

**Kent County Department of Social Services
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2018 3:30 PM**

Present: Kevin Karpowicz, Beverly Birkmire, Karen Dioniosi, Barbara Hansen, Shelly Heller, Olythea Hunley, Charlotte Potts, Tracy Williams, Shelly Neal-Edwards, Patty Dahle (scribe)

Absent: Rosalie Kuechler, Bill Washington

Presentation: Re- engaging Individuals through Successful Employment (RISE) program.

Vickie Taylor, DSS worker, presented the program, answered questions and gave materials regarding the program.

▪ **Chairperson's Report :**

- Approval of minutes from May 21, 2018 board meeting: Motion to approve made by Shelly Heller, second by Barbara Hanson, motion carried by unanimous vote.

▪ **Kent County CARES Foundation**

- The Fundraising committee which is currently made up of Agency Staff and a few participating board members held a Raffle at First Friday in June. Committee obtained permission from "She She's on the High" business store in downtown Chestertown, to set up a table in front of the store. Raffle tickets were sold in advance of June 1 and up till June 8. The \$570.00 - \$110.00(winner of 50/50) = \$460.00 to be deposited in CARES Foundation account.

▪ **Director's Report (Shelly Neal-Edwards):**

- **Divisional Performance Report –May** reviewed at meeting. No questions. Shelly did explain the increase in CS collections due to tax interception.
- **START Model** - START (sobriety treatment and recovery team). Training was held in Talbot County. What START is : Changes Child Protective Services (CPS) practice and improves family outcomes. Serves Families with parental substance use disorders and child maltreatment. Helps parents achieve recovery and keeps children in home with family when safe and possible. Partners with substance use disorder (SUD) treatment providers to improve quick access to quality treatment. The Goals are: preventing foster care entry, child safety and well being, parental recovery, and permanency for children, family stability and self sufficiency, improved system capacity for addressing parental substance use and child maltreatment.
- **Peer Recovery Specialist** - Peer recovery specialist will be hired by the Health Department to work with the In-Home Services Worker and to assist in the implementation of the START model. More information to follow as KCDSS receives it.
- **Thrive House** –Shelly toured the "Thrive House" in Denton on 6/1/18. There are 2 foster youth openings for Independent Living teens. Explanation of how the house is shared with Board for them to get a better understanding of how the house benefits Foster Youth aging out of Foster homes into adult living. No one from Kent County has been old enough to be placed in House.
- **FY 019 Board presentation schedule** – Shelly reviewed the Board presentation schedule for the upcoming Fiscal year and advised that the CAC Center and children it services has now been added to September.

- **Strategic Plan Session** – The Management Team held a Strategic Planning session on May 30, 2018 with Rob Levit who facilitated. The Team will meet again in June to add more details around action items. Strategic Plan for FY 2019 – 2021 should be finalized by mid – September

- **Motion to Adjourn:** With no additional business at hand, a motion to adjourn was made by Tracy Williams at 4:40pm, seconded by Shelly Heller. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- The next meeting will be held July 16, 2018 at 3:30 pm in the Child Support Conference Room, 315 High Street, Chestertown, MD

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Dahle

Recording Secretary