

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD

100 Clear Water Way

Beaufort, SC 29906

October 15, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wendy Bukowski, Lea Cifranick-McFadden, Priscilla Drake, Nancy Pinkerton, Mary Ann Radke, Lynn Russo, Galen Sturup Comeau, Andy Thacker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Frankie Middleton, Fredricka Williamson, Audra Antonacci (Ex-officio)

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Love, Janice Beach, Wanda Mayse, Terry Geitner, Cherie Scoggins, Ava White

GUESTS PRESENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER – Lynn Russo, Chairman

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

II. WELCOMING GUESTS

There were no guests present.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2024, BOARD MEETING

A VOTE WAS TAKEN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 20, 2024. A MOTION WAS MADE BY ANDY THACKER AND SECONDED BY NANCY PINKERTON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2024, AGENDA

A VOTE WAS TAKEN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 15, 2024. A MOTION WAS MADE BY GALEN STURUP COMEAU AND SECONDED BY WENDY BUKOWSKI. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Lynn Russo, Chairman

Ms. Russo asked board members if they had reviewed the member applications that were sent and if they had any comments. Several members said they thought both were good candidates for the board. Ms. Russo said we have one vacancy now, but she and Ms. Bukowski will be resigning at the end of the year so that will open up two more seats.

A discussion was had about the 2025 calendar. It is set to start with January. Our last meeting of this year is in December. Members asked if we would want to have another meeting so soon after the December meeting. By doing the meetings quarterly, it would be better to start with January.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT –Bill Love

A. Department Updates – Budget – Beth Cody said we are 30% of the way through the fiscal year. Revenue is 30% so that is coming in good. Personnel is 24%, purchased services is 18%, and supplies are 14%. Our total expenditures are 23%. Everything is going smoothly.

EI/Case Management – Ms. Scoggins said both departments are going well. She visited Bridges last month and talked to them about some transitions. She had one intake after that meeting. Ms. Scoggins met with her today. She is a junior this year and will be a senior next year. Case management had 2 intakes and 17 referrals in September. One was a waiver individual. EI had 15 new cases. Mr. Krebs, with ABLE, wrote a grant from the Coastal Foundation. One individual on the critical needs list was placed in Myrtle Beach.

Nursing – Ava White – Ms. White said we have seen a decline in infectious and communicable disease processes (Covid/RSV/Flu). There were 12 reported communicable diseases in August and 3 in September. So far in October we have not had any. There were only 3 hospitalizations due to Covid, and none of them lasted over a week's admission. We are currently in Flu season, and as stated in the last report we have had our flu clinic on 9/24/24 instead of the 3rd as originally stated. Forty of our residential clients were successfully vaccinated.

The last PDR clinic with our psychiatric healthcare provider, Dr. Gonzalez, took place on 9/26/24 with two medication modifications. I am currently following one client due to side effects which are nonserious at present and are expected to decrease or subside completely. The next PDR clinic is scheduled for 10/24/24. To date there have been no suspected or observed concerns or cases of possible TD/AIMs (Tardive dyskinesia) reported.

In July there were 9 med errors. One red flag and 8 in documentation. In August there were 37 med errors with 19 in documentation, 15 failures to follow prescribed order, 2 wrong meds given, and 1 omission. In September we had 26 errors, with 24 actual errors and 2 red flags. 14 of those were in documentation, 10 failures to follow prescribed order, and 2 missing medications from a home visit.

Ms. White completed a quarterly Med Audit in each of the CTH II residential homes on 9/17 and 9/18. While all the homes did well for the most part, there were a few areas identified for improvement/correction and these were sent out to the RHMs. Ms. White said she has scaled back on her visits to the homes to provide med training or refreshers during their monthly house meetings. This is something she plans on re-incorporating. Ms. White said she has received the next med audit date for Palmetto Rx to visit the CTH II homes. Ms. White said she plans to resume attending regular staffing of the homes with the coordinators and RHMs where med errors would be discussed. This was done prior to Ms. White starting her position but had not been being done.

