

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Minutes
June 27, 2012

The Durham County Board of Social Services held its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 27, 2012 8:30 a.m., at 220 East Main Street, conference room 609 Right. The following DSS Board Members were in attendance: Chairman Stan Holt, Commissioner Michael D. Page, Board member Newman Aguiar, Board member Jane Volland and Board member Dr. Tara L. Fikes.

The DCDSS Department was represented by the following: Interim Director Gail Perry, Ms. Antonia Pedroza, Ms. Catherine Williamson-Hardy, Ms. Rhonda Stevens, Mrs. Lynn Thomas, Ms. Betty Hughes, Ms. Cynthia Cason, Mr. Bob Wallace, Ms. Marie Johnson, Ms. Pinkie Davis-Boyd, Ms. Mary Flounoy, Mrs. Robyn Riley, Mrs. Darlene Whitfield, Mrs. Prudence Glover, Ms. Jovetta Whitfield and Ms. Montrella Springfield.

Assistant County Attorney Danielle Briggs attended the Board meeting.

Board Chair Stan Holt called the meeting to order.

Agenda

No changes.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Board member Newman Aguiar motioned to approve the May 23, 2012 minutes. Board member Jane Volland seconded. The minutes were approved.

Board member Newman Aguiar motioned to approve the June 25, 2012 minutes. Board member Tara L. Fikes seconded. The minutes were approved.

Adult Services RBA Report - Bob Wallace

Bob Wallace, Program Manager for Adult Services proceeded with Results Based Accountability Report for Adult Services.

Adult Services projects, contracts, partnerships and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- County-wide coordinated intake for homelessness;
- Triangle J Area Agency on Aging will begin auditing In-home services. They are currently monitoring Home-delivered meals, but will begin monitoring In-home services later this year;
- Home-delivered meals were audited in January. No corrective actions required by DSS;
- Durham Partnership for Seniors is embarking on establishing a CRC (Community Resource Connection) in Durham County; and
- Opening Doors begins July 2012
- **Customers are Healthy**
 - 100% of Guardianship Unit Customers will have a complete medical exam at least once per year.
- **Customers are Safe and Stable**
 - 98% of adults that were abused, neglected or exploited did not suffer re-abuse.
 - 85% of individuals substantiated for abuse, neglect or exploitation consent to ongoing agency services.
 - 90% of the adults receiving in-home services were able to remain in the community and prevent out of home placement.
 - 100% of Adult Care Homes receive at least a bimonthly visit.
 - 100% Guardianship wards receive monthly contact.
 - 90% of Corrective Action Plans are resolved upon first site visit.
 - DSS will serve at least 125 customers over the two-year span of the HPRP program to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless.
 - To date 170 Households have been served, which is 36% more than goal. Re-housing served 66 households, which is 10% more than goal.
 - 100% of the 62 Wards in the Guardianship unit received Medical Examinations
 - DSS will initiate an investigation into all group care resident complaints within 5 working days of receipt.

Additional Information

- 15% of Durham County's population is 60 years of age or older. That's about 40,000 seniors
- 30% of seniors 65 years and older live alone

- 10.5% of seniors 65-74 live in poverty. Same for those over 75
- 25% have a two or more disabilities
- 21.5% of adults 65 and older are taking care of someone over the age of 60

The wait list for Meals on Wheels has increased. There are discussions with Adult Care Partnership.

Chair Holt thanked Mr. Wallace for the report.

DSS Child Care Subsidy - Linda Hicks

Linda Hicks, Program Manager for Child Care Services provided the Results Based Accountability Report for Child Care.

Ms. Hicks reported the months of May and June was busy with transition for school age children.

- SEEK implemented FY 2012.
 - Phase I (currently in progress and being reviewed for needed revisions)
 - Phase 2 (set to begin pilot phase in the Fall)
- Major changes July 2011:
 - Ceased transportation payments
 - Began transition of reimbursement to facilities with 3 to 5 star rating (facilities receiving subsidized payments must be no less than 3 stars)
- Monitored monthly by DCDEE Subsidy Consultant. 95% accuracy rating required. YTD - 96.88%
 - Program errors
 - Accounting error

Children Served by DSS are Ready for and Succeeding in School

- 99% of children 0-5 years old receiving subsidies are enrolled in regulated programs
- The average star rating for children 0-5 years old receiving subsidies is 3.5
- The average star rating of placements for children with special/ developmental needs and receiving subsidy in regulated CC programs will be 3.5
- 100% of funds allocated for child care will be spent annually

