

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD

100 Clear Water Way

Beaufort, SC 29906

May 20, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bobby Collar, Grace Dennis, David Green, Margaret Ann Gatch, George Marshall, Nancy Pinkerton, Jill Striebinger and Ann Wirz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jonathan Brown, Gardenia Simmons-White and Morris Campbell (Ex-officio)

STAFF PRESENT: Mitzi Wagner, Bill Love, Beth Cody and Joe Anne King  
Lillie Alston, Bobbie Scott and Carly Manbeck

GUESTS PRESENT: John Gatch and Trey

I. CALL TO ORDER – Bobby Collar, Vice-Chairman

Mr. Collar, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS

Mr. Collar welcomed Mr. Gatch, Trey Gatch and the DSN Employees of the Month for February, March and April.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 15, 2014 BOARD MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY DAVID GREEN AND SECONDED BY JILL STRIEBINGER TO APPROVE THE APRIL 15, 2014 MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE MAY 20, 2014 AGENDA

Ms. Wagner said she would like to add to her report the following items:

~Technology for DSN

~Waiting list for service

MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE DENNIS AND SECONDED BY NANCY PINKERTON TO ADOPT THE MAY 20, 2014 AGENDA AS AMENDED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Bobby Collar, Vice Chairman

Mr. Collar said the employees that were nominated for Employee of the Month for February were: Tori Alston, Training Specialist CTH II, Melia Peek, Early Intervention, Cynthia Perry-Mitchell, Service Coordination and Debra Cox, Training Specialist Port Royal Community Residence. Lillie Alston, Training Specialist Day Program, was chosen as Employee of the Month for February. Ms. Alston has been with the department for 26 years.

Employees that were nominated for March Employee of the Month were:

Joe White, Jr. House Manager CTH II, Jeanette Singleton, Training Specialist Port Royal Community Residence, Jana Coronel, Early Intervention and Robin Krehbiel, Administration. Bobbie Scott, Training Specialist Day Program, was chosen as Employee of the Month for March. Ms. Scott has been with the department for nine years

Employees that were nominated for April Employee of the Month were:

Fred Furman, Service Coordination, Bruce Marroquin, Training Specialist Day Program, Delores Baptiste, Training Specialist CTH II. Carly Manbeck, Early Intervention was chosen as Employee of the Month for April. Ms. Manbeck has been with the department for seven years.

Mr. Collar presented each with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Disabilities and Special Needs Advisory Board.

Mr. Collar also welcomed Mr. George Marshall to the Advisory Board. Mr. Marshall said he grew up in Greenville, SC and has spent much of his life in South Carolina. He gave a brief overview of his education and work history in hospital administration. He said he has a step son with Down syndrome and knows a little bit about disabilities. He thanked the board members for the opportunity to serve on the board.

#### VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mitzi Wagner

Ms. Wagner mentioned that the ability to have the technology to view presentations locally was discussed at the last board meeting. She said with the help of Beaufort County MIS we now have that opportunity and ability to receive telecasts with South Carolina any time we want and with that we were able to put together two laptops with the web cam so presentations can be viewed on the laptops as well as in the conference room on the larger screen. We were able to get Dr. Buscemi's presentation as well as two-days of training for the Day program. She said this was more than a \$2000.00 savings taking into consideration transportation, travel time, salaries, etc. She said we invested about \$200.00 to get this up and running, the two laptops were due for replacement and the web cams were about \$20.00 each. We now have three capabilities which is wonderful and we cannot imagine the capabilities in the future. She said the presentation with Dr. Buscemi went very well with only one small glitch toward the end and it was not on our end. She said it also went very well with the two day training for Day Program. She said we invited Jasper County and PEP and had about 27 people for Dr. Buscemi's presentation and about 15 for the Day Program training.

