

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING
WASHTENAW COUNTY
JULY 8, 2020**

Board Members Present: JaVon Jason, Lillie Pinder

Board Members Absent: Ruth Kraut

Staff: Renee Adorjan, Director; Adelia Clark, Services Program Manager; Alice Seipelt, CRC/Contract Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

JaVon Jason called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM. A motion was made by Lillie Pinder to approve the July 8, 2020 agenda. Motion supported by JaVon Jason. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

3. APPROVAL OF JUNE 10, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes from June 10, 2020. A motion was made by Lillie Pinder to approve the meeting minutes. Motion supported by JaVon Jason. Motion carried.

4. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Social Welfare Fund

The Volunteer Services/County Projects June 2020 monthly expenditures were \$0.00, with a balance of \$37,342.90. The Board Account June 2020 monthly expenditures were \$0.00, leaving a balance of \$13,674.22. No Board Reserve Account monthly expenditures were recorded for June 2020. The balance is \$7,749.08.

B. Child Care Fund

Child Care Fund accounts are tracking well and within allocation. No unusual expenses, questions or concerns were noted. Renee Adorjan noted that additional funds for youth aged 14 and over would be earmarked for 2021, per a CCF subcommittee.

5. CONTRACTS

The Board reviewed and approved a contract template for Foster Care Supportive Visitation slated to begin October 1, 2020.

6. UPDATES/COMMUNICATIONS

A. Director/Management Update

Director Update

- Renee Adorjan shared updates and noted MDHHS is moving forward with plans to resume in person casework for Child Welfare staff only. Most Assistance Payments and Administrative Support staff are working remotely, and there are no plans to have all staff return to the building soon. Remote work is going well and there are concerns about the increase in positive COVID-19 tests in Michigan.
- Lillie Pinder had a question regarding FAP applications for parolees and the current application process was explained.
- JaVon Jason had a question regarding families that are uncomfortable resuming face to face contacts with staff. Current alternative strategies were reviewed.

Data Reports

- Assistance Payments Statistics - Statistics were reviewed. The overall Standard of Promptness (SOP) for application processing was 98.20% in May, the highest mark in 2020.
- Children's Services Statistics - Statistics were reviewed. It was noted that in April the State of Michigan identified youth in care who had a goal of reunification who may be eligible for rapid reunification. 250 youth were identified statewide, and 1 youth met the criteria in Washtenaw County and was able to be reunified expeditiously.

Staffing Updates

- The entire Department is currently under a hiring freeze; however, Washtenaw has an exception to fill up to 2 CPS and 3 FC vacant positions. Virtual interviews are scheduled for July 14, 2020.
- Washtenaw DHHS remains overstaffed by 1 clerical employee and 1 non-Child Welfare first line supervisor.

Policy Updates

- No specific policy changes were identified since the June 10th Board Meeting.
- The expanded eligibility criteria for FAP benefits has been extended to July.
- There is a CPS pilot project being tested in other counties, but statewide implementation has not yet been decided.
- CCI (Child Care Institution) policy is being reviewed and revised to limit the authority of staff to utilize restraints on children in care.

Community Involvement Updates

- No specific updates/changes noted since June.
- An ongoing effort is being made to develop and share resources to all employees, customers, and members of the community.

B. Board Member Items

- The 2020 MCSSA/MCSCET Annual Training Conference and Business Meeting was discussed. Washtenaw County is allotted 2 delegates, which must be submitted by September 1, 2020. Lillie Pinder is interested in attending. JaVon Jason would be interested in attending if a virtual option is offered. It was reviewed that the Social Welfare Board Account would cover the cost of participation, specifically the registration and hotel fees.

7. NEXT MEETING

August 12, 2020 at 1:00 PM

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.



Renee Adorjan, Director