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**MINUTES OF LUCAS COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting Held August 18, 2021**

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

**Members Present:** Ms. Cowell, Ms. Easterly, Ms. Gagnon, Mr. Ridi, Ms. Schinharl, Ms. Vasquez, Mr. Walrod, Ms. Wilson  
**Member(s) Absent:** Ms. Arnold, Ms. McCollough, Rev. Dr. Perryman

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Ms. Vasquez called the August 18, 2021 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 2021 LCCS BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Vasquez asked if there were any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. One item was pulled from the Consent Agenda:

- From Finance Committee:
  - Resolution 06-2021 A Resolution to Accept the Material Terms of the One Ohio Subdivision Settlement Pursuant to the One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding and Consistent with the Terms of the July 21, 2021 National Opioid Settlement Agreement. This will be discussed in executive session.

Ms. Vasquez read the Consent Agenda into the minutes:

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Minutes from 07/21/2021 LCCS Board of Trustees Meeting
- Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes ( canceled )
- Services and Programs Committee Meeting Minutes ( canceled )
- Finance Committee Meeting Minutes and additional finance documents attached ( 08/10/2021 )

Ms. Vasquez asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Wilson made a motion for approval. Ms. Gagnon seconded. Ms. Vasquez asked those in favor of the motion to signify by stating aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

None

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **LCCS Child Placement Statistics**

|                          | Current Month | Previous Month |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Agency Foster Homes      | 317           | 316            |
| Subsidized Adoptions     | 1,212         | 1,223          |
| Purchased Boarding Homes | 117           | 122            |
| Institutions/Group Homes | 9             | 11             |
| Relative Placement       | 366           | 340            |

### **DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

First, I'd like to point out that among the child placement statistics I just outlined, the relative placement number has grown from 299 children in February to 366 in July. That's a 22.5 percent increase in that span.

### **Race, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work**

Dr. Hope Bland will begin with the Agency as our Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Strategy on September 7th.

- I have been asked by the by the Department of Job and Family to serve as a member of the Children Services Race Equity Think Tank
- Ohio Metro/State Leaders Race Equity Workgroup convened by Casey Family
- Lucas County Race Equity workgroup also convened by Casey family
- Lucas County Committee learning community facilitated by the Burns Institute
- Led a collaboration of 100 African American women to have a press conference to encourage the African American community to get immunized/vaccinated against COVID-19
- Co-leading TREIC (Toledo Race Equity Inclusion Council) Social Justice Pillar

### **Family First Prevention Services Act**

We were awarded the Communities of Support grant and will be a pilot county for the state of Ohio.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services offered this grant opportunity in coordination with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ohio Family and Children First Council (OFCF) to continue supporting existing and new local community planning and coordinated service delivery efforts. The grant will allow this community to assess the local needs, establish best practices, and prepare for any necessary budget considerations for implementation and/or sustainability for the three priorities, identified by the state

- Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) plans of safe care;
- Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) level of care assessments; and
- Community-based aftercare planning for children discharged from residential treatment settings. This critical work at a community level will also inform planning and next steps for state policy and practice.

This will allow us to enhance our relationship with the Early Childhood Collaborative and to add a Prevention Services Caseworker to our agency. This position, and our relationship with community providers, will better align us to the mission of Family First legislation and assist with our community partnerships.

The federal Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First) was adopted on February 9, 2018 and must be fully implemented nationwide by October 1, 2021. Family First places emphasis on the use of evidence-based prevention services

to alleviate the need for placement of children in foster care, and ensuring appropriate settings are used for children in foster care.

### **Accreditation**

LCCS is currently undergoing its fifth Accreditation Cycle with the Council on Accreditation. Being accredited validates that we meet a standard of quality set by COA for a high-performing agency. The accreditation process is broken up into two parts. The first is the self-study, in which we internally reviewed the COA standards and provided evidence to COA that we are meeting them. We are now moving onto the second step which is the Site Visit. The site visit is scheduled to occur the week of August 30, 2021. This year the site visit will occur virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the site visit, peer reviewers will be reviewing a random sample of our cases as well as policies, procedures, and personnel files. The reviewers will also be conducting interviews with staff, supervisors, caseworkers, board members, foster parents, and clients. After the site visit, we will receive the Pre-Commission report that will discuss the review findings and areas for improvement or where further documentation needs to be provided (if applicable) to COA; we will respond to this report to COA with the requested information after which we will receive the Final Accreditation report with the final accreditation decision.

### **Succession Planning**

We will begin to report out the board through the Personal Committee as we are actively succession planning within our agency. Our methods include coaching, shadowing hiring and reorganizing/restructuring departments.

