. She also identified some workers on the Macon County report that are not our county workers. Patrick expects the State will continue refining these reports as counties make the State aware of these issues in NC FAST.

Financials

Business Officer, Cathy Makinson gave a brief report on the energy programs. CIP has approved and processed over 600 applications, LIEAP 539 households, HEMC 18 households and TANF EA has served 62 households. DSS has requested to receive reallocation of energy funds that may be available. Cathy reported TANF spending is currently where it needs to be to draw down all those funds this FY. Budget preparation is underway with the presentation for approval of FY 17-18 budget to be presented at the March Board meeting. Monthly financials were provided in the Board books.

Program Reports

Sheila Conley presented FY 15-16 statistics in the areas of Work First and Medicaid. We expect to continue as an electing county through FY 18-19. Currently there are 4 child only WF cases which receive a cash benefit through the Federal dollars that are available through the WF cash assistance. The remaining cash assistance is utilized in the EA energy assistance and child welfare staff.

Sheila reported Medicaid has seen a decrease in cases due to NC FAST combining family cases, however the number of individuals is not declining. The ultimate goal with NC FAST is to align Medicaid with FNS cases.

New Business

Patrick reported in preparation of the FY 17-18 budget, discussions are being held regarding the increase in demand for services at the Senior Services. With that increase, there is a direct impact on the increase in adult services at DSS. Currently there is only one social worker to meet these demands with SW

Supervisor as back up. Patrick made Board aware that we will be requesting an additional SW II position to assist in adult services.

Discussion was held on the experience and community connection the Board wishes to see in the new Board appointment for Dinah's position which ends in June 2017.

Lastly, Patrick reported on the proposed Amnesty Day being developed by the Child Support Enforcement workers. This possibility would offer to purge outstanding orders for arrest if the client comes in on the designated day and becomes current on their arrears. Workers would reduce the amount of arrears to \$200 or 10% of the current arrears, whichever is greater. Board discussed ideas of how to effectively advertise this program and the possibility of more than once a year. This would allow the orders to be modified and driver's licenses to be reinstated.

Closed Session

Lisa Leatherman made motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel and confidential case information. Dinah Mashburn seconded, and motion carried.

Next Meeting

Next Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, March 15, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the DSS Administrative Conference Room.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman | Date

Secretary | Date