



Davie County Health and Human
Services 154 Government Center
Drive, Mocksville, 27028 12:00 PM

AGENDA

DAVIE COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Regular Meeting May 10, 2022

I. Roll Call/Sign in

II. Chairman Renegar called the meeting to order and asked Ms. Wright to confirm attendance. The HHS leadership team members were in attendance for the meeting as well.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Baker	Optometrist	Present	
Joe Boyette	At-Large/Consumer	Present	
Kathy Cornatzer	Nurse/At-Large/Consumer	Present	
Andreia Collins	Social Worker/Consumer	Present	
	Engineer	Vacant	
Jessica McCaskill	Veterinarian	Absent	
Richard B. Poindexter	Commissioner	Present	
Terry N. Renegar	Chairman	Present	
Andrew Rivers	Dentist	Present	
	Psychologist	Vacant	
Sherri Jefferies	At-Large/Consumer	Present	
Clio Austin	Physician	Present	
Sara Buchanan	Pharmacist	Present	

III. Call to Order

“Pursuant to NCGS 160A-86 and the Davie County HHS Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest

Section included in the HHS Board Operating Procedures adopted September 22, 2020, I would ask each of you before you adopt the agenda today if there is any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest with respect to any matter on the proposed agenda which will come before the Board today for a vote. If so, please speak up and let the Board know at this time before the agenda is adopted.”

Mr. Renegar read the conflict of interest disclosure section from the HHS Board Operating Procedures.

There were no conflicts self-reported by any Board member.

IV. Invocation

Chairman Renegar provided the invocation.

V. Discussion & Approval of Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Renegar asked Board members to review the agenda that was provided to them for today's meeting.

Vote: After review, **Kathy Cornatzer made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dr. Clio Austin seconded. The motion carried.**

VI. Review of Minutes

1. Consolidated Human Services Board Meeting – February 2022

Chairman Renegar asked Board members to review meeting minutes provided from February 2022.

Vote: **Joe Boyette made a motion to approve the meetings minutes from February 2022 as provided.**

Mr. Poindexter seconded. The motion carried.

VII. Public Comment **

The Board sets aside part of each meeting for individuals or groups to address the board.

Any person wishing to address the Board can place their name on the sign-up sheet before the meeting is scheduled to begin. The chair will call each speaker in the order in which his or her name appears on the sign-up sheet. Each speaker is limited to three minutes to address the Board. At the end of the Public Comments section of the meeting the chair will open up the floor for comment from any member of the public who wishes to speak and has not yet had the opportunity to do so. It should be noted that the Public Comments section of the meeting is for members of the public to address the Board. Board members will not render an opinion or give any comment with regard to the subject matter presented by members of the public.

Ms. Wright reported that there were no members of the public signed up to speak or in attendance for the meeting.

VIII. Presentations

Luann Angell (CD nurse) and Lisa Nielsen (Animal Services Director) – shared an update on recent rabies activities and other communicable disease information. Lisa Nielson reported that there have been two (2) positive rabies cases recently in Davie County. 1 cat in Advance on In & Out Ln, and 1 fox on Puddin Ridge Rd. Animals are only tested if there is human exposure

Lisa covered primary prevention tips:

- Leave wildlife alone
- Don't feed stray cats
- Assume any unfamiliar animal is unvaccinated and possibly rabid
- Don't try to move an injured animal
- Teach your children these tips

If you are bitten

- Serious bite, call 911
- Minor bite or scratch, wash with soap and water and rinse under running water for 15 minutes
- Call animal services at 751-0227
- Animal services or your doctor will call the local health department (LHD)
- 10 day quarantine for dogs & cats
- We do not automatically euthanize your pet

Luann Angell added an update on how many animals had been submitted for rabies testing since July of last year. There have been 14 total tests since July of 2021, with 7 of those submitted since January of 2022.