1. Currently, there are 43 employees that have 30 or more years of service
  - a. Directors-3
  - b. Managers- 1
  - c. Supervisors- 6
  - d. Professional Staff-33
2. There are 72 employees with 25 or more years of service
  - a. Directors-4
  - b. Managers-4
  - c. Supervisors- 11
  - d. Professional Staff-53

### **COVID-19**

Facial Coverings (Masks) will be required inside the agency regardless of vaccination status for all employees and individuals entering the agency building, effective Monday, August 9, 2021.

Facial coverings will be required within the agency building common space(s) and elevators. Masks can be removed upon reaching your cubicle and/or office space. Face coverings should be worn in meetings.

The agency set up COVID vaccinated appointments on March 8, 2020 and had a response of approximately 70% of employees receiving vaccination at that time. Since that time our COVID data is as follows:

Five (5) employees have tested positive for COVID since March 8th two (2) were vaccinated while the others had not been vaccinated.

### **DONATIONS/PARTNERSHIPS**

The back-to-school drive has concluded, as most districts are now back in session. LCCS ended up building or collecting 850 backpacks filled with school supplies. Friends of LCCS raised over \$7,500 and spent another \$3,000, for a total of \$10,500. That is down by about one-third from the 2020 pandemic, as the community contributed greatly to the effort. The drive-thru drop-off July 30 at Levis Commons proved successful with two SUV loads of supplies. Major school supply product donors included Target stores, Buckeye Broadband, Shaffer and Associates, Trust Company Family Offices in Holland, Phi Beta Sigma UT alumni affiliate, Dollar Tree stores, Girl Scout Troop 1038, Hart Associates and law firm Spengler Nathanson.

LCCS foster mom Ashley Harbert led a campaign through her church congregation at Holland Free Methodist Church to collect more than \$2,000 worth of new clothing donations to be used in placement emergencies. A foster placement of four kids involving a friend motivated her efforts, as available clothing was lacking right away. Her collection also brought hundreds of school supply donations.

Two LCCS staff, Denise Greenblatt of IL and community advocate Heidi Middlebrooks, recently learned of the availability of dozens of cases of Pull-ups and size 6 diapers, which are always in short supply due to high demand. They picked up three SUV loads and now there is an ample supply for our families on caseload in the diaper bank.

LCCS is partnering with KTLCB and Engage Toledo during a "tire amnesty" event Saturday, Aug. 28 at Bowsher HS. The idea is to encourage the public to recycle tires, which will be shredded and used in the new playground surface. It is estimated that 1,800 Ohio tires will be removed from the waste stream for the poured-in-place rubber surface. An Ohio EPA grant and donated matching funds are covering the cost of the rubber surface. Foster recruitment info also will be passed out to consumers.

The playground groundbreaking ceremony is set for Friday, Sept. 10, 2 p.m. in the outdoor playground area. Hope to see you all there!

## IN THE MEDIA

Working on video projects with Will Lucas and WTOL to recruit caseworkers and foster parents.

One of the Blade's summer intern reporters has been working on several stories about LCCS. The first one focused on the virtual reality goggles that Training & Development is using to help new case workers understand the environment they'll be working in. Other stories on family substance abuse and racial discrimination are expected.

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| WTOL-TV 11, wtol.com                                                   | Story on fathers and their roles, mentions LCCS and lists resources        | 07-23-2021 |
| The Blade, toledoblade.com                                             | African American Festival parade                                           | 07-25-2021 |
| The Blade, toledoblade.com                                             | Ready, Set, School campaign and drive-thru drop-off event at Levis Commons | 07-28-2021 |
| nbc24.com                                                              | Drive-thru drop-off event at Levis Commons                                 | 07-29-2021 |
| Buckeye Broadband                                                      | Facebook lives during drive-thru Drop-offs                                 | 07-30-2021 |
| The Blade, toledoblade.com                                             | Use of virtual reality goggles In training                                 | 07-31-2021 |
| Mercercountyoutlook.net                                                | Ohio EPA issues recycling grants, including one for LCCS                   | 07-31-2021 |
| The Blade, toledoblade.com                                             | City seeks bids for former Mott Library branch                             | 08-03-2021 |
| The Blade, toledoblade.com, Nbc24.com, WTOL-TV 11, Wtol.com, 13abc.com | Toledo women advocate for black community to get coronavirus vaccination   | 08-03-2021 |
| The Blade, toledoblade.com                                             | Our Town Calendar about West Toledo library Foster/adoption event          | 08-06-2021 |
| The Truth newspaper                                                    | 100 Sistas against COVID 19                                                | 08-09-2021 |

## EXECUTIVE SESSION



A motion was made by Mr. Schinharl to go into executive session to discuss the property and pending legal action. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilson.

