

**SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017 MEETING MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Anna Arvay – Chair; Anne Connell-Freund – Vice Chair; GinaKaye Maddox – Secretary; Omar Banks; Nancy Holland; Montrella Jackson; Beth Kuckuck; Keith Malick; Diane Miller-Dawson; Katie Stoyhoff

Board Members Absent: Pastor Luther Cooper

Staff Present: Julie Barnes, Amy Davidson, Katerina Papas, Dawn Boudrie, Denise Hall, Bob King, Audrey Kohrs, Linda McMahon, Sushila Moore, Ann Ream, Adam Schumacher, Michelle Tersigni, Beth Lowe - Recording Secretary

Others Present: Tom Lavery, Robin Schenault, Jen Thames

Call to Order and Roll Call

Ms. Arvay called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Arvay requested a motion to approve the minutes of August 22, 2017. Ms. Holland moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. Maddox. The motion carried.

Public Comment

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

Women's Auxiliary Board

Ms. Thames, Women's Auxiliary Board (WAB) President, announced that the WAB raised \$2,000 at their Annual Rummage Sale held on September 9. All proceeds will be used to directly benefit children served by SCCS. The Acme Community Cashback Program runs August 10 through December 30. Please consider donating Acme receipts with the words "Community Cashback" and a dollar amount on them. Receipts can be placed in the box located in the SCCS employee lunchroom. In early August, the WAB filled backpacks with school supplies which were distributed to children in custody. The Craft Committee made over 200 craft kits for children and families to use during visits at the Family Interaction Center (FIC). On August 19, the WAB had a booth at the Summit for Kids event at the John S. Knight Center and made 825 old fashioned toys with children, which were well-received.

Committee Reports

Citizen's Advisory Committee

Ms. Kuckuck, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met on September 20 and heard a presentation from Kevin Floyd, Felony Disposition Supervisor of Summit County Juvenile Court. He spoke of the Court's progressive programming and specialty dockets such as Restore Court, Crossroads, New Paths, Family Reunification through Recovery Court (FRRC), among others.

Planning and Programs Committee

Ms. Holland, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met today and approved the minutes of January 24 and March 28, 2017. The committee received a brief presentation from the agency's specialty unit supervisors of the Medically Fragile unit; the Serious Trauma and Assessment Team (STAT) unit; and, the Transition unit who provided an overview of their unit responsibilities including statistics.

Additionally, the committee heard an update from members of the agency's Diversity Committee regarding their five initiatives: 1) Immigration; 2) Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT); 3) Woman's Issues; 4) Poverty; and 5) Ethnicity and Race. The Diversity Committee participated in Akron Pride's first equality march on August 26 and had a foster parent information/recruitment booth at the event. The booth helped to raise awareness of the need for more foster parents and that SCCS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national orientation, sexual orientation, age or gender.

Resources Committee

Ms. Connell-Freund, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met today, approved the minutes of August 2, 9, and 22, 2017, and heard a financial statement report from Mr. King. As part of the Resources Committee report, Mr. King provided a summary of the financial statement report to the full Board.

Resolution 09-2017-26/C

Authorization to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Summit County Department of Job and Family Services (SCDJFS) to accept grant monies as provided through Title XX/TANF up to an amount not to exceed \$700,000 and authorization to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the transfer. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Holland. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 09-2017-26/D

Authorization to enter into a contract with Interfinish, LLC for the replacement of carpet and flooring at the Northeast Ohio Regional Training Center (NEORTC) in an amount not to exceed \$27,000. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Maddox. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 09-2017-26/E

Authorization to enter into a contract with Todd's Enviroscapes, Inc. for snowplowing services in an amount not to exceed \$54,000 annually, with the option to renew for additional four one-year terms. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Kuckuck. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 09-2017-26/F

The Administration of Children and Families approved the no-cost extension of the Regional Partnership Grant (five-year STARS grant) to utilize unused funds from previous years. As a result, SCCS is requesting authorization to execute an agreement accepting grant funding for the Summit County STARS program in the amount of \$463,257.71 for a ten-month period of September 30, 2017 through July 31, 2018, and to expend funds payable to the STARS program to match such grant funds in a total amount that may be less than, but shall not exceed \$154,419.24 for the same period. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Mrs. Stoyhoff. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 09-2017-26/G

Authorization to execute a one-year extension agreement with Summit County Public Health (SCPH) for the term of September 30, 2017 through July 31, 2018, in an amount that may be less than, but shall not exceed \$72,000 to continue to provide in-home alcohol and other drug (AOD) assessments to qualifying at-risk families. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Miller-Dawson. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 09-2017-26/H

Authorization to execute a one-year extension agreement with SCPH for the term of September 30, 2017 through July 31, 2018, in an amount that may be less than, but shall not exceed \$141,696.48 to continue to provide cluster case coordinating and outreach specialist services to qualifying at-risk families. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Maddox. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 09-2017-26/I

