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## MINUTES OF LUCAS COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD

### Regular Meeting Held October 16, 2019

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The regular meeting of the Lucas County Children Services Board was held at 705 Adams Street, 3:00 P.M.

Members Present: Ms. Allen, Ms. Arnold, Ms. Cowell, Ms. McCollough, Ms. Moore, Mr. Ridi, Mr. Schinharl, Mr. Sykes and Ms. Wilson

Member(s) Absent: Rev. Dr. Perryman and Ms. Vasquez

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Ms. Wilson called the October 16, 2019 regular meeting of the LCCS Board to order. Roll Call was taken. A quorum was present.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

TraVelle Riley was introduced as a new Staff Attorney 2 in the Legal Department. He could not be present today.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of Minutes was put on hold until the Board had a quorum in place.

Ms. Wilson asked for a motion to approve the September 18, 2019 minutes. Mr. Sykes made a motion for approval. Ms. McCollough seconded. Ms. Wilson asked those in favor of the motion to signify by saying aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

#### **Presentation from Pastor Don Fothergill on Collaborations w/LCCS for the Future**

- He has been involved with the lead issues in Toledo for the past couple years
- He has worked with Councilman Sykes on resubmitting a new ordinance
- Thought LCCS could partner together with his group, Toledo Together, and he could meet with the new foster parents during orientation and train them on lead poisoning and what they should be looking for.
- He stated that he could go into the homes built before 1978 and conduct an inspection. If the home would be found as lead poisoned, he could go through the channels and find a way for the homeowner to get their homes lead safe.

Discussion was held and Ms. Wilson stated that this is not something that the Board would address. She suggested that Pastor Fothergill meet with Donna Seed to see if this is feasible for the pre-service orientations. Ms. Seed stated she will schedule a time to meet with Pastor Fothergill before he leaves the building today.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **Personnel Committee**

This committee did not meet this month.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room 509.

##### **Services and Programs Committee**

Mr. Schinharl reported out for this committee.

- Family Search and Engagement presentation from Amy Galvan. This would be an additional unit added to the Department of Family Services. This is supplementary to the existing process and it is also partly related to the Family First Act. The overall strategy is to safely reduce the number of children in foster care by 75%. The starting point is 2020 (with 2019 as the established baseline) and the total time period this initiative would be covered and the goal would be at the 75% reduction by 12/31/2023.
- Medical Marijuana and the Impact on Practice presentation by Nicole Williams and Jackie Windless-Williams. They attended a conference to gain knowledge of how medical marijuana will affect Ohio and the families and caregivers involved with the agency. A policy needs to be created for individuals (both clients and foster/kinship providers) with the medical marijuana card. Mr. Foster (FPA president) stated the system needs to be fair to foster parents and wants to work with the agency.

The committee does not meet in November.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. with location TBA.

## **Fundraising Committee**

Ms. Wilson reported out for this committee.

- Committee met and the 100 Women (and a few good men) has sold out!
- Board members wish to sit at their own tables with their guests.
- CARES Awards scheduled for April 23, 2020 at The Pinnacle. Begin thinking about who you would like to nominate for the Board Award. Laura would like to discuss this at the November Board Meeting.
- Trunk or Treat on October 25. The board will have pizza and water for sale.
- Ms. Jackson gave the financial report on the Committee for Children account. (See the fiscal report below).

The next committee meeting is TBD.

## **Finance Committee**

Ms. Cowell deferred to Ms. Jackson who gave the Finance Report.

## **Financial Summary:**

For the month of September, revenue was \$3.9M (\$3,868,320.29) with expenditures of \$3.7M (\$3,663,865.10). The total fund balance increased by approximately \$204K (\$204,455.19), resulting in an ending fund balance of at the end of September \$17.6M (\$17,622,683.61).

## **Revenue:**

Total Revenue for the month was \$3.9M (\$3,868,320.29).

We received Local Receipts of \$1.38M (\$1,386,807.87):

- \$1,352,938.19 was for our 2<sup>nd</sup> half 2019 Real Estate homestead and roll back subsidy collections from the state.
- \$30,841.94 was for social security and SSI and \$3,027.74 represents other income.

