

St. Mary's County
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2017

Attendance: The regular meeting of the Advisory Board of the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services was held October 24, 2017.

Board Members in attendance: Richard Buckler, Susan Fowler, Rose Frederick, Chair, Ella Somerville, Annette Wood and Leisha Wood

Members not present: Michael Blackwell, Cynthia Brown, Wanda Brown and Lynn Fitrell

Also present: Ella May Russell, Director and Kerry Miciotto, Lexington Park Team Leader

Quorum: A quorum was established.

Minutes: September 26, 2017 minutes were approved

Education Session:

At the request of the Board, the meeting was held at the SMC DSS satellite office located at 21775 Great Mills Road, Lexington Park, MD. The board members were given a tour of the office by Kerry Miciotto, Lexington Park Team Leader. At the conclusion of the tour, the board gathered for the meeting. Ms. Miciotto updated the board regarding the Medical Respite Program. To date, there have been eight customers whom have entered the program. The spending of the Paul Hastings award money was explained. The funds were spent on providing training to adult services staff provided by Healthcare for the Homeless. Carroll County conducted a site visit of the medical respite program. The visitors included the Carroll Co. Health Officer as well as representatives from the Health Department.

Chair Report: The Chair has no report at this time.

Director's Report:

Director Russell stated the beginning of the W.A.R.M program will be October 29, 2017. W.A.R.M. hosts 25 beds for the homeless in various participating churches throughout the county. This encouraged the discussion of the need for shelters in the county including the need for a shelter specific to single women. The board questioned how the county is assisting. Director Russell stated to the board that the need for shelters is a much larger issue and would have to include several entities.

The annual Community Assistance Day will be held Friday, November 3, 2017. The event will take place once again at the United Methodist Church in Lexington Park. Over 30 vendors will be included in this year's event.

The Lexington Park DSS office will soon be having a DORS (Dept. of Rehabilitative Services) representative available for customer both by appointment and for those in the lobby.

The agency is in the process of filling several vacancies in all areas including a critical need in the child welfare department.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 5:30pm in the Board Room of the Joseph D. Carter Building
N. Sacks