Authorization to utilize grant monies as provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under the Regional Partnership Grant extension to execute one-year extensions to two agreements with Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) for the term of September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2018 (amended from July 31, 2018), for the provision of external, independent evaluation services in an amount which may be less than, but shall not exceed \$92,651.54; and, web-based data collection interface in an amount which may be less than, but shall not exceed \$7,500, for a total amount not to exceed \$100,151.54. Ms. Connell-Freund made a motion to approve as amended; seconded by Ms. Holland. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Rules Committee

Mr. Malick, Committee Chair, reported that the Rules Committee met on July 25 and reviewed the current Board of Trustees Code of Regulations and made recommendations for change. A draft copy of the amended Code of Regulations was distributed to board members on August 22 and members were encouraged to review the changes and to send comments or questions to Mr. Malick or Ms. Barnes prior to the vote on September 26. The most significant change included the formation of an Executive Committee. This committee, which consists of the Officers of the Board, will be responsible for conducting an annual performance review and negotiating the contract and salary of the SCCS Executive Director, as well as to approve Resolutions placed on the Board's monthly meeting agenda when there is a lack of quorum at that meeting and when the Resolution(s) needs to be approved on that date due to an emergency or time limitations.

Mr. Malick introduced **Resolution 09-2017-26/J** requesting approval to adopt the SCCS Board of Trustees Code of Regulations as amended. Mr. Malik made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Kuckuck. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Nominating Committee

Ms. Arvay announced that the current term of elected officers of the SCCS Board of Trustees will expire on December 31, 2017. To assist with the election process, Ms. Arvay requested at least three board members, who do not wish to be nominated for office, to join the Nominating Committee. Those who volunteered were Ms. Holland, Ms. Kuckuck, and Ms. Jackson. At the October board meeting, all board members will be invited to submit nominations or self-nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary on paper to the Nominating Committee and the election will take place at the November board meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Barnes reported the following:

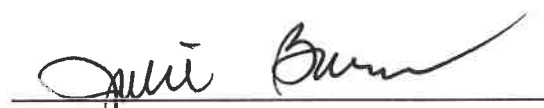
- Custody numbers have increased over the last two months. Consequently, the average number of daily overdoses in the county has increased over the last month.
- The number of children in residential placements has remained steady.
- Some of the new and recently hired Intake staff have moved to the Transition unit and are taking case assignments with some modification to the rotation of case assignments.

- Dawn Boudrie, Assistant Intake Director, was appointed to the State Differential Response Implementation and Practice Advancement Team.
- The Family Interaction Center (FIC) accommodated 434 visits in August with FIC staff providing 148 of the transports. A total of 160 fathers were involved in the visits as well.
- A total of seven children were finalized this past month, but 14 more entered permanent custody (PC) status. At this time, there are 190 children in PC with 50 of them without an identified adoption plan.
- Staff are receiving updated Permanency Roundtable training and conducting a pilot with 25 children and their siblings, who have been in temporary custody (TC) status over 12 months, and are age 12 or older. Roundtables were conducted previously for children in PC.
- Preliminary Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) audit findings are in, and the agency will be one of 15 counties taking part in developing the state's Corrective Action Plan (CAP). Unofficially, we have heard that the state as a whole did not pass any of the federal measures.
- The agency is currently at budgeted headcount.
- The agency is moving to an online method of mandated training for staff for consistency and to minimize the amount of time staff are required to be away from their desk.
- The inaugural SCCS Leadership Academy for 2017-2018 has started. Participants have hands-on opportunities to grow leadership skills as well as meet and interact with agency and community leaders.
- A formal Speakers Bureau is being formed where staff will be identified to go out into the community to conduct presentations on behalf of the agency.
- As a result of feedback from caseworkers from recent site visits to member counties, the NEORTC is offering a new training to address grief issues in addiction.
- Agency staff are working with Summit County Juvenile Court and the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Juvenile Justice regarding the Court's program targeting Dually Involved Youth. These are youth involved with both the criminal justice system and the child welfare system.
- Liz Mangon, Quality Improvement Director, was named to the Statewide Continuous Quality Improvement Advisory Committee.
- The agency is exploring the possibility of requesting a higher Service Level Agreement which would transfer our Information Technology (IT) operations to the state network.
- Recent media coverage included an article in the Westside Leader on the impact of the opioid epidemic and the need for foster/adoptive parents as well as an on-camera interview with News Channel 5 and our Community Relations Director regarding the epidemic.
- The Citizen's Committee for Children Services' annual levy fundraiser auction is scheduled for September 28 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Fairlawn Country Club.
- Ms. Barnes and Mr. Kearns held one hour voluntary budget trainings to educate staff about the agency's budget, operating forecast and upcoming levy and 140 staff attended.

Adjournment

Ms. Arvay requested a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Stoyhoff moved; seconded by Mr. Malick. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.


 GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary
 Board of Trustees


 Julie Barnes, M.Ed., LSW
 Executive Director