Federal revenues received for the month \$2.4m (\$2,465,760.05):

- \$2,091,042.33 was title 4e administrative, training and contracts expenses for Jan – March 2020 qtr.
- \$328,671.65 was our Aug foster care maintenance reimbursement.
- \$46,046.07 on the federal reimbursement line represent:
  - June 19 close out expenses reimbursement of \$40,879.65 for the Kinship Child care program from LCJFS.
  - \$940 for Foster Parent training for August expenses.
  - \$360.41 for federal Adoption Subsidy expenses for August expenses.
  - \$2,639.76 was Post Adoption Special services subsidy for July expenses and \$1,226.25 in Non – Reoccurring Adoption expense was for July expenses

State revenues received for the month were \$15,752.37:

- \$13,646.20 was our 30 days to family expense reimbursement for June & July.
- \$2,106.17 in the reimbursements line is made up of:
  - \$879.92 in Post Adoption Special services subsidy for July expenses.
  - \$1,226.25 in Non – Reoccurring Adoption expenses for July expenses

## **Expenses:**

Total Expenditures for September were \$3.7M (\$3,663,865.10).

For the month of September payroll and related costs \$2.2M (\$2,210,658.42):

- Head counts at end of September were 368 this was flat when compared to August. FTE counts at end of September were 351.03 compared to 350.63 in August.
  - Overtime for the month was \$28K (\$27,574.73) compared to \$25K (\$24,818.75) in August, an increase of \$3K (\$2,755.98).
  - Vacation payout in August was \$18K (\$17,942.37).
- Placement Contract Cost was \$955K (\$954,898.42). This was an increase of \$43K (\$43,377.53) over last month actual and under the current month budget by \$192K (\$191,648.58).
- Other Contract cost for the month \$119K (\$119,153.81) compared to a current month budget of \$113K (\$112,955.07); an overspent of just \$6K.
- Other cost of care for the month was \$243K (\$243,205.56) compared to a current month budget of \$208K (\$207,967.00); an overspent of \$35K; food/clothing and daycare recorded overspent this month.
- Other Operating costs for the month was \$136K (\$135,948.89) compared to a current month budget of \$205K (\$205,329.60); an underspent of \$69K, we had \$70K included in this month's budget for the purchase VOIP phone sets.

**Year to Date:**

At the end of September our fund balance increased by approximately \$204K (\$204,455.19) resulting in an ending fund balance of at the end of September of \$17.6m (\$17,622,683.61).

Actual YTD Revenue at the end of September was \$42.1M (\$42,096,177.13) compared to a budget of \$42.8M (\$42,768,312.92). Therefore, Actual 2019 Revenue \$672k (\$672,135.80) under YTD budget.

Actual YTD Expenditures at the end of September were \$32.8M (\$ 32,809,959.63) compared to a budget of (\$35.0m) \$ 35,098,341.36. Therefore, Actual 2019 Expenditures \$2.3M (\$2,288,381.73) under YTD budget.

Our YTD fund balance was budgeted at \$16.0M (\$16,006,437.67 ) compared to an actual fund balance of \$17.6M (\$17,622,683.61) which is a favorable increase of \$1.6M ( \$1,616,245.94) over the budgeted amount. The ending fund balance represents 146.63 days of Agency spending (approximately 4.83 months).

| <b>DONATION ACCOUNT:</b>                                 |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Balance in the Donation account at beginning of Sept was | \$1,099,012.68 |
| Interest Paid by bank for the month                      | 286.95         |
| Deposits (Donations) for the month                       | 0.00           |
| Withdrawals for the month                                | 825.00         |
| Ending Cash on hand at 09/30/2019                        | \$1,098,474.63 |

| <b>COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN</b>   |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance               | \$31,620.05 |
| Deposits for the month          | 5,367.36    |
| Disbursements for the month     | 395.38      |
| Ending balance as of 09/30/2019 | \$36,592.03 |

| <b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACCOUNT</b> |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance                 | \$15,329.95 |
| Deposits for the month            | 0.00        |
| Disbursements for the month       | 4,404.02    |
| Ending balance as of 09/30/2019   | \$10,925.93 |

