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**MINUTES OF LUCAS COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting Held August 19, 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. Cowell, Ms. McCollough, Mr. Ridi, Ms. Vasquez, Ms. Wilson
Member(s) Absent: Rev. Dr. Perryman, Mr. Schinharl

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Ms. Wilson called the August 19, 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 JULY 2020 LCCS BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Minutes from July 15, 2020 LCCS Board of Trustees Meeting
- Minutes from July 24, 2020 and August 3, 2020 Fundraising Committee Meetings
- Minutes from August 11, 2020 Finance Committee Meeting
- Finance Committee Reports (separate attachments)
- Minutes from August 5, 2020 Services and Programs Committee Meeting

Ms. Wilson asked if there were any items that needed to be moved from the Consent Agenda. She then read the items into the minutes. Ms. Wilson moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Hearing nothing, the Consent Agenda items are adopted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Bringing a Matter Before a Committee of the Lucas County Children Services Board (see below)

**BRINGING A MATTER BEFORE A COMMITTEE OF THE  
LUCAS COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD**

Pursuant to state statute (121.22ORC), Committee meetings of the Lucas County Children Services Board are open to the public. To enable orderly conduct of Committee meetings, the following procedures will be adhered to in bringing matters before any Committee:

1. Any member of the community or public who wishes to either present written information or speak at a Committee meeting must submit said request in writing to the Executive Director no later than 12:00 noon on the Friday preceding the regular Committee meeting.
2. Not more than five (5) minutes will be allotted to a speaker, and not more than 15 minutes to a subject, except with consent of the Committee Chair.
3. In conducting the meeting, the Committee Chair will call upon the person(s) who have asked to be heard. The Chair may recognize persons from the audience to speak at his/her discretion.
4. No person shall present orally or discuss complaints against an individual employee of Lucas County Children Services at Committee meetings. Such complaints shall be presented to the administration in writing and signed by the person or persons making the complaint.

Ms. Wilson asked for a motion to approve Bringing a Matter Before a Committee of the Lucas County Children Services Board. Ms. Arnold 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.

Ms. Wilson asked that this document be included on the agency's website.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

none

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

- Congratulations to Ebonie Jackson on behalf of the entire board for her recent award, AICPA Outstanding CPA – Impact Award.
- CARES Awards will be virtual on September 17, 2020 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM. Tickets are \$50. We have different sponsorship levels and will be sending out the forms and letters next week. We have the proposed agenda and outline of the award recipients and when they are accepting their awards. Guest speaker is Cordelia Crenshaw.
- Some of us will be attending the YWCA's virtual event this Friday to see how it works out. The Fundraising Committee will meet again on Monday, August 24 at noon.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **LCCS Child Placement Statistics**

|                          | Current Month | Previous Month |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Agency Foster Homes      | 354           | 343            |
| Subsidized Adoptions     | 1,247         | 1,258          |
| Purchased Boarding Homes | 86            | 86             |
| Institutions/Group Homes | 11            | 10             |
| Relative Placement       | 282           | 299            |

- We are presently working on levy endorsements. The NAACP issued an endorsement on Aug. 11. I encourage board members also to seek levy endorsements through their community contacts, especially labor unions, churches, etc.
- We are closely monitoring the COVID-related back-to-school developments, as each local district makes individual decisions about how a return to the fall semester will look. As a result, there will be a lot of individualized plans made for each child in LCCS care. Some children and caregivers have health concerns or are immuno-compromised, which puts them at high risk. Other children are on individualized education plans (IEP's), which may require some special considerations.
- We are looking at the possibility of starting a new location to ramp up face-to-face visits off-site. LCCS staff toured the former Mott branch library to assess it as a feasible location for such an effort, especially for parents from nearby zip codes, who also may face transportation issues.
- We continue to monitor and add to our supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). Most LCCS staff continue to telework, which seems to be working, as they have resumed face-to-face home visits. LCCS has seen six positive COVID cases since mid-March, most of which track back to travel.
- A PR campaign is well underway for the Parent Empowerment Institute (PEI), which includes social media and billboards. A recent session focusing on stress, COVID, and back-to-school had a lot of engagement. So far, the PEI Saturday sessions have seen well over 2,300 'hits' on Facebook.
- I continue to participate in bi-weekly conferences among PCSAO directors to share COVID-related concerns and challenges. Every agency is trying to resume a sense of normal operations within the ever-changing scope of COVID-related challenges. But that is looking more like a permanent 'new normal.'
- ODJFS has requested small-group sessions on COVID concerns with PCSAO trustees. I am one of two PCSAO representatives.
- I continue to serve on a PCSAO modernization work group regarding what the future will look like for county child protective services, technology-wise. One of the bigger concerns is staffing, as some county agencies are down 50% and having trouble recruiting new staff to replace those who depart.

- The agency's Family Services Prevention Act transition work continues. Ohio START will kick off within the agency mid-to-late August and the LCCS Family Search and Engagement unit is expected to be fully-staffed later this month.
- I remain actively engaged in the governor's Children Services *Transformation* Advisory Council, as small committee work continues through the summer. My committee is focused on kinship caregiver support.

#### **DONATIONS/PARTNERSHIPS**

- United Way donated 350 zippered plastic bags full of school supplies to the LCCS backpack drive, which were used in elementary school backpacks. Friends of LCCS and the agency partnered to build 750 backpacks this year, a 50% increase because of COVID-related changes to other school supply drives.
- LCCS partnered with Friends of LCCS, Buckeye Broadband, and Levis Commons to host a school supply drive-thru donation drop-off July 24 in lieu of more traditional collections, due to COVID.
- Friends of LCCS received a \$5,000 COVID Relief Fund grant from the Greater Toledo Community Foundation to keep the agency's diaper bank going. The diaper bank started at LCCS to help families in need with diapers and baby wipes donated by the community and local churches.
- Connecting Kids to Meals recently received a large grant from the governor's office to continue offering take-home meal kits. The program started with LCCS over last holiday break, where caseworkers deliver those meals directly to kids as they do their home visits. The program is expected to expand to LMHA.
- Fundraising for the playground renovations has reached \$85,000. The effort gained \$25,000 this month from grants and direct investment from community partners. The first two shipments of playground equipment also arrived in recent weeks, some of which will be temporarily stored. LCCS volunteers put together the tables and benches, which are now displayed on the playground.

#### **IN THE MEDIA**

|                                               |                                                                    |            |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <i>BG Sentinel Tribune</i>                    | Drive-thru Donation Drop off preview                               | 07-22-2020 |
| WTOL, 13-abc,<br>NBC-24, <i>Maumee Mirror</i> | Drive-thru Donation Drop off event<br>(Levis Commons—Julie Malkin) | 07-24-2020 |
| WTOL, 13-abc,<br>NBC-24,                      | Backpack Build<br>(Julie Malkin)                                   | 08-03-2020 |
| WTOL                                          | Live Interviews on AM News<br>(Kevin Milliken)                     | 08-04-2020 |
| WTOL                                          | Live Skype interview, Your Morning<br>Robin Reese, PEI             | 08-06-2020 |
| 13-abc                                        | Robin Reese interview<br>Abuse/neglect #'s, return to school       | 08-12-2020 |

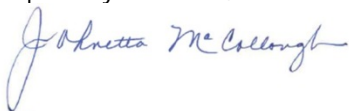
#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

none

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

We stand adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Johnetta McCollough, Board Secretary