

Monthly Director's Report to

Board of Social Services



June 2017

Submitted by:
Jerrie McFalls, Director

~ VayaHealth (formerly Smoky Mountain Local Management Entity/ Managed Care Organization) has announced plans to restructure. Brian Ingram, CEO states, "Overall, the effort was guided by the need to make best use of our human resources within the realities of our financial capacities and in light of ongoing Medicaid transformation." Their workforce will be reduced from 532 positions to 475 positions. 97 positions are being eliminated including 32 existing vacancies and 65 filled positions. 40 new positions are being created. Many of the changes are to establish integrated care. "Due to single stream reduction, a total of \$4,500,000 in initiatives must be cut from Vaya's budget." Attached is the list of community reinvestment initiatives not funded in FY 17/18.

~ The Partnership for Health has scheduled monthly meetings of the Behavioral Health Summit to continue to discuss behavioral health needs in Henderson County. We will continue to meet with this group.

~ Eblen Charities is in the process of locating an office in Hendersonville. Eblen currently assists more than 125,000 families each year. All of the money they raise remains in Western North Carolina. They assist children, adults and families living with illnesses and disabilities and those in need of emergency assistance.

~ The future of SSBG (Social Services Block Grant) remains uncertain. SSBG was signed into law in 1981 by President Reagan. The program is an entitlement to states and provides a flexible funding source that can be used for both adult and child protective services as well as services to reduce dependency and promote self-sufficiency. In Henderson County, SSBG funds adult services programs and some child welfare programs. Please join NACo (National Association of Counties) in encouraging Congress to fund the SSBG.

~ HB608 and SB594 have now been included in HB630, Rylan's Law/ Family/Child Protection and Accountability Act. The bill has been amended to establish Social Services Regional Supervision instead of requiring counties to be regionalized. The bill allows counties to voluntarily regionalize. This bill has cleared the full Senate and has been sent back to the House. Several amendments to the bill were suggested by the NC Association of County DSS Directors (NCACDSS). The Association is in support of the bill.

~ The most recent NCACDSS Bill Tracker will be provided at the meeting for review of bills related to DSS.

Employees of the Month: The June Employees of the Month list is attached.

Attachments:

- VayaHealth Community Reinvestment Initiatives Not Funded in FY 17-18
- June Employees of the Month