There were:

- Dogs x 5
- Cats x 7 – 1 positive
- Bat x 1
- Fox x 1 – 1 positive
- Large animals are submitted via regional lab in Elkin
- 32 bite reports received since 1/1/22

Norovirus Outbreaks (Luann)

Noro Virus / GI illness @ assisted living facility

Notified 5/2/22 by director -Onset 4/29/22 - Last case onset 5/5/22 -1 lab confirmed -Total 24 residents + 3 staff = 27 total cases. If no more cases yesterday, then can be reported as over.

New COVID outbreak in Skilled Nursing Facility (Luann)

- 2 residents (5/5, 5/9) and 1 staff (5/4)
- 2 ongoing COVID outbreaks in long term care facilities
- Have to go 28 days with no new cases to declare over

COVID cluster in elementary school (Luann)

- Started in 5th grade level yesterday reported
- 5 students, 1 staff since 5/3
- Today total has increased to 15 students and 1 staff

- Some in other grades (siblings(K,2,4,5))
- 5th grade class went on field trip 5/3
- HD recommended masking 10 days, School fogged 5th grade classrooms

COVID positivity rate

- 4/3-4/9 → 2.7%
- 4/10-4/16 → 6.1%
- 4/17-4/23 → 10.6%
- 4/24-4/30 → 11.2%
- 5/1-5/7 → 13.7%

- DSS Waiver Expiring (Crista Ramroop)

Due to COVID 19, NCDHHS administered waivers for several Income Maintenance programs and Child Support. NC was forced to think differently about how to administer benefits to citizens and also ease program operations. Based on the waiver, extensions have been made either on a monthly or quarterly basis and are set to run until either the state or federal public health emergency (PHE) ends or the waiver is no longer approved by the federal agency. DCHHS recently learned that certain waivers and increases to benefits are set to expire and wanted to ensure Board members were aware of the implications for local residents. Automatic changes were not set forth or removed by local decision. Many residents received increases to benefits automatically during the pandemic crisis and are now having benefits reduced automatically. Depending on household size, most food and nutrition services recipients experienced an increase in benefits between \$100 - \$1,154 per month depending on the number of people in the household. Having additional benefits during the pandemic was most helpful to those unable to work, but will certainly be missed now that the waiver is ending.

FNS waivers due to end July 16th 2022 may be extended

- All new FNS applications were auto-approved by NCDHHS to ensure benefits for eligible recipients. The State automatically recertified individuals receiving FNS benefits. Benefits were not terminated during this time. Once the waiver ends, Income Maintenance Caseworker staff will be responsible for recertifying all FNS cases. Individuals receiving FNS were given a supplement during COVID.

Example:

- Household of 1 - if eligible allotment is \$150, plus the supplement of \$100 = total for the month \$250
- Household of 2 - if eligible allotment is \$250, plus the supplement of \$259 = total for the month \$459
- ~~Household of 4 - if eligible allotment is \$350, plus the supplement of \$485 = total for the month \$835~~

- Household of 8 - if eligible allotment is \$350, plus the supplement of \$1,154 = total for the month \$1,504

Additional Waivers:

- FNS Online Purchasing
- Waiver of FNS Interview Requirements – no interview
- Extended Certification Periods
- Telephonic Signature

Medicaid

- All Medicaid recipients were auto approved for benefits, benefits were not terminated during this time.

Work First waiver due to end July 1st 2022

- Now that Work First waivers are expiring, Work First recipients will now have to fully comply with the terms of the program.

Additional Waivers:

- Non-Compliance with Child Support Enforcement
- Telephonic Signatures
- Refused AUDIT/DAST-10 Assessment
- Refused to accept the Referral Positive Substance Use Test Failure to attend QPSA Appointment/Substance Use Test
- Failure to participate in required Mental Health Treatment
- Immunization Noncompliance
- Non-compliance School Attendance
- Non-compliance Failure to participate in required Substance Use Treatment

IX. Action Items

- Closed Session Meeting Minutes (Suzanne Wright)

Closed session meeting minutes from December 2021 were presented for Board vote.

