

December 11, 2007

**Board Minutes**

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

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The regular meeting of the Board of the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services was held on December 11, 2007. Board members in attendance were: Erika Patregnani, Judy Gilman and Richard Buckler. Also present was Jeanne Schmitt, Assistant Director for Services, Kerry Miciotto, Program Specialist for Family Services, Alice McCreight, Family Services Caseworker, and Ella May Russell, Director

In the absence of a quorum no business was conducted.

**Minutes**

Minutes from the September 25, 2007 and October 23, 2007 meetings were not approved in the absence of a quorum.

**Education Session – Alice McCreight—The Working Families Home Program**

Alice McCreight presented "The Working Families Home Program." This program is a pilot proposed by Ms. McCreight to meet the needs of working families who are "under sheltered" or have exhausted all of their resources and must rely on the agency for temporary placements. The proposal was approved and resources identified to begin a pilot with an identified customer and landlord. Based on the success of the pilot, other resources such as grants will be researched and applied for to begin identifying other families and landlords for the program.

**Chairperson's Report**

No report

**Director's report**

**November – National Adoption Month**

The agency celebrated National Adoption Month on November 21<sup>st</sup>, with the finalization of four adoptions and a lunch at the Café Des Artistes afterward for the families, children, judges and attorneys.

**Maryland Charities Campaign**

The agency was the first in DHR to meet a 100% participation rate with over \$16,000 raised.

**Personnel**

The State is under a hiring freeze with some positions to be abolished. Each department was sent a list of vacant positions and requested to identify which position(s) could be abolished. The agency had to identify one position. At this time we do not know if that position was abolished.

**Leah's House**

Leah's House is a women's shelter that recently opened. The agency has worked with Leah's House in developing a memorandum of understanding, direction on how to work within the system, and trainings with their staff.

**Three Oaks**

Three Oaks opened townhouses into a shelter for women. It is presently full. The agency does all of the case management for the residents.

### **New Business**

Richard Buckler proposed the board look at member attendance and the possibility of forming a 501C for funding to be used for customers or employees.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20

The next meeting will be January 22, 2008.