

COUNTY OF CHATHAM

CHATHAM COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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Jennie Kristiansen, Director

Social Services Board
Richard Edwards
Valerie Broadway
Emily Lowrance
Carl Thompson, Sr.

ORGANIZED 1770

707 SQUARE MILES

Chatham County Board of Social Services Meeting Minutes September 16, 2020

The September meeting was conducted by GoToMeeting due to COVID-19. Members in attendance: Richard Edwards, Chair; Valerie Broadway, Member; Emily Lowrance, Member; Carl Thompson, Member; Thomas Droke; Guest; Jennie Kristiansen, Director and Nancy Burgess, Executive Assistant.

Richard Edwards called the meeting to order.

The August Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion from Carl Thompson, a second motion from Valerie Broadway; with all in favor.

Katie Cannizzaro, supervisor for foster home licensing, provided a review of foster parent recruitment, training, and data collection work. Please refer to the PowerPoint slides for more detail.

Review of Monthly Data

For the month of August, applications for Medicaid remained around the annual average for FY 19-20 while Food and Nutrition Services were lower than average (average of 170). Child Protective Services reports were up from 22 to 28. CPS timeliness was 82% with 5 that were outside time frame. One was outside of timeframe because there was no contact information provided (number or address). One was a transfer from another county that took over 24 hours to be sent over. Two were slightly late (3 hours and 5 hours) due to accommodating a parent work schedule. Another was late due to an internal transfer issue. The social worker saw the victim child and caretaker within time frame, however, two older children were out of town and could not be seen in time.

Economic Services

Services were continuing to be provided remotely with a plan to shift to a reopening with Phase III, which was consistent with other county departments. Some of the extra federal supports provided to recipients ended, most notably the childcare supplements and the extension of Food and Nutrition re-certifications.

Case workers were continuing to call Food and Nutrition recipients to enroll them in the Healthy Helping program, a partnership with NC DHHS and Reinvestment Partners to provide \$40 in

monthly food benefits for fresh fruits and vegetables and unsalted/no sugar added canned and frozen foods at Food Lion through the end of the year.

The application modifications to improve remote applications for the federal energy programs and also Disaster SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) were also continuing. The Food and Nutrition Program had a review of their Corrective Action Plan associated with the Management Evaluation Audit.

Locally, DSS was collaborating with the county manager's office, Central Piedmont Community Action and the Salvation Army to administer COVID funds for emergency assistance for families in need.

Family Services

The COVID protocols for adult and children's services remained largely unchanged since the last meeting. Court hearings were going well with good coordination among all of the parties and children were achieving permanency.

General Discussion

The Board discussed the agenda for the next meeting, including the placement of Public Input portion at the beginning of the agenda.

With no further issues to discuss, there was a motion to adjourn from Valerie Broadway, with a second motion from Emily Lowrance, with all in favor.

The next meeting will be conducted via GoToMeeting on October 21st at 3:00pm.



Chair

3/24/21

Date



Secretary

3/30/21

Date