

January 16, 2008  
Franklin, NC 28734

Social Services Board met this date in regular session. Members in attendance were Wendy Dalton, Mark West, Dom D'Ascoli and Secretary. Chairman D'Ascoli called meeting to order.

Regular Session and Closed Session minutes of the December 19, 2007 meeting were approved on motion of Mark West with second by Wendy Dalton.

Monthly financials were briefly reviewed. Medicaid spending has significantly decreased and is now projected to come in at or below budgeted amount.

Secretary presented the proposed Confidential Intermediary Services Fee Schedule. This new adoption service provides assistance to adult adoptees in locating their biological parents. The service began on January 1, 2008, which the state did not provide any funding to implement the new service. Service fees were determined by projecting the average cost of providing services. Wendy Dalton made motion to approve the proposed fee schedule as presented, and Mark West seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board went in to Closed Session to discuss personnel and confidential case information on motion of Mark West and second by Wendy Dalton. Board returned from Closed Session.

Cindy Binkley and Lisa Hilliard presented Board with information on the current foster parent recruitment drive ongoing in Macon County. Department currently has 11 licensed foster homes with possibility of 7 additional homes. With the new state regulations, several of the current foster homes will no longer be able to accept foster children due to new limits on the number of children in the home as well as other factors. The department has experienced a significant increase in the number of foster children, with 47 foster children currently in care. 16 of these children are, or in the process of, being legally cleared for adoption and 5 of these children are in relative placements.

There is great need for additional DSS foster homes which the foster parent recruitment plan will be ongoing. Ms. Binkley will be holding 2 Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting (MAPP) foster parent training sessions this year, as well as working one-on-one with other prospective foster parents. The Board was encouraged to refer anyone they thought might be interested in becoming a foster parent.

Secretary updated Board on the Macon County Mental Health Task Force, which County Commission

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APPROVED BY:

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Chairman/Date

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Secretary/Date