**State Advisory Board Meeting**

May 14, 2019

2 Peachtree Street NW 19th floor, Atlanta, GA 30303

**Board members present:** Chair Tina Bartleson, Vice Chair Michelle Zeanah, Tommy Hill, Barbara Sims, Belva Dorsey, Meredith Holt, DeLaine Hunter, Rodney Griffin, Roger Bryant, Cathy Atkins, Emily Cole, Judy Manning, Octavia Furgeson (via phone)

**Board members absent:** JaNice Van Ness, Kathy Cooper, Emily Brantley

**Other attendees:** Wayne Drummond (GPHSA), Olivia Motto (UGA), Kristina Jaskyte Bahr (UGA), Karen Starks (NASW Georgia)

**DFCS staff:** Director Tom Rawlings, Jon Anderson, Keith Bostick, LaMarva Ivory, Ellen Brown, Ramirez Evans, Walter Jones, Chris Hempfling, Sekema Harmon, Tammy Reed, Carol Christopher, Cliff O’Connor, Dahlia Bell-Brown, Mary Beth Lukich

* Welcome and housekeeping by Chair Bartleson. Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m. Quorum met.
* Motion to approve today’s agenda. Seconded by Cathy Atkins.
* Introductions by board members and attendees
* Approval of March 12, 2019 minutes. Moved by Dr. Zeanah, seconded by Cathy Atkins.
* Presentation by Director Rawlings
  + FFPSA updates
    - Working group to look at health care delivery system
    - Will be sharing a “thought paper” with the board
  + Georgia SHINES
    - Historical Perspective
    - Evaluation Efforts
    - Insourcing vs. Outsourcing
    - Insourcing Benefits
    - Insourcing Readiness
    - Insourcing Next Steps
    - Proposed Enhancements
  + Question from Chair Bartleson: concerns about changes to SHINES and if we’ve vetted making the changes? Will our in-house staff be able to make the needed changes? **Many states are moving to more updated systems right now and Georgia is behind. Ours is built on modern technology so we should have an easier chance to transfer SACWIS to CWIS system. We’ll be hiring additional IT staff and will bring on contractors.**
  + Question from Cathy Atkins: concerns about documenting while in the field and having clients sign documentation. **During regular contacts, documentation is brought to them for follow-up. We would like clients to be able to e-sign documents.**
  + Question from Delaine Hunter: question about transitioning from vendor to in-house IT? **We’ll have a 12-month transition contract with the vendor to make sure all procedures are documented.**
  + Question from Cathy Atkins: will the apps be piloted or go out all at once? **In-sourcing will happen all at once, other enhancements will likely be piloted for user testing.**
  + Questions from Roger Bryant: will we be utilizing input from frontline staff when developing enhancements? **We plan to do UAT with frontline staff to make sure this is user-friendly.**
  + Question from Chair Bartleson: question about Director’s Report – meeting with PCA Georgia tomorrow? **The meeting tomorrow will be an agency meeting to update the state’s child abuse prevention plan. This meeting is also an opportunity to check in with partner agencies. Would like the focus to be on models of secondary prevention.**
  + Question from Dr. Zeanah: is there a place for her to go to read up on FFPSA? **We’ll share links of some of our favorites.**
  + Question from Ms. Starks: what schools in Georgia have IV-E programs that will be able to take part in the new grant opportunity? **List available on the website.**
  + Charge from Director Rawlings: please connect DFCS with local people in healthcare that can be part of the FFPSA workgroup
* Thank you from Chair Bartleson and well wishes to Mr. Keith D. Bostick!
* Legislative Updates by Walter Jones
  + Overview of legislation that passed during the 2019 session.
* Vote on bylaw revision
  + Motion by Cathy Atkins to accept the changes as presented. Seconded by Dr. Zeanah. All in favor.
* Meeting schedule for 2020
  + Propose same schedule as 2019 and will get dates out.
* Advisory Board Training Development by Professor Kristina Jaskyte Bahr
  + Project overview
  + DFCS Regional Advisory Board handbook
  + Regional Advisory Board structure
  + Regional Advisory Board purpose
  + Regional Advisory Board roles and responsibilities
  + Regional Advisory Board template
  + Stakeholder Engagement
  + Moving Forward: Supporting Strong Regional Advisory Boards
    - Will provide a digital copy of the handbook
    - Chair Bartleson: would like to see a deadline for regions completing these handbooks
    - Rodney Griffin: there is no new board member training and that needs to be addressed
* Working lunch and committee updates
* OFI committee update by Delaine Hunter
* State Advisory Board committee goals and progress by Belva Dorsey
* Workforce Development Update by Carol Christopher
  + Ms. Starks: would like to see a breakdown of new hires by degree type
  + Cathy Atkins: feedback from region - HR Pass is still a slow process and there are fingerprinting issues.
* Charter Discussion
* Board Member Regional Reports
  + Belva Dorsey: new Regional Director Shannon Fields
  + Octavia Fugerson: new Regional Director Dawn Criss
  + Emily Cole: Region 4 has had a lot of prevention and foster care activities during April and May. Had a foster parent appreciation dinner. Planning awareness event in September around sexual exploitation.
  + Barbara Sims: Region 7 is doing employee tributes daily this month.
  + Meredith Holt: Region 13 is working to bring all members to the table and try new ways to keep board members connected. Has been working with excellent CPS workers in Cobb.
  + Cathy Atkins: Region 12 has upcoming events. Liberty County will host an open house/fill the closet day in July. On August 3rd, there’s a regional staff appreciation gala in Richmond Hill – please let Sheila know. There will be awards and this event is to honor them.
  + Rodney Griffin: Region 11 local leadership is encouraged by hiring improvements. A Tift County worker received a top award at the Envizhen ceremony, and two others were recognized.
  + Tommy Hill: Region 10 leadership was pleased with the roadshow visit. The Governor signed the budget in Camilla last week and gave a lot of hope for hurricane relief.
  + Roger Bryant: Region 9
  + Delaine Hunter: Region 1 discussed hiring at last meeting. There were 8 new foster homes so far in the month of May. Caseloads are still high. On June 18th, Gordon County is hosting a child trafficking awareness meeting. June is National Reunification Month.
  + Dr. Michelle Zeanah: Worked with the Division to do a Q&A style article for the Georgia Pediatric Journal. Working with Lamar on a project re: mental health emergencies for foster children.
  + Tina Bartleson: Region 3 will have a reunification celebration on June 19th. Village of Hope is a NW Georgia regional hospital has been empty and there is a group of folks looking to get that property to offer transitional housing/substance abuse treatment.
* Closing remarks by Chair Bartleson
* Motion to adjourn at 1:50 P.M by Delaine Hunter. Seconded by Meredith Holt.