

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: SOCIAL SERVICES
DATE: 6/11/2024
TIME: 4:30 P.M.
PLACE: FOREST COUNTY BOARDROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Karl called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Present: Augustin, Goode, Karl, Weber

Absent: Gretzinger, Skallerud

Others Present: Tracy Ferraro, Melissa Grogg

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Weber, second by Goode to approve the agenda as amended. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

APPROVE SOCIAL SERVICES MINUTES FROM THE MAY 14, 2024 MEETING

Motion by Goode to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2024 Social Services meeting, second by Augustin. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

HUMAN SERVICE CENTER UPDATES

- A. The director has resigned effective 7/4/2024 and several staff are also leaving.
- B. Estimates to repair the Koinonia building are \$1.5 million. The committee feels it is not the county's responsibility to participate in repairs as the building belongs to Oneida and HSC will be dissolved as of January 2025. Ron Skallerud attended at meeting today to address this and more updates will be forthcoming.
- C. HSC is waitlisting CLT referrals due to not having caseworkers for that program, even when it is out of county. This is causing higher costs for the county because children are having to be placed in other treatment programs in the meantime.
- D. Tracy Ferraro explained the Tri-County work groups. A representative from each county has to be part of each group. She is part of 8 of the work groups.

GRANT UPDATES

- A. The director has written for the Community Intervention Grant again this year and expects that we will be getting it. The grant is for \$28,000 and will be for delinquency intensive treatment.

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

- B. The director is also planning to write for another YJI Innovation Grant. This can be up to \$ 100,000, and if received will build a strong juvenile intervention program.

STAFF REQUESTS TO CHANGE TO A DIFFERENT WORK SCHEDULE

The director stated that Elaine Hines wishes to change to a 4 10-hour day schedule. All other workers are on this schedule. The director also stated that she has asked Wendy Massey to go back to a 5-day schedule to help with daily tasks of running the office to ease the director's workload. The committee agreed that these schedule changes are fine.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The Cares Closet has boxes full of backpacks that were previously donated and have not been used. DSS would like to have a school supply drive from July-September to fill the backpacks to hand out to students in the county. Committee agreed this is a good idea.

CST OUTREACH WITH THE TRIBES

The CST team has partnered with the tribes to host an Ice Cream Social in the park on June 27, 2024. There will be ice cream, kick ball, and other activities. This is open to the community.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. CPS/YSJ Case Updates

Tracy Schumacher states that there are:

- 40 Children in out of home care
- 13 Children on In-home CHIPS
- 2 Informal
- 1 OHC Juvenile in rehab placement
- 2 Families on Protective Plans
- 6 Youth Justice Cases

B. IM Concerns

M. Calhoun resigned as of 6/7/24 and there are currently no IM workers. There is 1 qualified applicant. The director recommends to schedule an interview. The ADRC currently has a benefits specialist for elders and disabled. The DSS clerk is handling temporary Food Share cards and sending in documents. If possible, the committee recommends waiting to see how the department structure changes may affect these open positions.

C. Vehicle Check In/Check Out Forms

There have been 2 vehicles damaged without being reported. To avoid this happening in the future, in addition to check in/check out forms, pre-use vehicle inspection forms will be implemented. Committee agreed this is a good idea.

D. Child Death Review Team Update

With large turnovers there was no qualified staff to enter the data needed into the Child Death Review system. The director has received this training and the department is now able to proceed with child death reviews.

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

E. Care Closet Update

The department has made good progress in getting the closet organized. The basement has been utilized to store out of season and extra items which has made organization much easier. The closet is still being utilized by the community on a consistent basis.

F. Discussion of MOU's

The MOU's that are being developed include with the FCSO, FCP, and Tri-County substantiation reviews. These will help set a standard process for procedures and protect the department from errors.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE RESIGNATION OF M. CALHOUN AND POSTING OF SAID POSITION

M. Calhoun resigned her IM position effective 6/7/2024. There is currently one qualified applicant, and the director recommends that an interview be conducted. With the ADRC having a new elder benefits specialist, and the DSS Clerk able to scan documents and provide temporary Foodshare cards, the committee feels it might be best to wait on it a little longer due to restructuring in the department over the next several months.

Motion by Goode to accept M. Calhoun's resignation and wait until the end of the month to begin interviews. Second by Weber. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- To be determined

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Goode to adjourn, second by Augustin. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.