

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
March 25, 2019 7:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: The regular monthly meeting of the Brunswick County Health and Human Services Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Flint King at 7:00 p.m. in the Odell Williamson Auditorium.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT: Dr. King asked for public comments. There were none.

B. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Dr. King asked if there were any special presentations. There were none.

II. REGULARLY OCCURRING ITEMS:

A. ATTENDANCE:

1. The following members were present:

Dr. Flint King, Chairman
Mr. Haywood Miller
Ms. Lisa Narron
Mr. Michael Norton
Dr. Allen Williams
Dr. J. Michael Howard
Dr. Kathryn Lawler

2. Members absent:

Mr. Gene Ward
Dr. Jerry Smith
Dr. Donna Bacchi-Smith
Mrs. Pat Sykes

3. Staff members present:

David Stanley, Health & Human Services Director
Cris Harrelson, Health Services Director
Scott Milligan, Personnel Director
Danny Thornton, Environmental Health Director
Rich Ohmer, Social Services Program Manager
Anita Hartsell, Veteran Services Director
Jay Murray, Business Manager
Cherie Browning, Nursing Director
Marjorie Rayl, Quality Assurance Specialist

4. Guests present: None

- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes for the monthly meeting held on **February 25, 2019** were reviewed. Dr. King asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. There were no corrections. **Dr. Howard moved to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Norton seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous. (Closed)**
- C. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:** Dr. King asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. **Mr. Stanley requested the addition of “Letter to Legislators” as item C under new business. Dr. Howard moved to approve the agenda with the aforementioned addition. Ms. Narron seconded the motion. The vote to approve the agenda was unanimous. (Closed)**
- D. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- 1. VETERANS SERVICES:** Mrs. Hartsell discussed the federal court ruling in which the VA cannot deny Agent Orange disability benefits to Navy Veterans who served in the waters offshore of Vietnam. The VA has yet to announce the course of action they intend to take. They have until the end of April to appeal the decision. Brunswick County Veterans Services will, once again, assist the District 9 American Legion and Winston-Salem VA Regional Office with a 3-day Veterans Experience Action Center Event on Thursday, April 25th, through Saturday, April 27th at the Elks Lodge in Wilmington. The committee tried to find a location in Brunswick County that would fit the needed space requirements within their budget but were unable to do so. This event is done to promote veteran’s benefits and assist them in applying for benefits, both through the compensation and healthcare side of VA. Staff and claims adjudicators from the Winton-Salem Regional Office will be on hand to review new evidence a veteran may have concerning a pending claim in hopes that they will be able to obtain a favorable expedited decision. Brunswick County has graciously approved up to \$3000 to assist in promoting and providing this event to help veterans get claims processed by the VA. The Homeless Stand-down Event will take place at this event to assist any homeless veterans in attendance. **(Info)**
 - 2. CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION TEAMS:** Ms. Browning stated the next meeting will be on April 9th. **(Info)**
 - 3. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:** Mr. Thornton thanked those Board members who were able to come early and attend the Golden A Awards Ceremony. He noted there are 477 food service establishments in Brunswick County and 299 were awarded the Golden A, given for those who were graded a 95 or better for the year. Mr. Thornton added that of those 299, 110 establishments also received the Platinum A for their excellence in receiving a Golden A award 5 years in a row. This is an 8% increase from last year. He said these establishments are doing an outstanding job. Mr. Thornton discussed the BCMS On-Site computer program that is a new recording process. Currently, he was not able to provide accurate reporting information on new site application times. New applications are at 4 to 5 weeks out. The BCMS system allows all development services to collaborate and see each department’s progress on applications. **(Info)**

4. **HEALTH SERVICES:** Mr. Harrelson reported the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation released its 2019 County Health Rankings on March 19th. The rankings use a variety of measures (i.e., length of life, health behaviors, social and economic factors) to calculate the current overall health ranking as well as looking at measures that may affect the future health of the community such as, high school graduation rates, access to healthy foods, smoking rates, obesity and teen births. Brunswick County rose from #40 last year to #34 in 2019. A table with key factors that constitute the ranking as compared to the last five years was distributed. Mr. Harrelson discussed new metrics for the Child Health program that were included in the Board packets. As part of the current Quality Improvement project, these will allow measurement of performance in key areas for continuous improvement. Mr. Harrelson noted that influenza is still widespread. There continues to be an increase of flu cases in Brunswick County. Mr. Harrelson gave an update on the latest Brunswick County Substance Use and Addiction Commission meeting held on March 7th. Haley Babson of Coastal Southeastern United Care spoke about their agency's intent to develop residential beds for short term housing for individuals with substance use disorder and mental health issues who are (or intend to be) clients of their agency. Captain Lanier shared that BCSO arrests were very high in February, mostly due to possession/sale of methamphetamines. He reported there had been one Naloxone reversal and one overdose death. Bill Eberly presented an idea about reaching community members and building awareness that involves writing articles for local newspapers. **(Info)**
5. **NC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:** Mr. Stanley has information on animals allowed in box stores but requested to postpone the discussion until the next meeting. **(Info)**
6. **HHS CUSTOMER SERVICE IMPROVEMENT REPORT:** Ms. Browning gave a report on clinic customer satisfaction surveys that were completed in January. A total of 65 patients completed the surveys over a two-week span. All responses rated the clinic either excellent or good. There were many praises for the staff nurses. Most patients felt the clinic's hours of operation were just right. **(Info)**
7. **PUBLIC HOUSING SERVICES:** Mr. Ohmer discussed the waiver received from HUD to modify the waiting list to assist individuals who were displaced due to Hurricane Florence. The waiver allows the department to issue vouchers to these families. Proof from FEMA or the insurance company is required. One family that met the criteria for the waiting list has been assisted so far. Several other families have contacted the office. Staff is waiting for them to complete their application. **(Info)**

