

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2018 MEETING

The Henderson County Board of Social Services conducted their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 21st, 2018 at 12:00 PM in the East Conference Room (C2104) of the Human Services Building. Present from the Board were Chair Dr. Jennifer Hensley, Vice-Chair Penny Summey, Tyra Kirby and Judy Smith. Present from the DSS staff were Jerrie McFalls (Director), Kevin Marino (Social Work Program Administrator), Sandy Morgan (Economic Services Program Administrator) and Karen Vale (Clerk for the Board). Board Member Frank Wilson and Administrative Officer Joe Maxey were absent, with regrets.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:08 PM by Chair Hensley.

Public Input: None

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes: Vice Chair Summey made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Mrs. Kirby seconded the motion. All present were in favor, the minutes were approved.

Directors Report (Attachment I): Director McFalls reviewed her submitted report highlighting the information provided regarding Medicaid Transformation. She has included several handouts (**Attachments II – IV**) from DHHS that are good resources for the upcoming changes scheduled for November 2019. Director McFalls also shared that the management team has begun work on the 4-year plan as requested by the County Manager's Office. Each county department head must submit their plan by October 1st. If any board member has suggestions, please feel free to contact Director McFalls. Vice-Chair Summey asked that a review of the proposed plan be added to the September board meeting agenda. Finally, Mrs. Kirby asked for information about the HC Substance Abuse Task Force. Director McFalls shared that she had been appointed by the HC Commissioners during their July 18th meeting. Commissioner Lapsley is chairing the task force with a set timeframe of five meetings (once per month); a report will be presented on findings to the community during the Commissioners meeting on January 17, 2019.

The August Employees of the Month (**Attachment V**) were shared. Mrs. Morgan and Mr. Marino each reviewed their nominated staff. Director McFalls shared with the board that we have received two resignations; one social worker and one social work supervisor. Both will be going to work for the Henderson County Public Schools as school social workers. These positions were approved by the commissioners as part of the eight positions added to the school district budget.

July Statistical Report (Attachment VI): Director McFalls asked for comments or questions regarding the statistical report. Vice-Chair Summey asked if given the percentage reduction in several areas (Work First, CPS In-Home Case Management, and APS Open Cases) and the significant increase in the number of children in foster care; are we addressing the areas that have the greatest need? Mr. Marino responded by saying that staff are looking at multiple years at a time to identify trends/cycles for all programs. His team has put together several charts tracking these trends and they will be used in supporting our 4-year plan when it is submitted to county management. Mrs. Summey expressed a desire to see those charts when the board reviews the 4-year plan at the September meeting.

Program Administrators Reports (Attachment VII): No questions were presented.

Old Business: No agenda items were listed under old business; Chair Hensley shared her plan to change the focus area updates structure into an opportunity for DSS staff to inform/educate board members about the many program areas in DSS. These presentations during the board meetings will help the board members be better


informed as they are out in the community. She would like the presenters to be front line staff and their presentations to last 5-10 minutes. Director McFalls will work with the supervisors to determine what area's will be discussed, beginning with the September board meeting.

Director McFalls shared that the reports referenced in the Memorandum of Understanding between Henderson County and the Department of Health and Human Services, signed at the June 27th Henderson County Commissioners meeting, have not been released. She will continue to keep the board members informed of any new information as it becomes available.

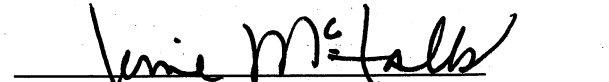
New Business

- **Family First Prevention Services Act (Attachments VIII & IX):** Mr. Marino highlighted the two handouts provided. This first one is a summary of the bill that was passed as part of the Bipartisan Budget Act on 2/9/18. The second handout is more user-friendly in that it explains the provisions of the bill and how they directly apply to services we provide. He specifically highlighted paragraph #4 on page 7 regarding the 10/1/19 deadline for states to take steps to safely reduce the inappropriate use of congregate/group care for children. These changes will lead to more organizations seeking foster parents, especially at the therapeutic level. Director McFalls and Mr. Marino have met with staff from Crossnore and they are assisting us with our special population groups in terms of placement and services. Chair Hensley asked about available funding for Henderson County DSS from this federal program. Mr. Marino shared that until the State of North Carolina develops and implements a plan for these programs, we are unable to secure any reimbursement. Another provision of this bill is the expansion of services for former foster children under the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program. Under the current provision, services can be provided to former foster children from age 18 to 21; the new expansion will allow services to continue until the child is 23. HC DSS currently has 14 cases under this program. We have not yet been provided any guidance on children that may have just turned 21 and aged out of the program; if they are going to be grandfathered in or not. Mrs. Smith asked about the services we provide to this group, Mr. Marino shared that Lindsey Murray is the social worker assigned to these cases and services include securing employment, securing housing, learning how to manage their finances, etc.
- **Social Services Institute – October 17-19:** Director McFalls discussed the Institute and the provided workshop grid (**Attachment X**). Mrs. Smith would like to attend the New Board Member Training on Wednesday, 10/17 and the NCACBSS Annual Meeting on Thursday, 10/18. Mrs. Summey would like to attend the NCACBSS Annual Meeting on Thursday, 10/18. Karen has already reserved several hotel rooms, Mrs. Smith will utilize one of those. Karen will complete the registrations for the two attendees, based on the requested sessions. Director McFalls and Mr. Marino will be in attendance for the entire Institute, various other program staff will be attending specific sessions based on their program area.
- **Board of Social Services Member Stipend*:** Chair Hensley reviewed the stipend provisions for HC DSS Board members, \$10 per attended meeting. Historically, payments have been dispersed twice a year; January and July for the prior six months of meetings. Board members have expressed a desire to have their stipend transferred into a general assistance line within the DSS budget for use with our clients, either foster children or adult services clients. For meetings attended between January 2018 – June 2018, the board members present would like their stipend to be transferred to the adult services donation line. Mrs. Kirby made a motion to approve the transfer of funds, Mrs. Summey seconded the motion. All present were in favor, the motion passed. Mrs. Smith was not appointed to the Board of Social Services during this period. Mr. Wilson was not present during the meeting, and a check has already been sent to his home address for his stipend. Mr. Boyd is no longer on the Board; a paper check will be sent to his home address for his stipend. Karen will inform the Henderson County Finance office of this action, to ensure the proper amount of funds are transferred.

Next Meeting and Adjournment: Chair Hensley reminded the board that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 18th, 2018 at 12:00 PM. Mrs. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice-Chair Summey seconded the motion. All present were in favor, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM.



Dr. Jennifer Hensley, Chair



Jerrie McFalls, Director/Secretary to the Board

: JGM

Attachments:

- I. Director's Report (August 2018)
- II. 7 Things You Need to Know About NC's Move to Medicaid Managed Care (8/2018)
- III. 11 Things You Need to Know about North Carolina's Move to Managed Care for Medicaid and NC Health Choice (8/2018)
- IV. Transformation to Managed Care Overview Power Point from DHHS (8/9/10)
- V. August Employees of the Month
- VI. Statistical Report (July 2017 – July 2018)
- VII. Program Administrators Report (August 2018)
- VIII. Family First Prevention Services Act Bill Summary-First Focus.org
- IX. The Family First Prevention Service Act-Childrens Defense.org
- X. Social Services Institute Workshop Grid (2018)