



STATE OF GEORGIA

Division of Family and Children Services

Nathan Deal
Governor

Bobby D. Cagle
Director

December DFCS State Advisory Meeting

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

10 AM – 2 PM

Board members present: Chair Cathy Atkins, Vice Chair Tommy Hill, Delaine Hunter, Kathy Cooper, Emily Cole, Rodney Griffin, Toni Oliver, Dr. Michelle Zeanah, Cindy England, Dr. Columbus Watkins, Meredith Ramaley, Belva Dorsey, Judy Manning, Tina Bartleson, Barbara Sims (via phone).

Board members absent: Octavia Fugerson, Emily Brantley, Roger Bryant, Dr. Lee Heery

Other attendees: Carol Christopher, Virginia Pryor, Jon Anderson, Katrina Mitchell, LaMarva Ivory, Kirk Chaney, Ramirez Evans, Darrell Braswell, Ron Scroggy, Leslie Reece, Ellen Geeker, Anne Carter, Dahlia Bell-Brown, Jonathon Jackson, Ann Lowe, Helen Sloat, Tara Hart, Susan Boatwright, Donna Pettigrew-Jackson, Vivian Egan, Wayne Drummond.

- Chair Atkins called the meeting to order at 10:21 AM
- Rodney Griffin gave a brief prayer.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Introductions.
- Approved today's agenda – Mr. Hill moves, Second by Dr. Watkins. All approved.
- Approved September meeting minutes – Dr. Watkins moves, Second by Ms. Dorsey. All approved.
- Deputy Division Director Christopher gave update on Region 9 roadshow. The 2017 roadshow cycle begins on April 25th.
- Communications Director Susan Boatwright gave update on informational materials for board members and WebEx training.
- Chair Atkins discussed importance of scheduling meeting with local officials.
- Bylaws Committee update and review by Ms. Bartleson.
 - o Ms. Oliver had questions about subcommittees.
 - o Ms. Bartleson moved to merge the Child Welfare/Foster Care & Adoption Committees into one.
 - o Dr. Zeanah comments on subcommittee proposal.
 - o Ms. Hunter suggests defining subcommittee roles.
 - o Ms. Bartleson moved to revert back to original proposal.
- Chair Atkins calls to approve bylaws. Dr. Zeanah moves. Second by Ms. Manning. Ms. Oliver abstained from voting. 13 Yeas.
- Chair Atkins provided list of subcommittee appointments.
 - o OFI Subcommittee: Dr. Heery, Mr. Griffin, Ms. Hunter, Ms. Dorsey, Ms. Cole
 - o Question from Ms. Hunter about length of term served on subcommittee.

- Chair Atkins stated that subcommittee members will be reappointed as the board chair is reappointed annually.
- Foster Care & Adoptions: Ms. Manning, Ms. Oliver, Ms. Sims, Ms. England, Dr. Heery
- Community Relations: Dr. Zeanah, Dr. Watkins, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Dorsey, Mr. Bryant
- Workforce Development: Ms. England, Ms. Ramaley, Ms. Fugerson, Ms. Bartleson, Ms. Brantley
- Child Welfare: Dr. C. Watkins, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Sims, Ms. Bryant, Ms. Ramaley
- Chair Atkins would like a DFCS staffer assigned to each subcommittee to provide the programmatic knowledge.
- Deputy Division Director Carol Christopher's update on the panic button and demonstration of the panic button by the Project Management Office.
- Donna Pettigrew-Jackson's update on this year's Secret Santa program. We have shopped for 8,372 children as of today. All pickups/delivery of toys will be complete by 12/16. This year was a \$1.26 million program.
- **LUNCH BREAK**
- Vivian Egan, Office of the General Counsel, gave overview of public meetings act..
- Strategic Partnerships at Work: Lessons Learned from CarePortal GA by Katrina Mitchell and Leslie Reece.
 - Overview of CarePortal GA
 - Overview of Promise 686
- Deputy Division Director Virginia Pryor, Office of Child Welfare update
- Deputy Division Director Jon Anderson, Office of Family Independence update
- Closing remarks by Chair Atkins: next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2016 at 10 AM. Ms. Ivory will send out information about assigned staff person to each subcommittee. Child Welfare training info will be made available. A letter will be going out to the Directors at the beginning of the year to introduce the county directors to their respective board members. Encouraged members to build those relationships. Happy Holidays!
- Motion to adjourn by Ms. England. Second by Dr. Watkins.