

Forsyth County Department of Social Services
Board Meeting
December 18, 2017

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

Others present: Debra Donahue (Director), Diane Wimmer (Adult Division Director), Victor Isler (F&C Division Director), Kim Collie (Asst. Director Income Support), Tiffiany Lamarque (Asst. Division Director Income Support), Tanya McDougal (Director of Strategic Initiatives), Linda Gaskin (Staff Development Supervisor), Shirelle Stewart-Riddick (Project Manager), Gloria Woods (County Attorney), Phyllis Russell and Ronda Tatum (Budget Office), Gail Anderson (Admin. Asst.), David Kwiatkowski

Meeting called to order:

I. Consent

- A. Minutes from November 7, 2017 meeting - Minutes were presented motion made to approve by Claudette Weston seconded by Karen Durrell, passed by voice vote.
- B. Minutes from Closed Session November 28- Minutes were presented motion made to approve by Claudette Weston seconded by Karen Durrell, passed by voice vote.

II. Director's Report

- A. Vacancies
 - i. 47 current vacancies
 - ii. Six retirements at the end of the year
- B. Reorganization of Income Support
 - i. Dismantling the universal worker concept
 - ii. Focus on specializing on one are (FNS or Medicaid)
- C. County Wide Goals for DSS divisions/SWOT Analysis of DSS
 - i. Developing Department Initiatives to align with Performance Measures/ County Goal
 - ii. SWOT Analysis reviewing DSS Strengths/ Weaknesses/ Opportunities/Threats
- D. Family and Children Services
 - i. November was adoption awareness month.

- ii. Events included being featured at Wake Forest Football Game and Proclamation read by County Commissioners
 - 1. Adoption Initiative funded.
 - 2. Advertising on buses
 - 3. Commercials on Channel 7
 - 4. Ad in the Forsyth Family Magazine and Talk of the Town mailer
 - 5. Banner over Cherry Street/University Parkway Bridge
 - 6. Sponsorship of Wake Game with public services announcements and recruitment booth.
 - 7. Thanks to John Thacker and Sherita Cain for making it successful
 - iii. Sherita Cain will be leaving to take position as the Administrative Director for the Guardian Ad Litem program
- E. Energy Programs
- i. Spent the first issuance of energy funds (\$1.2 million)
 - ii. Currently auditing program and issuance of the funds
 - iii. Advocating for more resources to help more customers
 - iv. Getting ready to gear up for LIEAP starting in January.
- F. Partnership with Wake Forest University
- i. To look at Poverty and Health Disparity in Forsyth County
 - ii. Focusing on access to resources, including food deserts and transportation issues.
- G. Audit Report issued for this quarter
- H. Salvation Army has declined taking back Energy Program
- III. 2018 Schedule for Board meeting
- A. Presented and amended with change of start time to 10 am
- i. Moved to accept passed by voice vote.

Karen Durell moved and it was properly seconded by Claudette Weston, that the Board go into closed session after a brief recess and since there was no other business to come before the Board, the Board meeting be adjourned following the closed session.

Next meeting will be **January 22, 2018 at 10 am**