

**SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
APRIL 24, 2018 MEETING MINUTES**

| <u>Board Members</u>              | <u>Board Members</u> | <u>Executive Team</u> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Anna Arvay, Chair               | ✓ Montrella Jackson  | ✓ Julie Barnes        |
| ✓ Anne Connell-Freund, Vice-Chair | Beth Kuckuck         | ✓ Amy Davidson        |
| GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary        | ✓ Keith Malick       | ✓ Darin Kearns        |
| Omar Banks                        | Diane Miller-Dawson  | ✓ Valarie Nash        |
| Pastor Luther Cooper              | ✓ Katie Stoyhoff     | ✓ Katerina Papas      |
| ✓ Nancy Holland                   |                      |                       |

**Staff Present:** Bob King; Sushila Moore; Michelle Tersigni; Beth Lowe-Recording Secretary

**Others Present:** Tom Lavery

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

Ms. Arvay called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Arvay requested a motion to approve the minutes of March 27, 2018. Ms. Jackson moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Stoyhoff. The motion carried.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Lavery addressed the Board regarding agency policies and procedures.

**Committee Reports**

**Resources Committee**

Ms. Connell-Freund, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met today, approved the minutes of March 27, 2018, and heard a financial statement report from Mr. Kearns. As part of the Resources Committee report, Mr. Kearns provided a summary of the financial statement report to the full Board.

SCCS recognized April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. To help raise awareness, SCCS produced a video featuring Summit County officials and community leaders expressing their support of the Wear Blue campaign and the video was shared with committee members.

**Resolution 04-2018-24/B**

Authorization to enter into a contract with Messina Floor Covering, LLC for the replacement flooring in the Family Interaction Center (FIC) in an amount not to exceed \$44,000. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Holland. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

**Resolution 04-2018-24/C**

Authorization to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to engage the services of a mental health treatment organization to provide mental health services and consultation. Such organizations will treat SCCS clients as referred; and SCCS will pay only for services that are not covered by Medicaid. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Holland. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

## **Resolution 04-2018-24/D**

Authorization to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ohio Attorney General for use of the WebCheck criminal background check program for a three-year term, in an amount which may be less than, but shall not exceed \$165,000. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Mrs. Stoyhoff. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

## **Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Barnes reported the following:

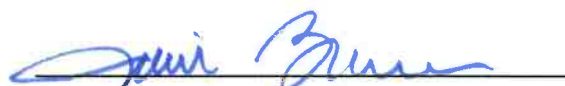
- There are 98 more children in custody as compared to the same week last year. However, there are 88 more children placed with relatives/kin, 15 less youth in residential treatment, and four less youth in group homes. The agency continues to do a good job of controlling placement costs.
- In the month of March, the Hotline had 354 reports screened-in for assessment/investigation as abuse/neglect/dependency/family in need of services. This was the agency's highest month of screened-in Intakes in 15 months.
- The current new hire/training class of six caseworkers has physically transitioned to the Main Building. They are continuing to receive ongoing education and support. The current new hire training program is being evaluated and will probably result in smaller classes every other month, in hopes of increasing proficiency and reducing the time it takes for new hires to carry a full caseload.
- An Intake Overflow Plan is still in place to assist Intake staff with the high volume of cases.
- The Protective Department is currently servicing almost 500 cases. Protective caseworkers are seeing over 95% of adult case plan participants monthly. This was one of the department's goals for 2018 and the first time this measure has ever been met.
- A new Short-term Invention unit is being created. This unit will service voluntary cases, Alternative Response (AR) ongoing cases, and safety plans. These cases are most often high-risk cases, with children still in their parents' custody, and the agency is working to prevent children from entering agency care.
- The Substance Intervention unit will be expanded to two units to integrate Family Reunification through Recovery Court (FRRRC) into the department, and make all staff more familiar with the program. It will also allow for more efficient transfer of possible FRRRC cases from Intake, and the eventual expansion of the program.
- The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) conducted an audit on the agency's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal background checks for foster home licensing. The Federal government now requires that 100% of records are audited. Of the 265 individuals audited, the agency had seven citations. These citations were either due to human error of entering an incorrect reason code, or the agency did not have sufficient documentation. SCCS has changed their practice accordingly and submitted a Corrective Action Plan to the state to address the audit findings.
- SCCS is waiting to hear if the agency was selected as a pilot county for the Northwoods system project. This new State Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) includes a workflow system, not just a storage system.
- The Reward and Recognition Committee along with the Diversity Committee and the Professional Development and Training Department will host a *Take your Sons and Daughters to Work Day* on April 26. Many activities are planned for children of agency staff in grades 6 through 12.
- The Biennium Budget included funds for Kinship child care which will provide financial assistance to Kinship caregivers who care for children involved with the child welfare system. Although this program is beneficial to Kinship caregivers, it is going to be an administrative burden as it requires the agency to screen applications and manage the program.

- The Social Services Advisory Board (SSAB) approved the agency's levy request and will make a recommendation to Summit County Council on April 30.
- An article on one of SCCS's foster homes was published recently and helped raise awareness regarding the need for foster homes. There were two press releases issued in the last month including the appointment of Pastor Matherson to the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC).
- Wear Blue is a statewide awareness campaign that takes place on the second Wednesday of every April and encourages Ohioans to wear blue in support of child abuse prevention. The Wear Blue campaign received tremendous local community response and many businesses, organizations, courts and families wore blue on April 11 and submitted photos which were posted on the SCCS Facebook page. The Wear Blue video was shared through Facebook, YouTube and links to community stakeholders.
- The Community Appreciation Breakfast is scheduled for April 27 at 7:30 a.m. at St. George Family Center and board members can still RSVP to attend. The breakfast will include award presentations and recognition of community leaders, partners, volunteers and donors who have helped the agency over the past year.
- May is National Foster Care Month and SCCS will host a Foster Parent Recognition Dinner on May 11 at 6:30 p.m. at St. George Family Center. Board members are welcome to attend.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Arvay requested a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Stoyhoff moved; seconded by Ms. Jackson. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

  
GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary  
Board of Trustees

  
Julie Barnes, M.Ed., LSW  
Executive Director