

St. Mary's County Department of Social Services  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
September 25, 2012

**Attendance**

The regular meeting of the Board of the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services was held on September 25, 2012. Board members in attendance were: Richard Buckler, Chairperson; Susie Fowler; Leisha Wood; Ella Somerville; Wanda Brown; and Carol Ann Pingleton. Also present Ella May Russell, Director; Jeanne Schmitt, Assistant Director for Services. Absent: Cynthia Brown, Lynn Fitrell, Pamala Emplit.

**Minutes**

The minutes for June 26, 2012 meeting were approved.

**Education Session:** There was no education session.

**Chairperson's Report:**

**Membership:** The board individually introduced themselves to the new member Wanda Brown.

**MASSB:** The Maryland Association of Social Services Boards annual meeting will be held October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Pamala Emplit will attend.

**Meeting Times:** Mr. Buckler polled board members on meeting dates and time. The consensus of the poll was that the board would continue to meet monthly with the exception of July, August, and December, but would like a later start time.

Motion made, seconded and passed to have meetings begin at 5:30 PM.

**Director's Reports**

**Family Investment—Work Participation Rate (WPR):** WPR is the number of countable hours in a Federal activity for recipients of TCA. The State is required to meet a 50% WPR or the Federal level can levy fines on the State. Determining a person's WPR is complex work. The agency's challenge has been new staff. In July the agency met the 50% WPR and will also meet for September.

**Customer Service Award:** Marsha Bauserman, Personnel Associate, was selected by the agency for the 2012 Customer Service Award. The awards were presented in Baltimore at a ceremony attended by the Secretary.

**MASSB:** Kerry Miciotto and Jennifer Neff will present at the MASSB for the Paul Hastings Award for innovated programs. They work with Three Oaks Women and Children Shelter through the model

program *Alternative Path; Asset Based Community Development: Providing services to St. Mary's county Homeless*. Monetary awards will be presented to the boards of those who place.

### Personnel

A staff retreat was held on September 20, 2012, at Camp Maria. Ozzie Edmondson, a speaker from the Department of Human Resources, opened the day. Comments from the staff survey done, showed staff greatly enjoyed the day and the speaker.

The agency has requested another position for Foster Care. The agency's foster care case managers have case loads of 25-26 cases each. The standard is 19 cases.

**New Business:** No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

The next meeting will be on October 30, 2012.