Ms. Wagner distributed copies of Dr. Buscemi's presentation and reviewed and explained some of the specific things that are going to happen. She mentioned that the way we provide services will look entirely different in the next five years. She mentioned that we are in good shape with our CTH homes. They are spread out and not grouped altogether. She said there are some issues with the Port Royal residence. The home is old and needs repairs. The home is owned by the state and if sold the money would go back to the state. She said we need to start talking to legislators and advocating with the state of South Carolina DDSN to try and get the facility sold and get the money returned to us to purchase four additional CTH II homes for the consumers living at the residence. She said we would also need to work with the county and SCDDSN so the money is returned and the county can have ownership of the homes and they can do the up keep and replacement. She said this is the time to do it and suggested the board form a committee to start working on it and find out who we want to contact, get one unified story and what legislators we want to work with and how we want to do that. We will also need to schedule some meetings with SCDDSN.

Ms. Wagner mentioned that we have two residential vacancies in the Port Royal facility. One gentlemen fell and fractured his hip and will not be able to return to Port Royal. We also have a female resident that has stage four colon cancer and has been moved to a nursing home closer to her family.

Ms. Wagner said we asked for 2.1 million in the 2015 budget and we got 2 million and we did not get everything we hoped for. She said she has not been able to go through the budget line item by line item and figure out what we will have to cut to meet that loss. She said we cannot cut much from the operational budget. She said we are getting waivers daily and asked for two positions in the day program and two positions for the social workers but may have to cut that back one position there. She said she would know more by the next board meeting and would be able to let you know where we are. The Beaufort County Budget has been presented but has only had one reading so far but feels confident that we will be ok.

Ms. Wagner said we do have residential vacancies. She mentioned that Sue Ann Pollock, ABLE Foundation has a son in the Allendale/Barnwell ICF/MR and she wanted him here. He has moved in this past week in the Port Royal residence and will attend the day program. She said there were two other individuals whose family refused the other vacancy because they wanted a smaller setting for their family member.

She said we also have several agency vacancies. She said we have nine vacancies in our residential facilities, one in Early Intervention, two in the day program and vacancies in the Waiver Respite and Breakers program.

Ms. Wagner said Mr. Green has started a Disabilities Coalition and one of the things they asked for is information about Waiver Waiting lists. She distributed a hand out listing the different types of Waivers and the number of those on each waiting list. She explained each Waiver and the number of those on the waiting list in the Beaufort area and answered questions.

#### VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bill Love

Ms. Love said he had nothing additional to report. He said we are getting new individuals in the program and are seeing an increase in the Breakers program. He said he likes seeing the increase in Breakers as those individuals do not have a Waiver. It is growing and things are going well.

#### VIII. POLICY COMMITTEE, Grace Dennis

Ms. Dennis said the Policy Committee reviewed the policies/directives listed on the agenda and made a motion to adopt the directives as written. Passed unanimously

#### IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Jill Striebinger, Chair  
Ms. Striebinger said there was not a good response on the three board social and suggested we not revisit having one in the future.
- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair  
No report. We still have one board vacancy
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair  
Mr. Green said he has been talking with the folks at DHHS and one of the things they are asking them to consider is that instead of the statewide waiting list would it be more effective to have a county specific waiting list as opposed to statewide with allocations of funding based on the population of the county with input from local people? He asked what would be the plusses and minuses of that. He mentioned that maybe somehow the local boards were being discriminatory toward favorites or if that could be an issue. Ms. Wagner said Beaufort has the lowest residential facilities than any other county in South Carolina. She said the

Reason for that is Beaufort did not take advantage of state money available and there was so much animosity with the executive director in the state level that there was favoritism and that was a bad thing and mentioned that she is afraid that that may happen again. She said if you think of it by population small counties like Hampton County would never get a residential slot and that would not be fair.

- 2014 Goals
  1. Informing Parents, Communication with transitions, Bobby Collar, Chair  
Mr. Collar said school is out for the summer and we would revisit the goal when school is back in session.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

The next board meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 17, 2014** at 4:00 p.m. at:  
Disabilities and Special Needs Department  
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906

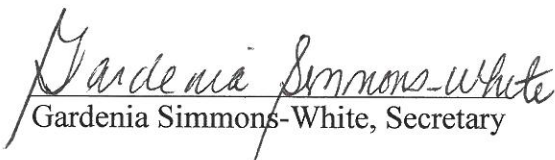
XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO ADJOURN THE MAY 20, 2014 MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

  
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Jonathan Brown, Chairman

6/17/14  
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Date

  
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Gardenia Simmons-White, Secretary

6/17/14  
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Date