There were a total of 29 falls over the last three months: six in August (ranging from loss of balance or complications with illness), seven in September (ranging from loss of balance to complications with illness, to environmental factors to client negligence), and six so far as of 10/15 (ranging from environmental factors to loss of balance). Most falls resulted in minor scrapes/abrasions. No major injuries or hospitalizations, although there were approximately four ER and Urgent Care visits to further assess clients' conditions.

Training continues regularly regarding fall-risk prevention. All our "high" fall risk individuals continue to work with a physical therapist per their PCP as well as our exercise specialist, Lisa Jones of Endurance/Strength Training LLC. She is now focusing

on enhancing the education and skills of our staff in the homes to enable them to work one-on-one with the clients in her absence. We continue to stress the use of assistive devices and encourage client compliance with those devices, i.e., walkers, gait belts, etc. Gait belts as well as walkers have been updated for several of our individuals requiring a higher level of support.

Day Program – Mr. Geitner said staffing is in really good shape. They have one part time vacancy. Mr. Geitner added that his staff are the best he has had since he has been here. They are invested in their jobs. We have a lot of activities going on. Clients went to Morris Center and did indigo dye bandanas and weaving baskets. Some will be going to James Island to see the Christmas lights. On the 25th we are having a Halloween party and dance. The Port Royal library contract is going well. Coe Keefer and Roeshelle Smith have been going to schools talking about our programs.

- B. Short walk on the new path - Mr. Love said for those who want to walk the new path, we will do that after the meeting.
- C. SC Assistive Technology Program – Mr. Love said the state is conducting a lot of workshops regarding technology first. USC School of Medicine has a technology program.
- D. New Board Members – Mr. Love said the county has posted advertisements for new board members.
- E. Part-time Nurse – Mr. Love said we have been approved to post a position for a part-time nurse. If you know anyone who might be interested, please send them our way. It is only 29 hours per week and has a nice salary.
- F. Quarterly Meetings – After our December meeting we will be meeting quarterly beginning in January.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Wanda Mayse

- A. Staffing – Currently we have around 10 vacancies. Applications are coming in slowly. We average about 3 per month. Most of them are viable candidates. We had two last month that we processed but they never responded to the offer letter. We interviewed two today and one of them was a viable candidate.
- B. Hurricane Helene – Response from staff was incredible. Hotels filled up quickly, but we were able to house individuals at other residences.
- C. October Events/Trips – We are keeping the individuals busy. Knights of Columbus provided lunch for them this past Saturday. There are two groups of individuals going to Scarowinds. One is going on Friday and another group on Saturday. United Healthcare had a health fair to make individuals aware of changes to their benefits (what plan will cover what medications). They had other vendors there and had an entertainer and made it a thing. We are hosting an October Fest on Saturday, October 26th. Everything is going well with licensing. Standards are still above 90%. CIP is keeping maintenance up to date.

VIII. POLICY/DIRECTIVES COMMITTEE – Frankie Middleton, Chair, Wendy Bukowski, Co-Chair

Nothing to report on.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Wendy Bukowski, Chair – N/A
- Personnel Committee, Lynn Russo, Chair – N/A
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, Galen Sturup-Comeau, Chair

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Sturup-Comeaux asked about the Community Review Teams. Ms. Scoggins said she has an opening on her team. Mr. Sturup-Comeaux said he would like to be part of that. Ms. Lea Cifranick-McFadden said she would like to help too. Ms. Scoggins will send them the calendar invite so they can join the next review.

XI. The next board meeting will be held on **December 3, 2024, at 4:00 PM:**

**100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906**

XII. ADJOURNMENT


THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:00 PM.



Lynn Russo, Chairman



Date



Nancy Pinkerton, Vice-Chairman

2/12/25

Date