

**Minutes for the
Forsyth County Department of Social Services Board Meeting
February 22, 2016**

Present at meeting: Rep. Evelyn Terry (Chair), Nancy Young , Com. David Plyler, Debra Donahue, Daphne Taylor, Diane Wimmer, Kim Collie, Victor Isler, Pat Read, Gloria Woods, Tan McDougal and Gail Anderson

Meeting called to order

New staff were introduced: Brittney Barber, Rachelle Colaire, Jessica Collins, Kenyatta Davis, Ryan Foster, Michelle Headlie –Powell, Shanta Hicks, Mary Houck, Ahmad Johnson, Saleema McCoy, Lisa Nowak, Toneisha (Renee) Pettigrew and Marisa Pope

Recognition of the Income Support Clean Up Team under Tiffany Lamarque that have been working on getting number up in Food and Nutrition and now starting to work on Medicaid trouble spots. Board gave them a standing ovation for work well done.

Consent: Motion to accept minutes from last meeting made by David Plyler, second by Nancy Young, voice vote accepted the minutes to record.

Division Updates:

Vacancies

- Holding at 44-47 vacancies throughout the agency to fill.
- March 2-3 planning on hiring fair for Income Support to fill 11 spaces and create hiring pool.
- Hope to have all of these in place by March
- Continuous process due to job changes, retirement, and other departures. (some do not make it through job training)
- Linked all PCN's so can fill multiple positions at once.
- Agency goal is less than 10% vacancy currently less than 10%.
- Concern county will look at vacancies and wonder why need more positions
- Income Support now requiring hands on testing with interviews to assess skills prior to hiring
- F&C Child Welfare turnover rate has been below the state average but still need to look at these rates and factor in.
- Some new positions are the result s of audits.
 - Business office needing new position to reconcile for performance and conduct Program Integrity Hearings
- Add New Positions to Program Integrity investigations to find fraud
- Add New Positions to Family and Children's Division as state is expanding foster care from age 18 to 21 this will increase numbers being served and how this may require more hands on work load to address issues faced by this age group and lack of services for this age group. (housing, vocational, education)
 - Working on Volunteer pool, looking at grants and models. To work to meet needs of this population.

- Hands on NW NC
- Youth Villages
- Methodist Home going to oversee some services to help with foster care.
- Forsyth has been able to keep foster care numbers down
- Adult APS and Guardianship has seen 30% increase in takes
 - Add new position to guardianship and add supervisor to reduce current supervisors load
 - Add new position for APS
 - Working with CenterPoint to address some housing issues.
- Concerns about increase in referrals due to two new programs coming to area that could bring in new residents in need of services.

Budget presented by Pat Read:

- Agency Revenue used in 2016-2017 DSS Budget Request is based on State Estimates released 2-15-2016. Expenditures Budget is based Salary and benefits for existing positions, plus changes for new position requests. Additional expenditure requests are based on a combination of historical patterns of expenditures, plus changes in anticipated services in Family and Children's and Adult Division as identified above.
- Administration budget based on last two years and current approved and amended budgets.
 - Amended budget due to not knowing federal allocations until fiscal year for federal government starts in October
- Team Division (Income Support)
 - Day Care scheduled to go into NC FAST in 2016-2017, the expenditure budget includes some anticipated conversion expenditures.
 - Day Care service budget combination of state and federal money.
- Energy Programs (LIEAP and CIP) are scheduled to go into NCFAST in 2016-2017, but unsure of conversion expenditures.

Discussion on Budget:

- Extra money beyond what is budgeted for new positions has been put there to provide money for conversion process as Daycare and Energy Programs go online in NCFAST, expected increased foster care expenditures in Room and Board due to legislative changes, pattern of Adult Wards being put in DSS care, additional Employer Share 401K, lower revenues due to vacancies at time of budget estimate development.
- Must make public aware of what DSS does and looking at how to cover services that DSS doesn't address.
- No decisions till May and will have better estimate at that time of what cost for certain things will be
- Need to have one page summary that reflects the information and justifications for all levels.

Motion made by Nancy Young to accept the budget seconded by David Plyler. Voice vote was taken and budget was accepted by all three as presented with the understanding that these are estimates.

Move to adjourn, meeting adjourned.