

**Forsyth County Department of Social Services Board Minutes
November 23, 2011**

Call to Order – 8:05 a.m.

Present: Evelyn Terry, Chair, Nancy Young, Walter Marshall, Joe Raymond, Gloria Woods, Daphne Taylor, Matthew Faircloth, Pat Read, Ava Smith-Pegues

Absent: Mike Wells, Sr., Dave Plyler

Information

- A. Staff Introductions
 - a. New Staff in Family and Children’s unit: new supervisors - Delores Long, Carmelita Burrell, and Joyce Campbell. New staff in Adult Division: Shekela Shuler and Alisha Swepson-McMillan. TEAM staff: Willie Gallop, Jessica Hunter, Michelle O’Neal, Jooi Butler, Gina Boyette, Beth Atkins, and Paula Johnson
 - b. Years of Service recognitions
 - o 40 years – Shirley Phelps; 25 years – Carolyn Thomas, Ann Roberts and Deborah Bates; 20 years – Paula Anderson, Celina Crawley, Judy Hamilton, Angelique Jefferson, Amy Hardin, Sherri Cook, Kathryn Lawson, Lynn Linville, and Gail Stewart.
- B. There were no public comments
- C. Director’s Report

Consent

The October Minutes were approved on motion by Nancy Young, second by Walter Marshall.

Strategic

- A. Crisis Intervention Program: Low Income Energy Assistance
 - o Effective 12/1/11, the Salvation Army will begin taking applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) as well as Emergency Assistance (EA).
 - o Salvation Army is already responsible for taking applications for the other Energy programs - the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) and Piedmont Natural Gas’ “Share the Warmth” (STW) program.
 - o Applications for all of the above programs will be taken at the Salvation Army’s “Center of Hope” at 1255 N. Trade St.
 - o There were major changes to LIEAP this year:
 - o Program now targeted to households where **all** members are age 60+ or at least one member is disabled **and** receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS).
 - o Only individuals who fall into one of these 2 priority groups can be approved from 12/1/11-1/31/12.
 - o Starting 2/1/12 other individuals may apply through 3/31/12 if funds remain.
 - o Funding for the program was cut drastically this year, from \$2.1M to \$419,000, so it is very possible that all funds will be used to assist the first priority groups.

- Payments are now paid directly to energy providers: \$200 if the home is heated with electricity or natural gas and \$400 for fuel oil and kerosene. The payment will be posted to the account regardless of the balance, even if it results in a credit.
- There is no longer automatic approval for certain FNS clients as there has been in years past. Anyone who wants to receive the assistance must make an application.
- B. Program Updates: Food and Nutrition Services and Work First
 - The transfer of 6 staff from the Work First Program (5 income maintenance caseworkers and 1 supervisor) to Food and Nutrition has been completed.
- C. Automation –
 - All FNS staff, except for three, are using FAMIS: though full implementation has not been achieved.
 - NCFast has informed FAMIS data will not be able to be uploaded

There were no action items.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00am