

**St. Mary's County Department of Social Services
Board Minutes**

January 22, 2008

Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Board of the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services was held on January 22, 2008. Board members in attendance were: Erika Patregnani, Chairperson, Clair Kollar, Judy Gilman, James Farrell, Melvin McClintock and Richard Buckler. Also present was Thomas Haina, Assistant Director for Quality Assurance and Ella May Russell, Director

Minutes

Minutes from the September 25, 2007, October 23, 2007 and December 11, 2007 meeting were approved.

Education Session – Thomas Haina, State Stat

State Stat is a monthly report to DHR on the number of cases worked and elements of CHESSIE completed in CHESSIE. CHESSIE is the child welfare tracking system that has recently been implemented and is the official case record for each case. DHR compiles the local reports which are then submitted to the Governor's office. Not all of CHESSIE's reports are finalized at this time and stats are temporarily gathered from caseworkers.

Also included in State Stat are reports on personnel, sick leave, comp time, over time, leave usage, child support, state cars, all programs, etc.

Chairperson's Report

No report

Director's report

Community Services Administration

Secretary Donald has proposed a plan to reorganize Community Services Administration (CSA), so as to better integrate the program areas into DHR. Community Services Administration which was responsible for--Adult Services, Legal, Grants to Programs, Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) and the programs reassigned to other existing offices. Adult Services has been moved to Child Welfare, MEAP and Homelessness to Family Investment Administration, Legal to Office of the Secretary, and a special Grants Division has been established. Directors support this move.

White Oak Trailer Park

There are twenty remaining families in the White Oak Trailer Park which will close on April 10, 2008. Staff from DSS have been out to the residents to identify barriers and work with the residents in relocating. The agency is working with Legal Aid, Housing, Sabrina Hecht, and the Relocation Specialist in this effort. There will be a public meeting held tomorrow night and Tom

Haina and Don Kidwell will attend for DSS. The closing of Burkes and possibly another trailer park are on the horizon.

Doctor Jarboe retired from his medical practice. On January 13, 2008, approximately 800 to 900 people attended his retirement celebration. Dr. Jarboe was a board member from 1967-1973 and was instrumental in starting many local programs. He was the founder of Health Share, Inc.; as well as, Chairman of Housing Committee and Domiciliary Care, the first director of the Housing Authority, and brought the first child care center to the county.

New Business

No new business.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15

The next meeting will be February 26, 2008.