Ms. Wilson asked for a motion to approve the Donation Account Report. Mr. Sykes made a motion for approval. Ms. Allen seconded. Ms. Wilson asked those in favor of the motion to signify by stating aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

**Resolution 02-2019: Request for Funds from the Donation Account**

Ms. Cowell read the Resolution into the minutes. Ms. Wilson asked for a motion to approve Resolution 02-2019: 2018 Donations. Ms. Wilson asked those in favor to signify by saying aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

**Resolution 03-2019: Authority to Amend Intergovernmental Revenue Agreement Between Lucas County Children Services & Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services (Kinship Navigator Program)**

Ms. Cowell read the Resolution into the minutes. Ms. Wilson asked for a motion to approve Resolution 03-2019: Authority to Amend Intergovernmental Revenue Agreement Between Lucas County Children Services & Lucas County Department of Job and Family Services (Kinship Navigator Program). Ms. Wilson asked those in favor to signify by saying aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in Conference Room 521.

### **QUARTERLY STATISTICS REPORT FOR QUARTER THREE**

Lindsey Boyle gave an overview of the statistics for quarter three. Information was included in your board packets.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Discussion was held about whether or not we want to go on the ballot next year. We are looking at a 1.8 Mill levy, a five year levy that was approved back in 2016. This is set to expire at the end of 2021. Ms. McCollough asked that this be discussed in Executive Session. Ms. Wilson was in agreement.
- Ms. Allen discussed a new committee. At the Board Retreat, the board had extensive conversation about the Strategic Plan. At that retreat, we decided on a new committee called the Strategic Plan Committee that would work collaboratively with staff to make sure that our Strategic Plan is a document that could help the organization grow and develop. We also agreed that the composition of that committee, which Ms. Allen volunteered to chair, as well as the chairs of each of the other committees. And then open to any additional people who would like to come. As a result of an initial phone conversation about the plan, Ms. Allen states that the committee would like to propose to approve the Strategic Plan that was presented at the Board Retreat as a living working document and that they revisit that regularly (Ms. Allen suggests quarterly). The decision is strongly based around the fact that it's important to have a Strategic Plan in place. It is needed for budgeting, program planning, and even though we may have some changes to that, we would like to have it as a solid document from which to start our conversations. The committee is proposing approving that Strategic Plan. Ms. Allen proposes that the committee meet on Monday, November 18 at Noon in Room 521.
- Ms. Allen made a motion coming from the Strategic Plan Committee to approve the Strategic Plan. There is no need for a second. Ms. Wilson asked those in favor to signify by saying aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

- Reappointments. We have five board members who are up for reappointment. Johnetta McCollough, Dan Ridi, Larry Sykes, Kathy Vasquez and Laura Wilson. If you are interested in being reappointed, please notify the Commissioners and if you let Ms. Wilson know that you have done so, she will consider providing a letter of recommendation as well. Please keep in mind that if the Commissioners do not reappoint you right away, your term has does continue until such time that the officially reappoint you or replace you.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

In Ms. Reese's absence, Ms. Sheila Gibbs reported out for her.

- ODJFS Director Kimberly Hall plans a field visit to LCCS on Nov. 21. Board members are welcome to take part in meetings and discussions that day. An itinerary is being developed.
- Director Reese is presently attending the inaugural Race Equity Peer Learning Collaborative hosted by Casey Family Programs in Scottsdale, Arizona. The purpose of the Peer Learning Collaborative is to support jurisdictions in the development and implementation of strategies specifically designed to reduce/eliminate racial disparities in outcomes for children of color, with a particular focus on safely reducing the number of children in care. Director Reese is one of two Ohio representatives at the two-day conference.
- Director Reese joined other Lucas County leaders at a Burns Institute conference in Montgomery, Alabama Oct. 10 and 11. LCCS is a partner with juvenile court as a stakeholder to evaluate juvenile justice reform through the lens of racial and ethnic equity and inclusion with technical assistance from the Burns Institute. Court and community stakeholders examine data, policy, and practices with an eye to disparity and inequity. The Burns Institute eliminates racial and ethnic disparity by building a community-centered response to youthful misbehavior that is equitable and restorative.
- LCCS was well-represented at the 34th annual PCSAO conference held in late Sept. in Columbus. Staff attended training sessions and meetings, some even serving as workshop presenters. Speakers shared the latest information about federal and state initiatives intended to re-energize Ohio's public children services system. Director Reese also spoke directly with Republican state rep Laura Lanese of suburban Columbus about child protection and some changes that can still be made. Rep. Lanese promised to pass those along to the governor.

