

**ALLEN COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES
BOARD MEETING
December 18, 2018**

Members Present: Dr. Hughes, Ms. Fox, Ms. Provaznik, Mr. Long, Ms. Wall

Members Not Present: Mr. Stolly

Dr. Hughes called the Board meeting to order at 12:13 p.m.

Minutes of the November 20, 2018 board meeting were approved.

AGENCY BUSINESS

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. **Budget and Finance Committee** –

- a) **RESOLUTION 1218-01:** Ratifies the payment of bills for the month of November 2018.

Mr. Long made a motion to approve, Ms. Wall seconded, Motion carried, resolution adopted.

- b) **RESOLUTION 1218-02:** Authorizes assigning authority of the Executive Director of Allen County Children Services to serve as their designee and therefore grant that party authority to sign the inter-county adjustment on behalf of the Agency for calendar year 2019 in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code Section 5101:9-6-82(F)(2)(a).

Ms. Fox made a motion to approve, Ms. Provaznik seconded, Motion carried, resolution adopted.

ii. c) **RESOLUTION 1218-03:** Authorizes the Approval of the 2019 ACCSB Budget.

The Finance & Budget Committee met to discuss the 2019 Budget. A summary of the proposed 2019 Budget was presented to the board. Ms. Scanland stated the most difficult aspect of the budget is the prediction of placement. The agency experienced extremely high placements costs in July 2016. For 2019 the placement foster home and network placement predicted amounts are conservative. We were able to offset some of the high placement costs by managing personnel costs via restructuring.

Ms. Provaznik stated the leadership team and staff are doing a tremendous job reworking their processes to ensure children are in the correct placement and receiving the correct services. Placement does not come down to cost, but the needs of the child. The board acknowledges placement can be controlled to a certain degree and the staff and management team are doing so. The board appreciates the hard work that has gone into this.

Dr. Hughes thanked staff for their hard work and commitment to families and children. Their hard work and dedication is to be commended.

Mr. Long made a motion to approve, Ms. Provaznik seconded, motion carried, resolution adopted.

iii.

Ms. Scanland added that to continue budget and agency management the need for qualified staff that are compensated appropriately and supported remains. Earlier this year we amended bargaining unit pay scales that hadn't been amended since 2004. If you recall we were hiring staff at a rate per hour that was identical to 2004 rates. This was a first step and continued efforts will ensure we maintain a competent body of staff to serve our communities most vulnerable.

- iv. Community Engagement Committee – did not meet.
- v. Donated Funds Committee - did not meet.
- vi. Nominating Committee – did not meet.
- vii. Personnel Committee – did not meet.
- viii. Program Services Committee – did not meet.
- ix. By-Laws & Policy Committee – did not meet.

PROGRAM DIRECTORS REPORT

Intake & Assessment – Program Admin Jenny Knippen

30 Days to Family:

- This grant requires the 30 Days to Family caseworker to research the family tree of a child who enters agency custody. The expectation is to glean a least 80 relatives per child. They branch out from the immediate family tree which helps identify relatives we could not access previously.
- This work helped six children from two sibling groups in agency custody transition to relative homes.
- We are fortunate to have this position and these tools available to us.

New employees: Stephen Jenkins, Caseworker
Jessica Bear, Caseworker
Kody Perrine, Caseworker (will be introduced at next board meeting)

Family Services – Program Admin. Staci Nichols

Currently there are:

- 324 children being served
- 45 children in temporary custody
- 151 children placed with relatives

New Employee: Dia Manley, Family Support worker

Alex Butcher (Hanby) will be moving to the WWK position in Foster Care and Adoption.

Family Support – Program Admin. Brent Bunke

Foster Homes:

- Currently there are 45 Foster homes, half of which have placements.
- We will continue to lose foster homes as we finalize upcoming adoptions.

Foster/Adoption home recruitment:

- Recruitment activity held at Regal Cinemas. The movie Instant Family, which stars Mark Wahlberg promotes foster care. A booth was set up in the lobby to provide information to those who were attending the movies.
- We continue to actively recruit and stay active in the community.

Adoptions

- One adoption finalized in November

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

As the new Program Admins. continue to get comfortable in their new positions you may begin to see different data and or formats presented in the board report. Please let them know what data you would like to see in the board reports. As Mr. Bunke alluded we currently have forty five foster homes with only placement in half. This is the opposite issue we faced in July 2016 where we had a significantly higher number of children in care, and we did not have enough foster homes. Recruitment efforts will continue.

MEDIA REPORT

- Care A Van: 92.1 The Frog is located a Walmart on Harding Hwy today until 7pm. We ask shoppers to purchase a toy or household item as they enter Walmart. These will benefit children in our Adopt A Family program.
- Adopt A Family: We currently have 75 sponsors, which will allow over 200 children to be sponsored for Christmas.

Ms. Scanland states we are very fortunate to have a very generous community.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- a) **RESOLUTION 1218-04:** Approval of Adoption Subsidy request for A.B.

Ms. Provaznik made a motion to approve, Ms. Fox seconded, Motion carried, resolution adopted.

- b) **RESOLUTION 1218-05:** Approval of Adoption Subsidy request for D.Br.

Ms. Fox made a motion to approve, Mr. Long seconded, Motion carried, resolution adopted.

- c) **RESOLUTION 1218-06:** Approval of Adoption Subsidy request for D. Bo.

Mr. Long made a motion to approve, Ms. Wall seconded, Motion carried, resolution adopted.

- d) **RESOLUTION 1218-07:** Approval of Adoption Subsidy request for D. Ba.

Ms. Wall made a motion to approve, Ms. Fox seconded, Motion carried, resolution adopted.

- e) **RESOLUTION 1218-08:** Approval of Adoption Subsidy request for Y.W.

Mr. Long made a motion to approve, Ms. Fox seconded, Motion carried, resolution adopted.

- f) **RESOLUTION 1218-09:** Approval of Adoption Subsidy request for T.T.

Ms. Fox made a motion to approve, Ms. Wall seconded, Motion carried, resolution adopted.

Supervisor Brad Rabley presented the above subsidy requests and stated the Agency has finalized thirteen adoptions in 2018. We have had 49 adoption finalizations in the last two years. Since July 2012 and including the adoption subsidies above this will be 104 adoptions finalized. Ninety eight of these children have been/will be adopted by our own foster homes. The community has been a wonderful support in providing these homes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Board is aware of all the hard work staff continues to do which shows through number of children we see in care, and the adoption finalizations in partnership with WWK. We know that you are incredibly dedicated to the work you do and the professions you have chosen. It has been nice to see different staff attend the board meetings through the year.

Dr. Hughes wished staff Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Provaznik made a motion to adjourn at 12:38pm, Ms. Fox seconded.

Respectfully submitted,



Joanne Sidener
Fiscal Supervisor



Dr. Jennifer Hughes, Ph.D., MSW, LISW-S
Board Chair



Cynthia M. Scanland, MSSA
Executive Director