

Board Minutes

February 22, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services was held on February 22, 2011. Board members in attendance were: Richard Buckler, Chairperson; Lynn Fitrell, Clair Kollar, Susie Fowler, James Farrell; Leisha Wood. Also present were Ella May Russell, Director. Absent: George Ennis and Ella Somerville.

Minutes

The minutes from the January 25, 2011 meeting were approved.

Education Session: Family Investment Aide—Ms. K and Ms. S

Ms. K and Ms. S discussed their role as Family Investment (FI) Aide's and what led them to the position. The positions were created as entry level FI positions for person's receiving Food Stamps or Temporary Cash Assistance. The positions are fully funded with benefits but not State positions. The goal is to move the individuals into permanent positions. St. Mary's County DSS has three FI Aide positions.

There was discussion around how people know about services; it was suggested that the agency look into posters for community areas such as Emergency Room at St. Mary's Hospital, grocery stores, doctor's offices.

Mrs. Russell noted that single adults between 18-26 are increasingly coming in for services at a rapid rate.

Chairperson's Report

MASSB

The MASSB is still looking for volunteers for the Legislative Committee and volunteers to work on the annual conference. Lynn Fitrell volunteered for as the Legislative Liaison for the board.

By-Laws

By-Laws have not been addressed by the County at this time.

Director's Reports

Services

The agency expects to complete 17 adoptions by June. The adoption goal of 18 may be met dependent on a case in progress.

Audit

The Office of the Inspector General Draft Audit report has been received. It will be discussed in detail at the next meeting. One Family Investment Finding in Medical Assistance Long-Term Care has been removed. No repeat findings.

County Budget

The County Budget has been submitted with only changes in the administrative charges. The Budget will be presented at the next meeting by Dawn Dent.

Personnel

The agency has hired three new social workers—two child welfare and one respite care worker and two Family Investment workers.

Regional training is being planned for the Family Investment workers at the agency.

New Business

Richard Buckler will not be at the March meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

The next meeting will be on March 22, 2011.