- Director Reese attended the PCSAO board meeting Oct. 2. Discussion centered on \$10 million allocated by the governor for counties to use on best practices in child protection. ODJFS is finalizing a list of eligible areas, such as foster recruitment and kinship supports, where counties can use their allocation for best practices. Funding to support counties with EDMS remains in the state's biennial budget. However, it is unclear whether ODJFS will cover the cost of the EDMS project directly or provide counties with an allocation.
- Some legislation LCCS and PCSAO continue to track:
  - HB 8: streamlines foster caregiver training requirements. Passed the House in June. Sponsor testimony last month before a Senate social services committee.
  - HB 33: requires child protective services workers to report animal abuse, and to establish animal control officers as mandated reporters of child abuse. Pending in House Criminal Justice Committee.
  - HB 188: generally prohibits a person's blindness from being used to deny or limit custody, parenting time, adoption, visitation, or service as a guardian or foster caregiver. Pending in House Health Committee.
- Governor DeWine announced \$31 million in new state funding to support youth and families served by multiple systems, both direct support and to help modernize each county's Family and Children First Councils, which coordinate care for multi-system youth. This effort is in direct response to parents making the choice to relinquish custody of their child to help them get the care they need. In a nutshell:
  - Starting right away, families, through those councils, Council, can apply for \$8 million in direct state financial aid to cover costs associated with their child's care.
  - ODJFS will provide \$20 million to county public children's services agencies (PCSAs) to assist with costs for children who require support from multiple systems and have been relinquished or are at risk for relinquishment. Rule-making is in process now with funding to come in early 2020.
  - A Multi-System Youth Action Plan Committee will evaluate the existing Family and Children First Cabinet infrastructure, current practices across the state, and service needs. Based on this evaluation and action plan, funds will be made available for both sustainability efforts and technical assistance. Based on feedback, best practices will be developed to improve the state's program with \$37 million set aside for state FY 2021.
- LCCS will begin to schedule ride-alongs again with legislators and community leaders who can influence child protection practice and policy. The board is welcome to make recommendations for those to invite for ride-alongs.
- Recent donations:
  - 30 Owens Corning workers built nearly 170 foster care kits at their downtown HQ on Oct. 9, part of a United Way volunteer clearinghouse. The group also learned more about LCCS at that time.
  - The Axemen Motorcycle Club (retired/current firefighters) donated \$2,000 Oct. 10 to the holiday gift drive after learning Franklin Park Mall fountain coins were stolen, which are normally donated to LCCS.
  - TPPA and Firefighters Local #92 Charities are donating a combined \$4,200 to buy 50 bikes for LCCS kids of all ages to be given during the annual LCCS holiday gift drive. Bikes and Badges will be featured as a story during the annual holiday gift drive.

#### IN THE MEDIA

TV: 11, 13, 24      Stories on LCCS search for missing infant. Interviews with LCCS Director Robin Reese.

Toledo Blade      Woman charged with making threats against LCCS.

Toledo Blade      Ohio START editorial with heavy LCCS mention.

Toledo Blade;  
TV: 11, 13, 24      Missing baby found in Florida, parents charged.

Toledo Blade;  
TV: 11, 24      Stolen mall fountain coins replaced by motorcycle group with \$2,000 donation to Friends of LCCS.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Ms. McCollough to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. Seconded by Mr. Sykes.

Roll Call: All Board members present with the exception of Rev. Dr. Perryman and Ms. Vasquez.

#### OPEN SESSION

Ms. Allen made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Ms. Moore seconded.

Roll Call: All Board members present with the exception of Rev. Dr. Perryman, Mr. Sykes and Ms. Vasquez.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Multiple motions to adjourn.

We stand adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathy Vasquez", with a stylized, cursive script.

Kathy Vasquez, Board Secretary