

Board Minutes

October 27, 2009

The regular meeting of the Board of the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services was held on October 27, 2009. Board members in attendance were: Clair Kollar, Chairperson, Richard Buckler, Judy Gilman, James Farrell, Susie Fowler, James Farrell and Leisha Wood. Also present were Ella May Russell, Director; Ella Somerville, Assistant Director for Operations; and Marsha Tidler, Contract Specialist. Absent: Bennett Connelly, George Ennis, and Ronald Pope.

Minutes

The minutes from the September 22, 2009 meeting were approved.

Education Session:

Ella Somerville, Assistant Director for Operations and Contract Specialist, Marsha Tidler, presented "A day in the life of the customer." Two cases histories were presented with details of the barriers and issues that each customer faced, and what affect the agency's interventions has had on their decisions to better their lives.

Colleen Studinarz, Team Leader for Lexington Park or Jeanne Schmitt, Assistant Director for Services, will attend the November meeting to discuss the new process developing for intake.

Chairperson's Report

All of the names are now located on the website.

Clair Kollar reported that she was unable to attend the MASB conference.

The MASSB has stated that the community forum has proposed a revision to the child support guidelines. The guidelines for child support have not been revised since 1989.

The MASSB is currently looking for volunteers to serve as legislative contacts for each of the boards

Director's Reports

As part of the H1N1 Influenza Plan, the agency is required to report to DHR every Monday and Tuesday with the number of employees who are out with flu like symptoms.

Secretary Donald had a conference call with the local Directors, DHR will have an additional 10 million in budget cuts.

DHR has lost 600 positions; there is currently a freeze on filling existing vacant positions.

Health Share's purpose was presented to the League of Women's Voters. They were informed on how to make donations to Health Share.

Several Lexington Park Churches will be hosting "Wrapping Arms Round Many (WARM) Nights" for men and women without children throughout the winter months. Each church will host two weeks at a time. The church will provide beds, dinner and breakfast. Kerry Miciotto, Family Services Program Specialist, has been assigned to work with the churches involved for training. The target date to have the churches up and running was November 1st; the churches will not be available by then and the next target date has been set for December 1st.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:25

The next meeting will be on November 24, 2009