DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING
WASHTENAW COUNTY
JANUARY 9, 2019

Board: Patricia Piechowski-Whitney, Ruth Kraut, JaVon Jason

Staff: Renee Adorjan, Director; Titicia Rosen, General Services Program Manager; Lisa Temple, Executive Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Patricia Piechowski-Whitney called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM. A motion was made by JaVon Jason to approve the January 9, 2019 agenda. Motion supported by Ruth Kraut. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS
None.

3. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 12, 2018 MEETING MINUTES
The Board reviewed the minutes from December 12, 2018. A motion was made by Ruth Kraut to approve the December 12, 2018 meeting minutes. Motion to approve was supported by Patricia Piechowski-Whitney. Motion carried.

4. FINANCIAL REPORTS
A. Social Welfare Fund
The Volunteer Services/County Projects December 2018 monthly expenditures were $5,509.68 leaving a balance of $362.19. The Board Account monthly expenditures for December 2018 were $349.67 leaving a balance of $0.00. The Board Reserve Account monthly expenditures for December 2018 were $7.58 leaving a balance of $3,983.71.

B. Child Care Fund
Still no word on the payment of relatives. Ruth Kraut asked if dates could be added to the Social Welfare Fund (calendar year) and the Child Care Fund (fiscal year) reports.

5. UPDATES/COMMUNICATIONS
A. Director/Management Update
Director Update
  o Farah A. Hanley has been selected as the Acting Director for MDHHS.
  o A communication was sent regarding the partial federal government shutdown and how it will affect MDHHS programs such as Food Assistance. Our department has enough funding to cover January Food Assistance benefit issuance.
Data Reports
  o Assistance Programs and Services data was shared and reviewed.
    Services Statistics – There was an increase in the number of complaints. The number of youths in residential care is trending downward. We could always use more licensed foster care homes.
    Assistance Payments Statistics – The total number of program registrations received decreased. There was an increase in the number of Medicaid applications disposed. In Universal Caseload counties, the Standard of Promptness is 70% or below. JaVon Jason asked how often client’s caseworkers change. It happens quite frequently due to Bridges being designed to balance caseloads.

Staffing Updates
  o We still do not have our staffing allocation. We are hoping to get another services supervisor. The supplemental budget was recently approved which included an increase in Children’s Protective Services (CPS) staff statewide. They may be an increase in Administrative Support staff and specialization of Administrative Support staff to assist with services programs.
  o We continue to fill Administrative Support vacancies. Two Administrative support staff will start on 1/14/19.
  o We continue to have movement in services – one CPS vacancy, a CPS worker transferring to Monroe, and a CPS worker moving to the Blavin position.
  o The Employment Training Coordinator started on 1/3/19.

Policy Updates
  o None to report at this time.

Community Involvement Updates
  o Family Unification Vouchers (Housing and Urban Development grant voucher) – MDHHS is partnering with Ozone House. For youth, MDHHS is identifying youth currently in the system, and Ozone is focusing on youth who may have had a case with MDHHS (up to age 24). For families, we are starting with those who currently have a CPS case. In the future, priorities will need to be set to determine eligibility for the vouchers.
  o A joint court/services training on the removal process will be held on January 28th at the Learning Resource Center.
  o The Friends in Deed meeting that Titicia Rosen was scheduled to attend on utility assistance was cancelled and will be rescheduled.
  o The Washtenaw Health Initiative is holding two orientation sessions (AM and PM) on 1/11/19. Alice Seipelt, Community Resource/Contract Coordinator and Cherro West, Employment Training Coordinator will attend.
  o The next Trauma Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for 1/17/19.
  o The Secondary Trauma Training that first line staff were scheduled to attend this week was cancelled. It will be rescheduled.
B. Board Member Items
   o The Oath of Office was administered to Ruth Kraut. Her term expires 10/31/2021.
   o Michigan County Social Services Association (MCSSA) scheduled meeting dates for the year at the November meeting. The January 29, 2019 meeting was to be held in Washtenaw, but due to a scheduling conflict, it will need to be rescheduled.

6. NEXT MEETING
   February 13, 2019 at 9:00 AM

7. ADJOURNMENT
   A motion was made by Patricia Piechowski-Whitney to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:23 AM.

[Signature]
Renee Adorjan, Director