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**MINUTES OF LUCAS COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting Held May 20, 2020**

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

Members Present: Ms. Allen, Ms. Arnold, Ms. McCollough, Rev. Dr. Perryman, Mr. Ridi, Mr. Schinharl, Ms. Vasquez, Ms. Wilson

Member(s) Absent: Ms. Cowell

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Ms. Wilson called the May 20, 2020 regular meeting of the LCCS Board to order. Roll Call was taken. A quorum was present.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

None

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND APRIL 2020 LCCS BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Wilson asked if there were any other items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Ms. Wilson read the Consent Agenda into the minutes:

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- April 2020 Board Meeting Minutes
- Services and Programs Committee Meeting Minutes
- Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes
- Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
- Executive Director's Report
- Finance Committee Reports (separate attachment)

Ms. Wilson moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Hearing nothing, the Consent Agenda items are adopted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS**

2019 Data Book – Ms. Gibbs spoke about the Data Book and Ms. Jackson showed a video clip.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

- Ms. Wilson will be setting up a WebEx meeting for the Fundraising Committee sometime the beginning of June.
- Ms. Wilson wants to give a shout out to the staff for having the Town Hall meetings every Tuesday morning and afternoon.
- To the rest of the board members, we have had discussion of potential new board members with the Commissioner's Office. This has been put on hold right now because we are not sure how we would have an orientation with new board members. It looks like they are ready to appoint anywhere from one to three additional board members.
- We have one caseworker who has tested positive for COVID-19 and Ms. Wilson asked Ms. Reese to give an update on the casework. Ms. Reese deferred to Ms. Tanett Williams (Human Resources Manager) to give the update. Ms. Reese stated that we have the ability for staff and foster parents to be tested for COVID-19.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

This report was included in the Consent Agenda packet.

## LCCS Child Placement Statistics

|                          | Current Month | Previous Month |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Agency Foster Homes      | 346           | 340            |
| Subsidized Adoptions     | 1,257         | 1,260          |
| Purchased Boarding Homes | 85            | 89             |
| Institutions/Group Homes | 9             | 12             |
| Relative Placement       | 324           | 307            |

- LCCS staff is now required to wear a face mask when entering 705 Adams, with protocols in place for wearing the masks when walking the halls and interacting with co-workers. A Lucas County health department official took part in Tuesday's weekly Town Hall meetings to instruct LCCS staff on the proper use and care of face masks and other PPE. Each staff member was issued two protective masks purchased by LCCS.
- Senator Sherrod Brown has introduced the Emergency Funding for Child Protection Act, which would provide \$500 million in emergency funds for local child protective services and \$1 billion for community-based child abuse prevention programs. These flexible funds could be used to target populations that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including racial and ethnic minorities, children with disabilities, families experiencing domestic violence or homelessness, and LGBTQ youth.
- Phone conferences are being set up with the Northwest Ohio legislative delegation, congressional representatives, and Lucas County party leaders to discuss COVID issues and other ongoing concerns. Both sides of the aisle are represented in the calls. Calls have been completed with Rep. Marcy Kaptur and Sen. Sherrod Brown. There is a third call scheduled with Sen. Rob Portman's staff representative.
- LCCS staff has participated in weekly conference calls with ODJFS Director Kimberly Hall, PCSAO leadership, and the Casey Foundation. Staff input has helped provide insight into what's happening in the field during home visits and other response activities. LCCS leadership also served as a presenter during a recent Casey Foundation conference call.
- LCCS has submitted its survey to the Board of Lucas County Commissioners regarding future building operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. They are currently reviewing agency input.
- The Neighborhood Health Association (NHA) is assisting in the COVID-19 testing of LCCS staff, foster parents, and families. NHA CEO Doni Miller has been instrumental in ensuring LCCS families, foster parents, and staff has access to that testing and resources to ensure everyone's safety and well-being.

## DONATIONS

- LCCS has been blessed with lunch donations a couple of times during the pandemic, first from an anonymous donor on April 21, in recognition of their nearly-forgotten status as first responders. Then agency staff received a "Taco Monday" treat on April 27, courtesy of Los Toros Catering in Rossford. Owners Gary Portillo and Rachel Ramirez had been looking for a group of first responders to support.
- Pastor Igor "Beau" Beauflis and the congregation at Family Christian Center in South Toledo teamed up with Bags of Love 419 to provide the first set in a series of care bags for LCCS kids.
- The congregation at The Rock in Oregon stepped up a second time since COVID-19 began with a "diaper drive-thru drop-off" to help LCCS families in need. Two other Oregon churches have joined the effort.
- Shatia Allison watched a TV newscast one evening in mid-April, saw a story about the needs of LCCS families, and went out the next day to do something about it. She dropped off diapers, wipes, toilet paper, paper towels and cleaning supplies.
- An informal LCCS mask-maker network has developed. Norma Fonseca sewed and donated 150 masks through her daughter in law, Lucas Co. JFS Director Breda Osburn to keep caseworkers safe on home visits. Other mask-makers include Covered in Pray sewing group (Crossroads Community Church), Lourdes nursing instructors Lisa Wahl and Theresa Konwinski, LCCS staffer Karen Bower, who has recruited some retired friends to join the effort. Bags of Love 419 is donating fabric to all who need it.
- LCCS and Connecting Kids to Meals have joined forces to once again distribute take-home meal kits to families through caseworkers. A few hundred meals have reached kids through porch drop-offs, home visits, and other means to stay safe and socially distance.
- Metroparks has donated dozens of "Explorer Bags" with nature-themed activities inside to help jump start virtual visits. Family Visits/transportation staff will deliver the bags to birth parents and caregivers so parent and child can do an activity together via Facebook Live, Zoom, etc., during scheduled visit times.

## **IN THE MEDIA**

|                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Facebook Live                         | Robin Reese interview with Sherrod Brown                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 04-15-2020 |
| <i>Times Review,<br/>Toledo Blade</i> | LCCS supervisor Lori Wilson obituary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 04-18-2020 |
| <i>Toledo Blade</i>                   | LMHA buys Park Hotel for emancipation housing<br>(mentions LCCS as future referral source)                                                                                                                                                                            | 05-01-2020 |
| YouTube                               | Emancipated LCCS youth Jewel Harris appears in<br>recruitment video for fostering teens (Ohio Children's Alliance)<br><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoaG_hyWoBE&amp;feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoaG_hyWoBE&amp;feature=youtu.be</a> | 05-05-2020 |

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Ms. Vasquez to go into Executive Session to discuss succession planning. Seconded by Mr. Schinharl.  
Roll Call: All Board members present with the exception of Ms. Cowell.

## **OPEN SESSION**

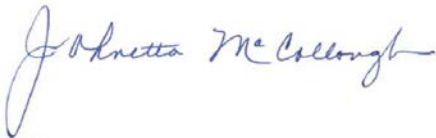
Ms. McCollough made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Rev. Dr. Perryman seconded.  
Roll Call: All Board members present with the exception of Ms. Cowell.

No action coming out of the Executive Session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Rev. Dr. Perryman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Schinharl seconded.  
We stand adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Johnetta McCollough, Secretary