



Georgia Department
of Human Services

DFCS Advisory Board

Special Called Meeting - April 9, 2024



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Welcome & Attendance



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Agency Welcome

Deputy Commissioner Mary Havick

Introduction of Board Members

- Name & Background
- Why is the Division of Family & Children Services important to you?



Fran Chastain

Region 2





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Randel Hambrick

Region 3



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Nancy White

Region 6



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Deke Copenhaver

Region 7

Belva Dorsey-Mott

Region 8



Travis Niblett

Region 9





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Tommy Hill

Region 10

Laci Tippins

Region 11



Ally Christianson

Region 12



Meredith Holt

Region 13



Shondeana Moris

Region 14



John Costley

At-Large





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Jeff Mauer
At-Large

Jennifer Shinpoch

At-Large





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JaNice VanNess

At-Large



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Susie Weller
At-Large

Overview of Advisory Board

"The purpose of the DFCS State Advisory Board shall be to support the staff and promote well-being of this state's children."

- DFCS Advisory Board Bylaws



Statutory Formation

The advisory board shall review and make recommendations to the director of the Division of Family and Children Services of the department regarding issues relating to the protection of children and the welfare and public assistance functions of the division. Such review and recommendations shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Examination of current law, rules and regulations, and policy and recommendations to improve the ability of the division to increase the safety of children, respond to child maltreatment, and ensure the well-being of and timely permanency for children who are referred to and involved in the child welfare system;

Propose legislative or administrative changes to policies and programs that are integral to the protection of children and the welfare and public assistance functions of the division;

Examination of caseload assignments and ratios of child protective services workers and recommendations for reasonable expectations for such workers and supervision and support needed to perform their jobs; and

Recommendations on improved collaboration among state, local, community, and public and private stakeholders in child welfare programs and services that are administered by the division.

- GA Code § 49-2-19 (b) (2022)





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Goals & Vision Discussion

Executive Committee



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Purpose of Committees

Executive Committee

Overview of Committees

- Child Welfare Committee - JaNice VanNess
- Bylaws Committee - Jennifer Shinpoch
- Regional Trends Committee - Meredith Holt
- Office of Family Independence
- Community Relations





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Committee Participation

Executive Committee



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Quarterly Meeting Structure

Executive Committee



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Closing Comments



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Thank you!