

Kent County Department of Social Services
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2017 3:30 PM

Present: David Kelley, Kevin Karpowicz, Rosalie Kuechler, Olythea Hunley, Charlotte Potts, Darlene Spurrier, Bill Washington, Shelly Neal-Edwards, Patty Dahle (scribe)

Absent: Shelley Heller,

Presentation: Homelessness in Kent County – Meeting was held at the First United Methodist Church, in Chestertown which is the Cold Weather Shelter for the Month of February. Tour was given after presentation.

- **Chairperson's Report (Dave Kelley):**
 - Approval of minutes from January 17, 2017 board meeting: Motion to approve made by Bill Washington second by Rosalie Kuechler, motion carried by unanimous vote.
 - No report from Chairperson.

- **Kent County Community Assistance Fund (Lee Hunley)**
 - Fundraiser is in process for March 29, 2017 at JR's Pub. More details to be announced. Could possibly be Asian where take it would be possible and other items would be available for those who do not like Asian food. At the time of reporting it was unknown how much of the proceeds will be given to the Kent County CARES foundation. At this fundraiser we will start to advertise our upcoming fundraiser in May.

 - Lori Wheeler event has been scheduled for May 18, 2017 it will be held at the American Legion in Chestertown.

 - Next Fundraising meeting will be March 16, 2017 @ 9am in Main Conference room at 350 High Street.

- **Director's Report (Shelly Neal - Edwards):**
 - Getting to Know you conversations – Shelly reported that she has met with 33 of the 53 staff. She has gained a lot of insight into the agency and staff while holding these one on one conversation. A few questions that were asked where, “How long will you be here”? , “Where are you from?” The staff that was met with expressed they would like more communication to happen.

 - Audit Findings / Correction – An Agency State Audit performed by DHR's Office of Inspector General's will take place October through December of 2017. A maximum of 106 days could be spent here doing the audit. Last audit was performed in 2014 with 5 findings which is extremely low and Kent County tied with Queen Anne's County, for lowest.

 - DHR has proposed the following name changes: The Department of Human Resources will change its name to Department of Human Services along with Child Support Enforcement will become Child Support Administration.
 - Shelly spoke about original Bill –Maryland HB697 – Child Abuse and Neglect Statewide Reporting 2-1-1 Maryland introduced in 2017. The Bill would expand the duties of 2-1-1 Maryland to include servicing as a statewide hotline for reporting child abuse and neglect. This Bill has been reintroduced with deferent terms.

- Reaccreditation- Site Visit is tentatively scheduled for November 12-14 (Sunday through Tuesday). Preliminary Self Study due beginning of August 2017. Teams are assigned and will meet on a regular basis to get the information needed for each standard.

- **Motion to Adjourn:** With no additional business at hand, a motion to adjourn was made by Olythea Hunley at 5:00 pm, seconded by Bill Washington. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- The next meeting will be held Monday, March 20, 2017 at 3:30 pm in the Child Support Conference Room, 315 High Street, Chestertown, MD

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Dahle

Recording Secretary