Roll Call: All board members present except for Ms. Arnold, Ms. McCollough, and Rev. Dr. Perryman.

#### **OPEN SESSION**

Ms. Cowell made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Ms. Easterly seconded the motion.

Roll Call was taken, and all were present except for Ms. Arnold, Ms. McCollough, Rev. Dr. Perryman, and Mr. Schinharl.

One item coming out of Executive Session: Resolution 06-2021 A Resolution to Accept the Material Terms of the One Ohio Subdivision Settlement Pursuant to the One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding and Consistent with the Terms of the July 21, 2021 National Opioid Settlement Agreement.

**DATE: August 18, 2021**

Resolution No. 06-2021

#### **TITLE: A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE ONE OHIO SUBDIVISION SETTLEMENT PURSUANT TO THE ONE OHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THE JULY 21, 2021 NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY: Children Services Board of Lucas County

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING** the Executive Director to accept the material terms of the One Ohio Subdivision Settlement pursuant to the One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding regarding the pursuit and use of potential opioid litigation settlement funds and consistent with the material terms of the July 21, 2021 National Opioid Distributor Settlement Agreement available at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>.

**WHEREAS**, the Children's Services Board of Lucas County (herein "CSB") is an agency of Lucas County, county formed and organized pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of the State of Ohio and its communities have been harmed by misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance committed by certain entities within the Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Ohio, through its Attorney General, and certain Local Governments and Agencies, through their elected representatives and counsel, are separately engaged in litigation seeking to hold Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants accountable for the damage caused by their misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Ohio, through its Governor and Attorney General, and its Local Governments and Agencies share a common desire to abate and alleviate the impacts of that misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance throughout the State of Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, the State and its Local Governments and Agencies, subject to completing formal documents effectuating the Parties Agreements, have drafted and CSB has adopted, and hereby reaffirms its adoption of, a One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") relating to the allocation and the use of the proceeds of any potential settlements described; and

**WHEREAS**, the MOU has been collaboratively drafted to maintain all individual claims while allowing the State, Local Governments and Agencies to cooperate in exploring all possible means of resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board understands that an additional purpose of the MOU is to create an effective means of distributing any potential settlement funds obtained under the MOU between the State of Ohio, Local Governments and Agencies in a manner and means that would promote an effective and meaningful use of the funds in abating the opioid epidemic throughout Ohio, as well as to permit collaboration and explore potential effectuation of earlier resolution to the Opioid Litigation against Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants; and

**WHEREAS**, nothing in the MOU binds any party to a specific outcome, but rather, any resolution under the MOU requires acceptance by the State of Ohio and the Local Governments and litigating Agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, a settlement proposal is being presented to the State of Ohio, Local Governments and Litigating Agencies by distributors AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal, and McKesson (collectively the “Settling Distributors”) to resolve governmental entity claims in the State of Ohio using the structure of the One Ohio MOU and consistent with the material terms of the July 21, 2021 National Opioid Distributor Settlement Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Children Services Board of Lucas County wishes to agree to the material terms of the proposed National Opioid Distributor Settlement Agreement with the Settling Distributors (the “Proposed Settlement”);

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD OF LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO.**

Section 1. That Children Services Board of Lucas County (“CSB”) hereby accepts the Proposed Settlement pursuant to the terms of the One Ohio MOU.

Section 2. That the Executive Director of CSB is hereby authorized to accept the Proposed Settlement pursuant to the terms of the One Ohio MOU on behalf of CSB.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Board relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

**Action Taken:**

Abby Arnold  
Suzette Cowell  
Alethea Easterly  
Rachel Gagnon  
Johnetta McCollough

Rev. Dr. Donald Perryman  
Dan Ridi  
John Schinharl  
Kathy Vasquez  
Jim Walrod  
Laura Wilson

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Kathy Vasquez, Board Chair

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Robin Reese, Executive Director

This resolution was voted on by Roll Call vote as follows: Ms. Cowell – yay; Ms. Easterly – yay; Ms. Gagnon – yay; Mr. Ridi – yay; Ms. Vasquez – yay; Mr. Walrod – yay; and Ms. Wilson – yay. Ms. Arnold, Ms. McCollough, Rev. Dr. Perryman and Mr. Schinharl were all absent from voting.

Ms. Vasquez moved to adopt the Resolution. Hearing nothing, the Resolution is adopted.



**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Wilson.

Seconded by Ms. Cowell..

Meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathy Vasquez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathy" and last name "Vasquez" clearly distinguishable.

Kathy Vasquez, Board Chair