

Minutes
VA State Board of Social Services
VDSS-Western Region Office - Wednesday
People Incorporated - Thursday
Abingdon, Virginia

October 19-20, 2011

Attending: Robert Spadaccini, Trudy Brisendine, Barbara Manuel, Ray Johnson (Wednesday), Willie Greene Sr., and Terri Kiser Williams

Absent: Dr. Bela Sood, Heidi Metcalf Little, and Michelle Larkin

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m., Vice Chair Robert Spadaccini presiding.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Spadaccini welcomed members and guests in attendance. Local directors were recognized. Al Wilson will join the Board meeting by way of telephone.

Agenda Review

Karin Clark reviewed the agenda. Members were provided with copies of three legislative reports.

By consensus, items four and seven were removed from the agenda as a Letter of Assurance was not provided. Item 11 will be reviewed on Wednesday rather than Thursday.

Information Items

CPS Subcommittee Report

Mr. Spadaccini advised there appeared to be an information-sharing problem between organizations involved in a CPS case. The State Review Team plans to send an information-sharing recommendation to the Governor. Members may support the Team's recommendation if they so choose.

The Subcommittee discussed eight hours of physician training in CPS. It was also discussed that engagement may be needed on Board-to-Board and Commissioner-to-Commissioner levels.

The next COS subcommittee meeting date will be December 15. Mr. Spadaccini will work with Ms. Rengnerth on the logistics.

Child Support Enforcement & Child Care Subsidy

Nick Young, Director of Child Support Enforcement provided information on 22VAC40-661, Child Care Program and the proposed requirement for applicants and recipients to cooperate with the Division of Child support Enforcement as a condition of eligibility. A copy of this presentation is attached to the official minutes housed in the home office.

Mary Ward, Child Care Program Manager, and Todd Viar provided members with 2 handouts that reviewed the Virginia Case Management Demonstration and the Virginia E-Childcare (ECC) Project and Process overview.

Additional Daily Supervision Rate Regulation

Therese Wolf, Permanency Program Manager provided a briefing on the Additional Daily Supervision Rate Regulation, 22VAC40-221. A copy of this presentation is attached to the official minutes housed in the home office.

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Martin D. Brown provided comment to the Board. A copy of his presentation is attached to the official minutes.

Public Comment

Rick Clark, Police Chief of Galax provided comment on Prisoner Reentry.

James Peak, of Hillsville provided comment on Prisoner Reentry.

Frankie Minor, of Dryden provided comment on Auxiliary Grant for Assisted Living Facilities

Fairfax County Advisory Social Services Board provided written comments on proposed changes to Regulation 22VAC40-661.

Comment from Local Boards and Directors of Social Services

Carl Ayers, Director of Floyd County provided comment.

Comment from Boards and Directors of Community Action Agencies

None

Comment from VA Community Action Agency

Jim Schuyler provided an update to the Board.

Virginia League of Social Service Executives

Susan Clark provided an update to the Board.

Regulatory Update

Karin Clark, Regulatory Coordinator, shared a copy of the latest regulatory report with members. A copy is attached to the official minutes housed in the home office.

Action Items

Recognition of Western Region

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Spadaccini read an Award of Recognition to be provided to 22 local departments of social services that include the cities of Bristol, Galax, Norton, and Radford and the counties of Bland, Buchanan, Carroll, Dickenson, Floyd, Giles, Grayson, Lee, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, Russell, Smyth, Scott, Tazewell, Washington, Wise and Wythe.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Brisendine) and seconded, moved to approve the Awards of Recognition to 22 local departments of social services that include the cities of Bristol, Galax, Norton, and Radford and the counties of Bland, Buchanan, Carroll, Dickenson, Floyd, Giles, Grayson, Lee, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, Russell, Smyth, Scott, Tazewell, Washington, Wise and Wythe. Motion approved with all in favor.

Benefit Programs Organization (BPRO) Recognition

On behalf of BPRO, the Resolution recognizing February 2012 as Benefit Programs Specialists Appreciation Month was read for approval.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Mr. Greene) and seconded, moved to approve the Resolution recognizing the month of February 2012 as Benefit Programs Specialists Appreciation Month; calling upon Virginians to join in acknowledging their public service and contributions. Motion approved with all in favor. Award accepted by Bob Gose on behalf of BPRO.

Revisions in the Administrative/Human Resources Manual for LDSS, Chapters 1, 3, 4, and 7.

Amma Appiah, Policy analyst, Sr. asked the Board to approve changes as submitted.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Brisendine) and seconded, moved to approve the changes to Chapters 1, 3, 4, and 7 of the Administrative/Human Resources Manual for Local Departments of Social Services. Motion approved with all in favor.

