

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING
WASHTENAW COUNTY
AUGUST 12, 2020**

Board Members Present: JaVon Jason, Lillie Pinder, Ruth Kraut

Board Members Absent: None

Staff: Renee Adorjan, Director; Adelia Clark, Services Program Manager; Titicia Rosen, Financial Program Manager; Alice Seipelt, CRC/Contract Coordinator; Lisa Temple, Executive Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

JaVon Jason called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. A motion was made by Lillie Pinder to approve the August 12, 2020 agenda. Motion supported by Ruth Kraut. Motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Crystal Fuller addressed the Board with questions regarding her Wayne County Foster Care case and additional resources available in Washtenaw County. Ms. Rosen and Ms. Clark answered general questions and arrangements were made to follow up privately with Ms. Fuller.

3. APPROVAL OF JULY 8, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes from July 8, 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 July 2020 monthly expenditures were \$7,206.00, with a balance of \$30,136.90. The Board Account July 2020 monthly expenditures were \$100.00, leaving a balance of \$13,574.22. No Board Reserve Account monthly expenditures were recorded for July 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 within the FY 21 Annual Plan and Budget, funds for young men's mentorship would be earmarked within the existing In-Home sub account. This designation was in response to work being done in conjunction with the Washtenaw County Juvenile Court JET subcommittee focused on youth aging out of the FC system.

5. CONTRACTS

The Board reviewed and approved a contract review for In-Home Family Services slated to begin October 1, 2020.

6. UPDATES/COMMUNICATIONS

A. Director/Management Update

Director Update

- Renee Adorjan shared updates and noted a CSA townhall meeting regarding a CW Program redesign. Lillie Pinder was specifically thanked for her participation as a panelist. The new program is heavily focused on prevention.

- Washtenaw County continues to coordinate with community partners on the Eviction Diversion Program.

Data Reports

- Assistance Payments Statistics - Statistics were reviewed. The overall Standard of Promptness (SOP) for application processing was 97.44% in July, while the SOP for redetermination is low state-wide due to the impact of COVID-19 and temporary suspension of redeterminations.
- Children's Services Statistics – Statistics were reviewed. The number of CPS complaints and confirmed cases is rising, however, the number of children in care is trending downward.

Staffing Updates

- Washtenaw DHHS currently has 10 vacancies – 4 in FC (1 employee starting 8/23/20), 1 CPS, 1 FC Licensing, 1 CW supervisor, 1 Blavin, 1 P2P FIS, and 1 ES Lead Worker.
- Washtenaw DHHS remains overstaffed by 1 General Office Assistant and 1 non-Child Welfare first line supervisor.

Policy Updates

- The annual FIP Children's Clothing allowance is \$150 for 2020.
- Verification of shelter and utility expenses is no longer required for all FAP applicants. There are few exceptions noted where verification may be required.

Community Involvement Updates

- Alice Seipelt shared that there are several types of funding for Eviction Prevention due to COVID-19. The Eviction Diversion Program is available to assist low income tenants when the tenant and landlord agree to a reduced (90%) settlement out of court. There is also funding due to the CARES Act and other DHHS and community resources available for those facing eviction. Customers should be encouraged to apply for SER and contact Housing Access of Washtenaw County (HAWC) for additional screening and eligibility determination.

B. Board Member Items

Ruth Kraut requested clarification on the meeting time and access for the general public. Lisa Temple confirmed this specific meeting was scheduled until 2 PM due to a DHHS Leadership meeting, and the Board Meeting materials (including the Microsoft Team meeting information) are posted online.

7. NEXT MEETING

September 9, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Microsoft Teams

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 PM.

Renee Adorjan

8/14/2020

Renee Adorjan, Director