Vote: Kathy Cornatzer made a motion to approve the closed session minutes as presented. Andreia Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried without opposition.

VIII Consent Agenda

1. Senior Service Policy Change (Kim Shuskey)

Senior Services' General Participation Policy needs to change to reflect the following:

The current policy reads:

- Smoking is not permitted inside Davie County Senior Services, including restrooms. Designated smoking areas are available outside the building.

The proposed change will address all tobacco use inside the building. The proposed change is as follows:

- Tobacco use of any kind is not permitted inside Davie County Senior Services, including restrooms. Designated tobacco use areas are available outside the building.

Senior Services' Advisory Council approved the change as a recommendation to the HHS Board on 3/15/22.

2. Mocksville Town Board seat on Senior Services Advisory Committee

Our Mocksville Town Board representative was Eric Southern who did not seek reappointment to the Town Board. Eric was approved by the HHS board to fill a vacant slot on our council at the last meeting. We now need a new representative for the Mocksville Town Board slot. Carl Lambert has submitted his application for this position

3. Senior Services grant update

Aging & Adult Services received the following grants:

- Senior Services - Woodson Foundation - \$7,000 for the Family Caregiver Support Program
- DCVP - Woodson Foundation - \$17,500 for general support
- Senior Services - Davie Community Foundation - \$2,380 for Robotic Therapy Pets for those with Alzheimer's or Dementia

4. Senior Center Tracking Software (Kim Shuskey)

When we moved into our building 15 years ago we purchased a software tracking system call ServTracker that allows us to keep track of all our statistics, as well as client information, meal routes/ordering, etc. The system is not very user friendly and charges a license fee for every user. We would like to purchase a replacement software program called MySeniorCenter. Although there is a fairly considerable upfront cost, this system is much easier to use, which make it ideal for the multiple users and volunteers that we have. In addition, this one does not charge by user, so even if our staff and volunteers grow, the annual cost will remain the same. With the current number of licenses we have we will already realize a savings of more than \$3500 each year in the maintenance fees. The savings will be even greater if we are able to expand our staff as we hope. The system has been fully explored and approved by the IT department as well, as John Gallimore has been included in every step of the process. We plan to purchase this system with our fundraising money and feel that this is a worthwhile investment of those dollars.

5. In-home aid contractor update

Our In Home Aide program went out for bid last year, according to Davie County's financial policy. The bid is technically for 3 years, but is renewable each year based on satisfaction of service. We have chosen not to renew the contract next year with our current provider, Living Well. Although the staffing situation has been hard on all in home aide providers, we have had additional problems with this company that are not necessarily staff related. We have reduced the amount of funding for the program by about \$4,000. This allows us to not put it out for a formal bid, which will save us a considerable amount of time and reduce the time our clients go without service in between providers. We have spoken with one of the other companies, Premier Health Care, who put in a bid for this year and they are interested in providing the service. We have a pending contract awaiting signatures. Our proposal is for the contract to begin June 1. If approved, during the month of June their staff will start onboarding our clients so that service can begin, uninterrupted July 1. There will be no charge for services performed during June since that is built in as part of the unit rate for the actual in home services that will start in July. As soon as we receive a signed contract we will begin reaching out to the clients to let them know of the change, and to get consent to give their information to the new provider.

6. Public Health Accreditation Policies (Justin White)

During COVID response, policy review and changes were on hold. Now that public health is preparing for its accreditation cycle with new accreditation guidelines, all policies are being reviewed and revised as needed, but also a few new policies are in the works. These policies will be presented for Board approval and Chair signature at upcoming meetings:

- Cyber security policy – Working with Technology solutions to develop
- Title VI
- Media Policy, combining multiple policies into 1 central media

7. Public Health Environmental Health Authorization transfer for Adam Lone

Adam Lone, RESH, was formerly employed in Lincoln County, and held state authorizations in On-site wastewater and wells. Adam has successfully transferred his well authorization to Davie and will complete his ride-a-long with our state representative tomorrow to transfer his On-site wastewater authorization. Transferring from county to county takes a period of time because the state must verify that the scope of knowledge will cover the county the person is moving to, and is based on soil mineralogy for site evaluations.

