

**Queen Anne's County
Community Partnerships for Children and Families (LMB)
Board Minutes
October 17, 2018**

Those present for the Community Partnerships for Children and Families Board meeting:

Members Present:

Peg Anawalt, Chesapeake College
Meredith Braden, Community Member
Susan Coppage, Department of Social Services
Eric Daniels, Community Member
Brad Engel, Board of Education
Pastor Mark Farnell, Community Member
Joe Grabis, President, Dept. of Juvenile Services
Bobbi Graef, QAC Department of Health

Claire Johnson, Student Member
Michelle Johnson, Community Member
Megan Pinder, Mid Shore Behavioral Health
Systems
Bill Walmsley, Community Member

Administrative Staff:

Elaine Butler, Character Counts! Coordinator
Lisa Michaels, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Stansbury, Operation Specialist and Office
Coordinator II

Member Regrets:

Karla Altamirano, Community Member
Joan Brooks, QAC Recreation
Kathryn Dilley, Mid Shore Behavioral Health
Gery Hofmann, QAC Sheriff Office
Margie Houck, County Commissioners
Carrie O'Connor, Community Member

Vince Radosta, Community Member
Laura Roth, Community Member
Mary Ann Thompson, Community Member
Mary Walker, Community Member
Jamie Williams, Community Member
Jim Wills, County Ride

Guests:

Sandy Colea
-- Citizens Review Board for Children
Lee Franklin, Kathy Sells, Annette DiMaggio
– Backpack for Children Program

I. Welcome, Call to order & Introductions:

Joe Grabis, Board President, welcomed all members, and meeting was called to order.

II. LMB Updates & Reports:

a. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on October 15, 2018. The Committee discussed the retreat, received updates, and reviewed the agenda. The Executive Committee approved the agenda. The Board Members were requested to begin thinking of where the board should head in the next 3-5 years while maintaining our priorities.

No decisions to be ratified.

b. Secretary

Joe Grabis, Board President, presented the minutes from September 2018 for approval.

****Action:**

Eric Daniels moved to approve the September 19, 2018 minutes as written. Meredith Braden provided a second. All present voted in favor with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

c. Treasurer

Eric Daniels, Board Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Reports for October 2018.

****Action:**

Megan Pinder made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports as written. Michelle Johnson provided a second. All present voted in favor to accept the Treasurer's Report with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

d. Director's Report

The Director's Report is included in the Board of Directors Board Meeting packet. Board members were asked to review it and any questions may be directed to Mike Clark.

III. Maryland Citizens Review Board for Children Presentation by Sandy Colea

The Maryland Citizens Review Board for Children is a volunteer based organization that is federally mandated and is partially supported through federal funds. The review board provides oversight to the Department of Social Services. Specifically, the review board focuses on permanency, safety and the well-being of children while in foster care. Although the review board reviews all cases, of particular interest are older youths. Ms. Colea reports that Queen Anne's County Department of Social Services does not have many children in their care. The review board also advocates for foster care youths legislatively. The Maryland Citizen Review Board for Children is looking for qualified volunteers.

IV. Substance Abuse and Diversion Grant Presentation by Brad Engel

In FY2018, the Board of Ed was awarded the Substance Abuse Diversion program grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention. This grant covered salary and fringe for 2 licensed substance abuse counselors and one re-entry specialist. During that year, the state requested that Queen Anne's County make a presentation to the review board to inform them of how the program was going. Brad Engel gave a PowerPoint presentation which was well received. Queen Anne's County applied for the funds again during the spring of 2018, and we were awarded. We originally asked for \$69,711 and we received \$78,688.

In FY2019, with the awarded funds of \$78,688, we were able to continue with the two licensed substance abuse counselors, who continue to work with

students at the schools, alleviating transportation barriers to medical appointments, and if no insurance coverage, out of pocket expenses.

Violation of the Board of Education's drug policy now results in the youth spending ten days at Anchors Point. While there the youth will receive education, drug intervention, and assessment.

Queen Anne's County schools recently conducted a drug survey, which provided very useful information.

The Department of Juvenile Services reports the substance abuse and diversion counselors are very helpful with their department.

It was suggested that a panel of diverse high school youths be invited to the Board of Directors retreat in December.

V. Backpack Committee Presentation by Lee Franklin, Kathy Sells and Annette DiMaggio Project Updates (See Attached)

The Backpack for Kids Program provides weekend nutritious meals for children who are food insecure, those who are most at risk of not having enough to eat when school meals are not available. Nearly 400 kids are receiving weekend meals from the Backpack Committee.

Children who are in the Backpack Program must be enrolled in the Free and Reduced Meals Program (FARM). The students in the FARM program are reviewed by the guidance counselors.

The elementary schools and middle school on the lower eastern shore is coordinated by Kathy Sells. The northern part of the county is coordinated by Annette DiMaggio.

Kathy Sells reports every elementary school and two middle schools are in the Backpack program. The remaining schools are covered by the churches.

Guidance counselors for the schools inform the program how many children will need services. The County funds 40% and the remaining cost comes from the churches who provide all the food with the help from parish donations.

Annette DiMaggio reports that she buys, packs and delivers the backpacks to northern county clients.

The Backpack Committee's major challenge is how to keep the Backpack Program sustainable.

The Backpack Committee is very grateful for the Local Management Board's continued support.

VI. Announcements & Adjourn

Make a Difference Day - Expungement fair flyers, November 3, 2018
Bereavement event with Hospice, November 16, 2018.
Chesapeake Reed Trio free concert to benefit Haven Ministries, October 21, 2018.