

Macon County Social Services Board

May 16, 2018

Minutes

Call to Order

Patrick Betancourt called meeting to order. Members in attendance were: Lisa Leatherman, Darlene Green, Evelyn Southard, Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board and Cathy Makinson Business Officer designated to record minutes. DSS Board had changed the May meeting location to the Crawford Center to include an appreciation breakfast for the Senior Services staff.

Minutes

Evelyn Southard made motion to approve April minutes, second by Darlene Green, minutes approved.

Financials

Business Officer, Cathy Makinson and Patrick Betancourt reported on the proposed County Budget for 18-19 which includes a large increase in health insurance, both to the county and the employees who have dependent coverage. The County Manager has included the requested foster care social worker in the budget. Patrick discussed the recent county audit where more Medicaid cases were pulled including 7 county transfer cases which Macon was not responsible for. Macon will have to provide additional documentation as to why they do not have any information on these cases. Financials were provided in Board books.

Program Reports

No Program Reports this month.

Old Business

Patrick updated the Board on the CVA issue in Cherokee County. Macon has reviewed 300 cases. The review was completed prior to the state asking if counties had any cases outside policy and law. Patrick will forward the completed analysis after it is reviewed by the attorney.

Patrick gave an update to the Board on the Work First Plan. State has requested a couple revisions in service areas and a further breakdown in the allocation of funds.

Patrick reported on NC FAST P4 from the annual Directors meeting, where directors voted not to support moving forward any further due to continued challenges. DHHS is listening but still moving ahead and says it is a system we will have to use even though it falls short of what we need. The Secretary has told the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee that it is working and counties are keenly aware it is not. Macon is managing the system but every day, more challenges arise. This is the first month of foster care payment reimbursements through P4. Cathy, along with workers, will review reports available on May 21st, after prior month closeout to evaluate where Macon received all the foster care reimbursements due for April.

New Business

Patrick brought the Board up to speed on an incident that took place in April where a former Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) sent an email over the weekend to the placement provider, media, attorney for the GAL organization and it's program administrator, Senator Davis and Representative Corbin which

included a foster child's first name and trauma incidents the child had undergone. This former GAL was not in court when this case was presented, resigned and proceeded to send this email that criticized DSS and the court system as to how this case had been handled. Patrick informed the Board of his discussion with DSS Attorney David Moore regarding breach of confidentiality. GAL Administrator has contacted the Administrative Office of the Court (AOC) to see if the volunteer can be held accountable for the breach. Patrick mentioned he had been asked by the Franklin Press to do an article about the incident. Patrick informed the reporter he could not discuss the incident but could inform the reporter on what happens when a child comes in to custody. Patrick stated the article is in today's paper after the reporter had sent the draft to Patrick for his suggestions/feedback which were included in the printed article.

Closed Session

Evelyn Southard made motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel and confidential case information. Darlene Green seconded, and motion carried.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, June 20, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in the DSS Administrative Conference Room.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman | Date

Secretary | Date