8. DSS Fraud Plan

According to the DSS Administrative Letter No. Economic Services 7-2014, A County Claims

Management Plan is required by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to mitigate accusations of discrimination and support program integrity decisions in accordance with local, state, and federal policies and to ensure integrity within the public assistance programs.

Davie County's Department of Health and Human Services is committed to actively investigating, pursuing and preventing fraud within the public assistance programs administered by Davie County. Davie County Program Integrity does not discriminate on the basis of sex, age, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, and religion or political beliefs. Davie County will ensure appropriate and efficient use of available public resources.

When a caseworker suspects fraud is being committed, a fraud referral is completed and provided to the fraud

investigator. The fraud investigator then initiates an investigation. Most fraud cases are from Food and Nutrition Services, or the program formerly known as food stamps. A Medicaid Intentional Program Violation (IPV) cannot be handled administratively, it must go through the court system if the legal system agrees to take on prosecution. In all potential IPV cases, the burden of proof lies with the county and the evidence must be clear and convincing.

Once the investigator determines that a case meets criteria, the case will be reviewed and discussed with the Program Integrity Supervisor, the Program Administrator, the Division Director and the Department Director, to ensure all agency requirements have been met.

If an individual is found guilty of and Intentional Program Violation (IPV), a repayment agreement is put in place. Repayment agreements are 36 months. A DSS-8604 Repayment agreement will be signed by the debtor(s) and the county representative; it is considered binding unless the debtor(s) defaults on the payments. Debtor(s) will receive a signed copy and one will be maintained in their file. A debtor can choose to make a voluntary payment from their EBT account towards an outstanding FNS claim, in addition to allotment reduction. Allotment reductions – For IHE/AE claims, where debtor(s) are receiving active FNS benefits, 10% or \$10, whichever is the greater amount, will be recouped from their monthly benefits. For IPV claims, 20% or \$20, whichever is greater, will be recouped from their monthly benefits.

Commissioner Member Richard Poindexter asked how many fraud cases had been investigated in the past year. Crista Ramroop responded to the question.

Vote: Richard Poindexter made a motion to approve and Joe Boyette seconded. The motion carried.

.Director's Comments

Director comments are presented during the meeting and will be provided in writing to HHS Board Members as well.

- **Kintegra MAT for pregnant women starting June 1, 2022 or before.**

Kintegra will be implementing MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) for pregnant women with substance use disorder. Kintegra and the public health maternal health clinic will be working

hand-in-hand to ensure pregnant women in need to MAT or behavioral health services are referred and treated accordingly to improve birth outcomes. There will be no Suboxone or subutex administered onsite at the Government Center. Individuals needing treatment will receive services on site but medication will be prescribed for pick up at a pharmacy, not administered on site.

- **Medicaid Expansion Discussions and Impact**

There continues to be discussion about and planning for Medicaid Expansion possibilities. Dr. Mandy Cohen worked hard to get Medicaid Expansion approved several years ago (pre-COVID), but was unsuccessful. There are significant financial incentives for states moving to Medicaid Expansion. The federal financial incentive for NC is over \$1.6 billion – far greater than COVID funding received over the past two years. Estimates provided by the state show an additional 1701 Medicaid eligible individuals in Davie County for year one, with 2,186 added after full ramp up. From the spreadsheet provided, it appears there would be an additional 924 eligible for Family Planning.

- **4 County Pilot Project Update**

Senator Krawiec sponsored SB 549 in the 2019 session which was “TO ESTABLISH A CHILD WELFARE/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PILOT PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THAT

Agenda PURPOSE.” This bill did not pass however some initial work began with Cardinal Innovations, the Division of Mental Health, the Division of Social Services and the four counties. This legislation did pass in SL 2021-180 with the same language and a non-reoccurring budget of \$300,000.

