

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906
August 20, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pamela Brandon-Hennigh, David Green, Frankie Middleton, Nancy Pinkerton, Lynn Russo, Gardenia Simmons-White, Andy Thacker, Monica Spells (Ex-officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wendy Bukowski, Grace Dennis, Scott Scobey

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Love, Janice Beach, Cherie Scoggins, Beth Cody, Beth Odom, Erin Womack

GUESTS PRESENT: York Glover

I. CALL TO ORDER – Lynn Russo, Chairman

Ms. Russo called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS

Ms. Russo welcomed Mr. York Glover to the meeting. Mr. Glover is our Board's liason to County Council.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2019 BOARD MEETING

A MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINCKERTON AND SECONDED BY GARDENIA SIMMONS-WHITE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE AUGUST 20, 2019 AGENDA

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DAVID GREEN AND SECONDED BY ANDY THACKER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. THE ONLY CHANGE WAS THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA ITEMS. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Lynn Russo, Chairman

Ms. Russo asked that board members email or call Ms. Beach with intentions of whether they will be attending meetings or not so that we will know beforehand if we will have a quorum at the meeting.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT –Bill Love

Budget Update – Beth Cody, DSN Fiscal Operations Manager, reported that we just started our new fiscal year. We are 12% of the way through the year. Revenue is coming in at 8% and expenditures are at 8% so everything matches and all is well. We are having some new procedural things with SCDDSN. The way the revenue is coming in we are now billing EI and Case Management as fee for service retrospectively instead of being paid prospectively per member per month. There is a little bit of a lag in revenue. EI is pretty much

on target to where we were being paid prospectively. Case Management is working on theirs. We were being paid in advance but now it is about six weeks in arrears so revenue is looking a little bit different than what you are used to seeing. We hope by the end of the year to have it all caught back up. Mr. Love added that there are four providers in the state who have decided not to provide Case Management because of billing fee for service. This is a big deal. We made some changes by downsizing our Case Management staff by one. We did a comparison of caseloads around the state before making this decision. Ms. Cody added that we expect to have about \$120,000 less revenue than we did last year in Case Management. That puts a strain on all the other programs that we have had to rearrange the funds to fit. It will take us a while to adjust to the changes.

Summer Camp – Erin Womack reported that Camp Treasure Chest is completed for this year. It was a four week summer camp program and was held at Battery Creek High School. We had 16 campers. There was only one female out of the group. She is case managed by a private provider. We learned on the first day that she has severe behavior problems and had a one-on-one with her in school. I came back and talked to Mr. Love about her and we decided we did not want to exclude her. We tried it and we had no problems with her. Her mom traveled in her own car everywhere we went just in case there was a problem. She has something called a Houdini that straps her down in her seat on the bus so she is not getting up walking around. We had some new music therapy and art therapy this year. We thank ABLE for advocating and supporting us every year. I sent out end of year surveys and we are getting good reviews.

Billing Evaluation – Beth Odom, who supervises Early Intervention and Case Management, said that both of these programs are doing what she calls “living July 1st”. For months we have been talking about changes that would happen on July 1st. The major changes that have come out are we have new manuals and we have a new funding structure and new funding procedures. It will take a good six months to understand the new billing procedures. There are a lot of trainings and webinars. Early Intervention is now serving 158 children and families as compared to 106 last year this time. We have hired two new EI’s to help with caseloads. Ms. Spells said her sister works for DHEC screening babies and there is a push to get them services.

Ms. Odom said on the Case Management side we currently have over 200 consumers actively enrolled in Medicaid Waiver services. We have an additional 8-10 who don’t have waivers but are funded by the state at the same level for services. There is an additional over 500 who are inactive but call on us on periodically as a need arises. Case Management has two new manuals since July 1 and has new billing procedures as well. In addition to the new manuals they have a new philosophy of service delivery called “Person Centered Thinking”. That comes with new assessment tools, new things to learn, and new ways to interact with the consumers and promote conversation to identify the needs of the consumer. This is all going on concurrently with learning the billing process and the new manuals. Their billing is behind but we have made progress. We have training scheduled for staff Thursday afternoon about safety for staff going into consumer homes. Sgt. Allen with the sheriff’s department will be conducting the training.

Alliant Scores – Mr. Love said that Alliant scores are important. You can hear the complexity of what we do. The state contracts with an outside vendor who comes in and reviews our record keeping, our programming, and making sure the consumers are getting

everything they need. We got a 97. That is big. Ms. Spells added that is huge and also when considering members of the public making accusations about us without knowing our operations. Mr. Love said we are down 17 staff in Residential and 6 in Day. The state requires us to have one staff for every ten consumers. He said that Ms. Spells volunteered to help out. Admin staff will be helping out temporarily. We had a Job Fair through SC Works on August 15th. They advertised it for three weeks prior to the job fair. We had six people come through and they all said they were going to apply. We did not get any applications on any of them. We were very disappointed. SC Works suggested that we have an ongoing job fair each month. There will be more advertising for these positions and people are more successful getting candidates when they have them every month. We have one scheduled for September 16th.

Evacuation - Hurricane Plans - Mr. Love reminded everyone that hurricane season is here. We have prepared our plan and it has been approved. We have a shed where evacuation materials can be stored in one place. We purchased a trailer to transport suitcases and wheelchairs. We are in the process of getting a hitch put on one of our vehicles. Last year we took 92 individuals. Suitcases and wheelchairs were transported in the vehicles with the consumers, which is not safe and is not a good way of doing it so this year we got the trailer to transport these things. We contacted Greenwood and they are prepared to take us. The shelter in Jasper is still a few years away.

Update on Homes - Mr. Love said that he went by Deanne yesterday. Landscaping is in and the floors are in. The next thing will be getting electricity hooked up and getting the home licensed to move in. Once that is done we will have an open house for the three new homes and invite neighbors, legislators, council members and family members. Mr. Love said that the HOA has approved the plan for #1 Bostic so we can move forward with the fourth new home.

Phone/Email Contacts - Mr. Love said that we have been working closely with Josh Riley with IT. We are going to establish a system called "Call-Em-All" to make notification to families about issues that happen in the Day Program (such as, bad weather, pipe burst closing early, etc.). Monthly we are going to do a newsletter of what is going on in DSN (such as the bazaar, new Board members, etc.). This will go out in an email.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Wanda Mayse, Absent

Ms. Mayse is at the Leadership training today.

VIII. POLICY COMMITTEE - Grace Dennis

None listed.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Wendy Bukowski– Nothing
- Personnel Committee, Lynn Russo, Chair – Nothing
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair – Mr. Green met the new County Administrator and invited her to come to one of our meetings.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

October's meeting is our retreat. Mr. Love has someone he wants to schedule to speak. The retreat will be scheduled around his schedule.


Mr. Glover said he appreciates being here. He wanted to say that coding is the key to billing. Please make sure you are coding correctly.

XI. The next board meeting (which will be our retreat) will be held on **Friday, October 25, 2019** beginning at 10:00 a.m. at:

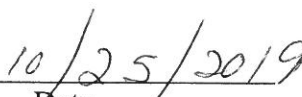
Disabilities and Special Needs Department
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DAVID GREEN AND SECONDED BY NANCY PINKERTON TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:55 PM.



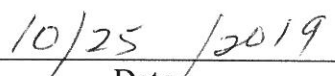
Lynn Russo, Chairman



Date



Nancy Pinkerton, Vice-Chairman



Date