

**Forsyth County Department of Social Services**  
**Board Meeting**  
**September 25, 2017**

**Board Members present:** Fleming El-Amin (Chair), Vice Chair Claudette Weston, Com David Plyler and Karen Durell

**Others present:** Debra Donahue (Director), Michael LaDisa (Deputy Director), Victor Isler (Family & Children’s Director), Diane Wimmer (Adult Division) Director, Kim Collie (Asst. Director Income Support), Tiffiany Lamarque (Asst. Division Director Income Support), Linda Daum (Business Officer), Tanya McDougal (Director of Strategic Initiatives), Gloria Woods (County Attorney), Phyllis Russell and Ronda Tatum (Budget Office), Gail Anderson (Admin. Asst.), Todd Luck (W-S Chronicle), Dr. Bradshaw, and Sharon Fisher (Chamber of Commerce)

**Meeting called to order:**

Guest introduced

**New Employee Introductions:**

Family and Children’s: Andrea Figueroa, Akeyia Moore, Charlean McNeil, Janesha Faulk  
Income Support: Bessie Burton, Ceyerra Garrison, Elizabeth Wilkes and Latrice Wright

**I. Consent**

- A. Minutes from August 28, 2017 meeting - Minutes were presented motion made to approve by Claudette seconded by Karen Durrell, passed by voice vote.

**II. Director’s Report- Debra Donahue**

A. Medicaid

- i. Social Services Board was informed about potential impact of changes with the Federal Medicaid Block Grant. They are:
  - 1. Reduction in federal Medicaid funds for the state.
  - 2. Potentially limits state’s ability to respond to increase in cost for services covered by Medicaid
  - 3. Such as:
    - a. Rise in enrollment due to recession or a Public Health Emergency (Zika)
    - b. Potential preset amount of funding for state to determine eligibility for programs.

4. State recommendations being considered
  - a. Allocate Medicaid funds according to level of spending in counties
  - b. To manage cost
    - i. Making counties responsible for county caused errors
    - ii. Making state responsible for state caused errors.
- B. HB630 Rylan’s Law- Local DSS written agreements; corrective action; state intervention, the following will be effective FY 2018-2019
  - i. County Departments required to enter into annual written agreement for all social services programs other than Medicaid
    1. Agree will be with DHHS, DSS, county Commissioner/Manager
  - ii. Beginning in fiscal year 2018-2019, the Secretary shall require all departments of social services to enter into a written agreement each year that specifies mandated performance requirements and administrative responsibilities with regard to all social services programs other than Medicaid.
  - iii. The Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services (Committee) by August 1 of every year regarding oversight of the local administration of social services programs other than Medicaid.
- C. Board Responsibilities – Social Services Board new board member will be attending training at the Social Services Institute. The orientation includes:
  - i. Board Self Evaluation
  - ii. Code of Conduct as a board
  - iii. Role of Board
    1. To Advocate for DSS
    2. Be aware of state statutes that affect DSS
    3. Assist and develop budget presentation for County
  - iv. Advise Commissioners and manager of DSS issues
  - v. DSS Mandated Programs and Services list shared.
  - vi. Audit report reviewed from April to June 2017
  - vii. Report card will be shared to give snapshot of all programs and preset goals
- D. Vacancies- 41
- E. Loomis Contract
  - i. Contract still pending
  - ii. Temporary plan in place with Sherriff’s escort

F. Technology Plan

- i. Coordination with business office and MIS to develop plans for new technology
- ii. Child Welfare moving into NCFast in 2018

G. Cardinal Issues

- i. Working closely with provider to address delay in authorizations for placement beyond the 14 days
  - 1. Delayed authorizations are resulting in county cost for Adult and Family & Children's Programs

H. Correction to 1571's

- i. FTE issue has been corrected

I. Salvation Army Contract

- i. Salvation Army is reviewing contract
- ii. Next meeting October 2, 2017

**III. Division updates**

- A. No questions presented about reports

IV. Other Discussion-

Motion to adjourn seconded by Claudette, seconded by Dave Plyler vote to adjourn, meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be **September 25, 2017 at 11:30 am**