Chatham County Board of Social Services
Meeting Minute Notes
February 21, 2018

In Attendance: Richard Edwards, Chair; Pam Johnson, Vice Chair; Carl Thompson, Member; Thomas Droke, Member and Loyda Estrada, Member.

Richard Edwards called the meeting to order. Carl Thompson motioned to approve the January, 2018 meeting minutes with a second by Thomas Droke. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Items Discussed:

Pam Johnson’s term on the board will expire on June 30, 2018. Board agreed to post a vacancy announcement on the county website.

Ms. Kristiansen provided economic services updates related to childcare subsidy, Medicaid and Food and Nutrition Services. Reallocation amounts were issued last week for childcare subsidy and Chatham County will be receiving an additional $209,000. In addition, the Partnership for Children is reallocating approximately $8,167 to childcare subsidy to help address overspending. This should reduce the spending coefficient to 101%. It is possible that an additional reallocation could also be issued by year end.

Medicaid application timeliness for January was 86% overall (85% for MAA/ Magi and 89% for Adult Medicaid MAD). FNS Application timeliness for January is 98.75% and recertification timeliness was 94.5%.

Ms. Kristiansen also provided updates on the family services division. The primary focus within this division has been on readiness for implementation of NCFAST for child welfare. Chatham County has been asked to join a second wave of the P4 (child welfare) pilot in NCFAST. The Division has requested 5 or 6 additional counties join so that there is broader testing and input as to system enhancements. No dates have been communicated, however, it seems that this would not begin before late March. Decisions will be made after more testing of the system updates that took place last weekend.
Ms. Kristiansen reported that the NC Behavioral Health Strategic Plan was issued on January 31, 2018. The plan is available online and she will send the link to board members. The plan identifies two areas for focus including timely access to high-quality services and integration of behavioral health, I/DD services, and physical health for children and adults.

Ms. Kristiansen reviewed the draft document of the county performance agreements that are a requirement of HB 630. She will send electronic copies to board members for review.

Ms. Kristiansen also gave a budget update and will share more detail at the March meeting.

Current expansion requests include reclassification of the Family and Children’s Lead Worker position to a Family and Children’s Medicaid Supervisor and a reclassification of a Food and Nutrition Caseworker to a Lead Worker. A new data analyst position is also being requested to address the growing demands for management of data. Currently over 100 reports are monitored on a daily/weekly/monthly basis at DSS.

During the public input time, Mr. Daren Fiske was in attendance to voice his concerns about his experience with the child support process. He expressed his frustration regarding the lack of payment history he is able to view on the NC Department of Health and Human Services website that houses the child support software system. Mr. Fisk also felt that more could be done to collect the full monthly amount of child support established or agreed upon. The board agreed to look into any potential resolutions for his current concerns.

There was a motion to adjourn from Thomas Droke and a second motion from Loyda Estrada.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 3:00 pm in the DSS Board Conference Room.

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Chair  Date

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Secretary  Date