

**The Blair County Department of Social Services
Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, August 2, 2018 at 11:30 a.m.
American Legion Social Hall, Hollidaysburg, PA**

Board Members Present: James Stratton, Steve Martynuska, Rick Petroski, Commissioner Erb, Donna Gority, Sue Tomlinson, Robert Smith, Cindy Barton and Mike Stubler

Board Members Absent: Chris Cohn, John Allender, Dave Hollern and Cassie Grassmyer

Others Present: Melissa Gillin, Jim Hudack, Jamie Henry, Melissa Gordon, Kelly Popich, Theresa Rudy, Helen Schmitt, Sara McConnell, Lorrie Hetager, Pam Shehee, Cindy James, Ken Dean, Trina Illig, Jackie Saylor, Brenda Basal, Jeanna Bileck, Catie Richards, Liz Hogue, Carol Hartman and Lisa Frye

MINUTES

Welcome and Call to Order

Rick Petroski, Chairperson, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Self-introductions were made. .

1. Approval of June 7, 2018 Minutes

- *Motion by Mike Stubler to accept the June 7, 2018 minutes. Bob Smith seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.*

2. Board Operations – Jim Hudack, Executive Director Blair County Dept. Social Services

- Nominating committee will meet to determine 2019 Officers
- Cindy Barton, Susanna Tomlinson, Dave Hollern and Rick Petroski will let Jim know if interested in reappointment.

3. Mental Health Committee Report – no report. Committee did not meet in July.

4. Developmental Programs Committee Report – no report. Committee did not meet in July.

5. County Reports

Executive Director – Jim Hudack

- Jim announced that Missy Gillin has been selected as the new Quality Assurance & Housing Coordinator in the Social Services Department.
- An Administrative Assistant position is open and will be posted soon.
- The State budget has passed and the HSBG funding will remain the same
- 1st qtr HSBG allocation letter has been received but no funds deposited
- The EI 1st qtr check has been received
- No report back yet on the approval of the Annual Plan
- Jim gave an overview of the First Time Home Buyers Program through Blair Community Action that is funded through the Affordable Housing Trust Fund

MH/COD –Theresa Rudy

- Theresa reported CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management) Training August 21-23. Registration due by Aug. 8.

Mental Health – Ken Dean

- Ken included a report with the meeting Agenda packet.
- The TIRT (Traumatic Incident Response Team) took part at the Duncansville Community Center informational session for those impacted by the recent flooding. 85 people attended.
- Ken reported that they are looking for new members to join the CPDUD (Committee to Prevent Drunk Driving & Underage Drinking). They meet 1st Wed. of each month at 8:30am at BDAP (Blair Drug & Alcohol Partnership) office.

Intellectual Disabilities – Melissa Gordon

- A report was included with the Agenda packet.
- Melissa met with several of the families & students who are employed through the Summer Employment Program. She heard a lot of the personal experiences and had great feedback.
- The State ID program is looking at doing a State set rate for Transportation services. Looking at the projected new rates, most of the provider agencies' will see a drop in rates. There is a concern that some of the providers may not be able to continue to provide transportation services.

Early Intervention – Kelly Popich

- A report was included with the Agenda packet.
- Self -Verification report was received with an overall 89% rating. Need to submit a Quality Enhancement Plan for each area not at 100%.
- Received Local Program Determination letter that requirements were met for FY 16/17.
- Kelly through the Cyber Liability Insurance requirement with providers.

6. Ex-Officio Reports

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) – Sara McConnell

- A MH 1st Aid Training flyer was included with the Agenda packet.
- Please share flyer with Law Enforcement, 1st Responders, etc.
- A MH 1st Aid Training will be held for the PSU Resident Assistants
- HOPE Drop In has a MH 1st Aid Training scheduled
- Family to Family Train the Trainer class will be held Sept 8 & 9 in collaboration with the VA
- Community presentations are increasing. Agencies have been contacting NAMI for support.

The Arc – Maria Brandt

- No update

ID Providers – Lorrie Hetager

- Crossroads is moving to their new building located on 5th Avenue by Mansion Park. 12 people have already moved and 12 more will be moving. They will be having an open house in the future.
- The Learning Community shared a story about a woman who has been supported in the system for 25+ years. Early in life she had a rough time...lots of anxiety. She is currently living with a family through Supported Living. She went through breast cancer and is doing very well. She is going to the beach in North Carolina with her support family. This will be her first time seeing the ocean.
- Transportation rates for most Blair County agencies will go down. ACEL's transportation is reducing by \$3.49. Another provider is concerned because their rate increased and caused a person to go over their PFDS cap. Providers had an opportunity for public comment.
- There will be a mandatory meeting for residential providers on 8/15/18 with Nancy Thaler. CEO's and CFO's of residential providers are asked to make this meeting a priority.
- Central HCQU Fall Day of Learning is scheduled for 10/11/18 8:30am to 2:30pm (registration is 8:30am to 9:00am) at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Danville, PA. The focus will be dual diagnosis and intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Autism Speaks has a resource listed on their website called challenging behaviors toolkit. It is 81 Pages.

Blair HealthChoices/Community Cares – Amy Marten-Shanafelt

- No update

Open Forum:

The next Social Services Advisory Board meeting will be held on Thursday, October 4, 2018 at 11:30a.m. at the Arc, 431 Jackson Ave, Altoona

The next Mental Health Committee meetings will be held on Thursday, September 6 & November 1, 2018 at 9:00a.m. at CONTACT Altoona.

The next Developmental Programs Committee meetings will be held on Thursday, September 6 & November 1, 2018 at 11:30a.m. at SASMG training room, 157 Lakemont Park Blvd.