Story behind data

- Budget driven. FY 2012 allocation - \$14,218,080 (includes Title IV-E funds); additional \$385,000 allocated May 2012 due to overspending
- Eligibility - in school or working, meet income guidelines

- Co-located with community programs serving families with children
 - Durham Early Head Start (DEHS)
 - Durham's Partnership for Children (DPfC)
 - Child Care Services Association (CCSA)
- Referrals made to other DSS and community services
- Provide technical assistance and training to approximately 450 contracted child care providers
- Changes in reimbursement to 3, 4, 5 star only facilities will provide higher quality care
- Title IV-E funding FY 12 increased total allocation
- Attrition, Title IV-E funds and mandatory service to 4 yr olds enabled us to invite 1520 children from wait list to apply for services.
- 25% enrolled
- Additional funding to be given in September 2012 if overspend due to serving 4 yr olds
- Automated Quality Check tool

Strategic Direction

- Change in reimbursement to 3, 4, 5 star facilities translates to placements in high quality centers, thus better preparing children for success in school
- Transition to electronic attendance and reimbursement system moves provider payments from the county to the State (DCDEE)
- Revised definition of homelessness by DCDEE to comply with McKinney Vento Act of 2007.
- Implementation of Phase II Seek Fall/Winter 2012. Once fully implemented, provider reimbursement will be made by the State, not the county

Approximately sixty children are in 1 and 2 Star centers.

Board member Aguiar suggested DSS seek information on the IBM Grant. Contact Tom Bonfield at the City or Drew Cummings at the County.

Interim Director Perry and the Leadership Team met with Laura Benson at Durham Partnership for Children. Interim Director Perry suggested the conversation continue when the new director come in August.

The Board expressed gratitude to the Linda Hicks for the presentation.

Interim Director's Report - Gail Perry

- The City and County are implementing a new smoking policy.
- The Foster Child concern. DSS acted in the best interest of the child.
- Durham County hired new HR Director Cora Wilson.
- County HR will handle hiring for temporary employees.
- Medicaid Transportation Unit was audited.
- DSS Work Plan Committee receiving consultation from Ben Ramsey to develop work plan strategies to coincide with the County Strategic Plan.
- Interim Director Perry presented Chair Stan Holt a plaque for his commitment on the DSS Board.
- A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Assistant Directors' Update

Customer Accountability - Antonia Pedroza

Ms. Pedroza informed the attendees the BOCC approved the budget.

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Assistant Director's Report-Customer Accountability and Program Development - Catherine Williamson-Hardy

- The Six Principles of Partnership training was well accepted. Bob Wallace sent an email to management about placing a principle on his door for a month. Other management members joined this practice.
- The leadership program is being implemented as well

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Family Economic Independence - Rhonda Stevens (Written Report)

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Family Safety and Permanence Division - (Written Report)

Ms. Whitfield met with representatives from Durham Housing Authority(DHA) about the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The DHA Director will present to the DHA Board in July.

DSS Board Report - Chair Stan Holt

Chair Stan Holt opened the floor for nominations of officers for 2012/2013. Board member Jane Volland nominated Newman Aguiar as DSS Board Chair. Board member Aguiar received a unanimous vote. Board member Volland nominated Dr. Tara L. Fikes as DSS Board Vice Chair. Dr. Fikes received a unanimous vote.

Board member Newman Aguiar offered a motion to re-open the DSS Board vacancy until filled and accept all applications. The DSS Board approved with a unanimous vote.

Members of the DSS Board will not be available in July to establish a quorum. The next meeting will be August 22, 2012.

Chair Stan Holt sent an email to staff informing them of the forth coming changes. Chair Holt acknowledged the excellent leadership of Interim Director Gail Perry. Chair Holt thanked the management team as well.

Chair Holt and Board members highlighted references received on the new director Michael Becketts. It was difficult to make the final decision on the candidates. The Board asks that staff will be open and accept the new director. The DSS Board recognized Interim Director Perry for her commitment and leadership.

This was the last meeting for Chair Stan Holt as his term will expire June 30, 2012.

The Board members thanked Chair Holt for his service on the DSS Board.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Chairperson

Date

Secretary to the Board

Date