8. **SOCIAL SERVICES:** Mr. Ohmer noted that LIEHEAP applications are continuing to be accepted through March 31st. The DSS Director's Association continues to be concerned with the rollout of NC-FAST for child welfare. The directors gave a report to lawmakers on March 19th regarding the functionality of NC-FAST for child welfare. A news article noting this was distributed to the Board. Staff is currently waiting on a reply from the State regarding further rollout. Brunswick County is slated to rollout this September. Mr. Ohmer discussed the roll of DSS in determining eligibility in the Managed Care program. Brunswick County will move into the new program in February of 2020. Open enrollment will be held this October 15th through December 15th. Beginning this fiscal year, Brunswick County and the State have signed a Memorandum of Understanding outlining standards and performance measures for DSS. It includes several foster care measures. **(Info)**

8. **HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Mr. Milligan reported a candidate has been recommended for the WIC Director position. In DSS open positions include: one Income Maintenance Caseworker (IMC) Supervisor vacancy in Adult Medicaid; a Social Worker Program Manager position; and, a part-time Interpreter position in Economic Services. **(Info)**

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **WIC PROGRAM UPDATE:** Mr. Stanley noted that, with the WIC Director position selected, that person will be able to help to fill the other vacancies. Staff is continuing to alternate between sites. Contractors are assisting including with the WIC Self-Audit. **(Open)**

- B. **HURRICANE FLORENCE ACTIVITIES:** Mr. Stanley noted that the Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) group is having a meeting on April 2nd at the Dixon Chapel Church to discuss items such as policies, procedures and an organizational chart while continuing to help with Hurricane Florence victims. Mr. Murray added that no potential clients to be helped with the Golden Leaf Grant have been identified so far. **(Open)**

- C. **MEDICAID TRANSFORMATION:** Mr. Stanley reported that the Department of Health & Human Services is reaching out to the County Commissioner's Association to get input on tailored plans (those with significant issues, including mental health). The Mental Health MCOs are vying for these regions. The input will assist in deciding how the regions should be set up. It remains to be seen if regions will change. Mr. Stanley added that meetings are coming up and he will keep the Board informed. **(Open)**

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **DEQ REVIEW PERIOD METHYL BROMIDE:** Mr. Stanley said the 30-day comment period ends on March 27th. He reminded the Board that methyl bromide is the chemical used to fumigate logs before being shipped overseas. The State wanted standards prior to issuing new or modifying existing permits. Items being looked at include a 24-hour period of ambient air; how much methyl bromide can be released; and, is there an opportunity to capture the chemical rather than releasing it to open air. The document of calculations can be viewed on the DEQ website. **(Open)**

B. **GOLDEN A:** Mr. Stanley explained staff was pleased by the almost 300 awards given out and the continued success of the program. He appreciates the Board members for attending and Brunswick Community College for the use of their facilities for the Golden A ceremonies as well as this Board meeting. **(Closed)**

C. **LETTER TO LEGISLATORS:** Mr. Stanley noted the impending Child Welfare system rollout to NC-FAST and the impact upon staff and the children they protect. The North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services has sent a letter of concern to legislators. Mr. Stanley distributed a draft letter of similar concern written by the Social Services Director, Cathy Lytch in the hopes that it may also be forwarded to legislators. **Dr. King made a motion recommending the County Commissioners review the letter and give staff direction as to the disposition of such. Dr. Williams seconded the motion. The vote to recommend review of the letter by County Commissioners was unanimous. (Closed)**

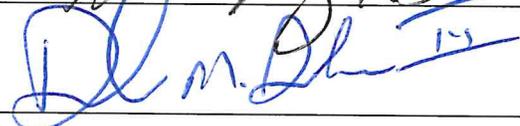
V. **BOARD INPUTS:** Dr. King asked if there were any additional Board inputs. There were none. **(Info)**

VI: **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, **the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. with a motion by Dr. Williams. Dr. Lawler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

The next BCHHS Advisory Board meeting will be held on **April 22, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Health Services boardroom.**



Chairperson



Secretary

Brunswick County Health and Human Services

Advisory Board Attendance Roster 2018-2019

NAME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
King	X	X	*	X	X	*	X	X	X			
Miller		X	*	X	X	*	X	X	X			
Williams	X		*	X		*	X		X			
Smith	X	X	*	X	X	*	X	X				
Ward			*	X	X	*		X				
Norton	X	X	*	X		*	X	X	X			
Howard	X		*	X	X	*	X		X			
Sykes		X	*	X		*	X	X				
Lawler	X	X	*	X	X	*	X		X			
Narron	X	X	*		X	*	X	X	X			
Bacchi-Smith	O	O	*	X	X	*	X	X				

A = Month Appointed/Installed

C = Conflict with CC's Meeting

O = Off Board

X = In Attendance

AA = Approved Absence

Blank Space = Absent

Quorum equals six members present.

^ = Specially Called Meeting

*** = No Meeting**