

Baltimore County Department of Social Services Board Minutes

The meeting of the Advisory Board of the Baltimore County Department of Social Services (DSS) was held October 21, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Gregg Powell, Chair; Dr. Stefanie Bronson, Dr. Rosalyn Wiley and Dr. Jasmine Leigh Morse. Dr. Donald Gabriel attended via conference phone.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa Simon Jablon, Mindie Flamholz and Sheri Lumsden.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Millspaugh, Deputy Director, Marsha Parham Green, Executive Director; Office of Housing and Sheilé McAllister, Assistant to the Deputy Director.

I. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of September 16, 2019

Motion by: Dr. Bronson

Second by: Dr. Wiley

Decision: Unanimous Approval

II. Director's Report

Office of Housing

Through the HUD Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) the Office of Housing was designated as a High Performing agency for the sixth year in a row.

Ms. Parham attended the International Housing Forum in Austin, Texas to discuss Baltimore County's initiatives on expanding housing opportunities.

Ms. Parham participated in the introduction of the HOME Act legislation with the County Executive in early October and in a podcast to promote the legislation with the County Executive and County Attorney. Developers and participants of the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program have been invited to testify on behalf of the Act before the County Council in November.

The Depository Agreement for Audit Compliance finding returned from HUD for signature of the County Administrator and DSS Board Chair.

Maryland Association of Social Services Board (MASSB) Conference

Bridges out of Poverty is the theme of this year's conference based on the book by the same name. Mr. Millspaugh received feedback for the department's Innovation Award submission, *Modern Office Innovation*, which allows for improved customer service and security. The award for first place is \$1,000, second place \$600, and third place \$400.

The MASSB Foundation was created to help local departments of social services with expenses related to programs not funded by the State. It is a 501C3 organization and fundraisers are a large part of the Foundation. The MASSB Foundation is listed on the Maryland Charities Campaign. Employees who wish to give now have an opportunity to directly support the Foundation. Mr. Millspaugh asked the Board if they would take a decision-making role in how the funds should be managed for this Foundation. In the past, the Fund for Social Welfare existed for the same purpose. That fund ceased to exist many years ago. Any funds raised must be used consistently with the MASSB Foundation's Mission.

Mr. Powell inquired about gaining more funds for Camp Connect through the MASSB Foundation. Mr. Millspaugh will contact the County Ethics Officer and provide more information about MASSB Foundation at the next meeting.

MD THINK

Two applications are running on the MD THINK platform, the Maryland Health Exchange and the Child, Juvenile and Adult Management System (CJAMS). CJAMS is in the developmental testing stage. Washington County has been testing for a number of months. One final issue is that data is unable to be sent from the new system (CJAMS) to the old (CHESSIE) thus requiring locals to use both CJAMS and CHESSIE at the same time until all counties are operational on CJAMS. We are cautiously optimistic that CJAMS will launch on October 28th in Washington County.

The Eligibility & Enrollment (E&E) System is the other application that is replacing the Family Investment system called CARES. This system is moving along well.

About 250 laptops have been received for the workers. Cell phones have not yet been received.

III. Old Business

N/A

IV. New Business

N/A

V. Remarks of the Chairperson

Ideas for MASSB

Mr. Powell suggested that as a board they come up with ideas for MASSB to raise funds for the foundation and present those ideas to Mr. Millspaugh.

VI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 5:55 PM

Motion by: Dr. Bronson

Second by: Dr. Wiley

Decision: Unanimous Approval



Mark Millspaugh
Deputy Director