22VAC40-771, Adult Services Approved Providers-Notice of Intended Regulatory Action

Gail Nardi, Manager of Adult Programs was onsite to review and answer questions.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms Brisendine) and seconded, moved to approve the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action for 22VAC40-771, Adult Services Approved Providers, for publication in the Virginia Register, subject to approval under the provisions of Executive Order Number 14 (2010). Motion approved with all in favor.

22VAC40-661, Child Care Program-Proposed Regulation

Mary Ward was onsite to review and answer questions.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Mr. Johnson) and seconded, moved to approve 22VAC40-661, Child Care Program as amended on page 12, section G removing the 60-month timeframe and inserting 72-months and approve the fiscal impact analysis for distribution to local boards of social services pursuant to 63.2-217 of the Code of Virginia. Motion approved with all in favor.

22VAC40-221, Additional Daily Supervision Rate Structure-Final Regulation

Therese Wolf was onsite to review and answer questions.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms Brisendine) and seconded, moved to approve the final action to establish 22VAC40-221, Additional Daily Supervision Rate Structure for publication in the Virginia Register, subject to approval under the provisions of Executive Order 14 (2010). Motion approved with all in favor.

The Board discussed future budget cuts to the Department of Social Services.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms Kiser-Williams), moved to have Chair Sood send a letter to the Governor and Secretary Hazel to discuss the importance of not making further cuts to the DSS budget/programs. It was felt that due to the economic downturn, many citizens are in need of services that DSS provides and further budget reductions/services would have a negative impact on clients during a time when they most need assistance. Motion approved with all in favor.

Recess 4:07 PM

October 20, 2011

Call to order at 9:00 AM, Vice Chair Spadaccini presiding.

Presentations

Carl Mitchell, Executive Director of One Care of Southwest Virginia, Inc. provided an overview of the organization. A copy of the presentation is attached to the official minutes housed in the home office.

Doug Meade, MSW, provided an overview of Occupational Enterprises, Inc. A copy of this presentation is attached to the official minutes housed in the home office.

Mike Edwards, President of SOBER, provided an overview of this organization.

Robert Goldsmith, President and CEO of People Incorporated provided an overview of the organization. A copy of the presentation is attached to the official minutes housed in the home office.

Action Items

Minutes

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Brisendine) moved to approve the August 2011 minutes as presented. Motion approved with all in favor.

2012 Meeting Schedule

ON MOTION DULY MADE, as amended, (Ms. Brisendine) moved to adopt meeting dates as presented and include 5 meetings in each of the regions. Voice vote: Yes-Ms Brisendine; No-Mr. Greene, Ms. Kiser-Williams, and Ms. Manuel. Motion failed.

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Brisendine) moved to approve the meeting schedule as presented. Motion approved with all in favor.

Ms. Kiser-Williams confirmed the meeting schedule could be readdressed at the December meeting when all members are present.

Amendments to Bylaws

ON MOTION DULY MADE (Ms. Brisendine) moved to approve the Bylaws as presented. Motion approved with all in favor.

Board Comments

Ms Brisendine thanked the Western Region Office and People Inc. for hosting the Board meetings. It has been a pleasure to be in the region. She also appreciated the visit to a local Assisted Living Facility. Thanks to staff for their presentations and for handling the meeting logistics.

Mr. Greene said it had been a great meeting. He is happy to meeting in Southwest, and thanked everyone for their hospitality.

Ms. Manuel said this had been a wonderful, invaluable experience. She also appreciated the presentations.

Ms Kiser-Williams said she feels humbled to be here in Southwest. She has enjoyed meeting and speaking with the people and seeing the hope and determination they have.

Mr. Spadaccini thanked Western Regional Office, People Incorporated, and the Assisted Living Facility for their hospitality. The informational presentations were moving and very much appreciated. Thanks to Ms Rengnerth, Ms Clark, Deputy Commissioner Schultze, and Commissioner Brown for doing a great job to ensure Board meetings are successful. Mr. Spadaccini looks forward to discussing the possibility of meeting regionally.

Agenda Setting Items

Ms. Brisendine advised she will not be present at the December meeting and hoped the Child Placing Agency Regulation would wait and be placed on the February agenda. She advised that there is a lot happening on the national level with Gay Marriage Don't Ask-Don't Tell, etc. She acknowledged that the Board has the Office of the Attorney General to advise them; however, since VDSS uses federal dollars, she would like to have a federal partner attend a future meeting to discuss their view so members would have a broader perspective.

Members thanked Mr. Spadaccini for presiding over the meeting and congratulated him on a job well-done.

Adjournment 12:40 PM

Submitted by Pat Rengnerth