

**Kent County Department of Social Services  
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
March 21, 2022**

**Present:** Beverly Birkmire, Charlotte Potts, Catherine Sterling-Boyer, Poria Turner, Mary Adda Moore, and Shelly Neal-Edwards  
**Absent:** Caitlan Gartland, David May, Dr. Angela Holocker, Sara Cunningham, and Bob Jacobs

**CAC Preparations for Child Abuse Awareness Month**

Mattie Meehan reviewed the proposed schedule for recognizing National Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. The slides are included in the March handouts.

**Chairperson's Report:**

- Approval of minutes from February 22, 2022.
- Motion to approve was made by Beverly and 2nd by Charlotte.

➤ **Kent County CARES Foundation**

- Recruitment - the board approved Portia Turner and Mary Adda Moore as new board members.
- Standing Committee - Reports/Recommendations
- Other - No report

➤ **Director's Report:**

- **The Divisional Performance Report** – Child Support is right on target for collections. Emergency Assistance has increased for FIA/OHEP customers. The Service division has 39 active Adult cases.
- **Staff Update** - New staff member Solomon Enaye started on March 16th. He moved her from NY State. He will be working in the In Home Services Division. The FIA Supervisor Karen Kotova has taken a position in Harford County. We will be offering her position to an in-house candidate on Tuesday, March 22nd.
- **MIECHV Funding** - New federal funding for home visits prevention programs. KC has Healthy Families Mid Shore. They serve Kent County. In the recent assessment of KC, we had an increase in low birth weight babies being born and pregnancy-associated hypertension rates. Currently that program serves 31 families in KC. The funding will increase it to 66 families. Will be participating in the community needs assessment. This program has been shown to be an effective services delivery model for at-risk young children and their families. Unsure of the exact amount of funding to be offered. DHS provides funding to HF Mid Shore for prevention services to Kent, QA and Talbot Counties.
- **Outreach Event** - Flier provided.
- **Summer SNAP** - Flier provided, Shelly will be presenting to the County Commissioners on Tuesday, March 22nd. Kent DSS provides summer SNAP benefits to 266 children, low income and do not have a summer meal program in their area. Targeting Rock Hall, Betterton, Millington and Galena children. The county to contribute \$8,880 and DHS to contribute \$17,760. \$30 per child per month for June, July and August and \$10 per child in December.
- The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 3:30pm. The committee will be meeting in person but also have virtual as an option.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jen Cole, Executive Assistant