The legislation included the goal to establish “child welfare and behavioral health pilot project that will provide easier access to comprehensive health services for children in foster care by (i) creating better continuity of care, (ii) providing an alternative to therapeutic foster care, and (iii) ensuring care and services are available without disruption to a child's foster care placement while accessing services needed to treat the child's trauma. Four counties shall participate in the pilot project, which shall include Davie, Forsyth, Rockingham, and Stokes.”

The purpose of this pilot project is to “establish a trauma-informed integrated health foster care model to facilitate partnerships between county departments of social services and local management entities/managed care organizations (LME/MCOs) regarding children placed in foster care.”

Recognizing that the behavioral health system was included in the legislation I have copied the LME CEOs on this email for their input as well. The 4 county DSS agencies have discussed several options for this limited \$300,000 of non-reoccurring funding. There is agreement that **there will need to be a request to the General Assembly to carry over this funding into the second year of the biennium if a plan is developed and consensus is reached.**

The options discussed to this point include:

- **Use \$300,000 to contract for case managers on site** responsible for linking child/family to identified services as needed, including trauma informed assessments for both kinship placements and family foster homes and following to ensure services were authorized and started. These case managers could either be from the LME or a LME contracted provider.
- Ask for extension of funding to allow time for 4 counties to contract with North Carolina Academy for Stress, Trauma, and Resilience at UNC-G for trauma-informed, culturally responsive, evidence-based training and support for foster families and kinship families.

- **Fund a focused case manager in each DSS to develop an individual plan when children/youth** placed with relatives for crisis situations and ongoing treatment needs, provide coaching and assist with access to many of the services outlined in the recently released Coordinated Action Plan.
- **Proposed by Davie:** Using the funds as “flexible funds” similar to the Cardinal “Foster Care Reinvestment” funding and similar to the IV-E Waiver programs across the nation that allowed for flexibility in the use of funds to implement alternative services and supports that promote safety, permanency, and well-being for children in the child protection and foster care systems. Results of the IV-E Waivers showed “shifts in expenditures across service categories also emerged, particularly in the form of increased spending on up-front maltreatment prevention and family preservation services and decreased spending on out-of-home placement.”

Proposed elements:

- \$75,000 per county
- Criteria for use of funds – alternative short term services and supports that prevented entry into foster care
- Tracking of expenditures would be necessary
- Tracking of family to determine if foster care entry was prevented for the full fiscal year
- Analysis of data for cost savings and ability to replicate.

In order to assist with moving forward, NC DHHS needs to know the decision of the counties and the respective LME’s as to the plan to move forward with this pilot.

Recommendation: Ms. Wright explained that Senator Krawiec sponsored the bill and should be informed about the proposed changes before hearing from NCDHHS. Mr. Renegar agreed and said there were two communication options from the Board. The first was to have Mr. Renegar reach out to Senator Krawiec directly to explain the proposed changes and Davie County’s proposed addition to the options provided by NCDHHS. The second option was for Mr. Renegar to bring up the topic with Julia Howard and Steve Jarvis and allow Senator Krawiec’s peers to communicate the proposed changes and Davie’s option. Mr. Renegar asked the Board for input about which communication option was preferred. Dr. Clio Austin commented that having a peer introduce the changes might be the best approach. Other Board members agrees, so Mr. Renegar plans to discuss with Julia Howard and Steve Jarvis.

- **HHS work with Mental Health Advocates**

Members of the HHS leadership team have been meeting regularly with a local group named “Mental Health Advocates”. The mental health advocates include Julie Whitaker, Guynette Hartman and Glenda Smith. To date, the group has discussed potential housing and transportation resources for those with mental illness, substance use disorder, and traumatic brain injury. Wendy Horne was invited to participate in the last meeting to discuss promoting mental health awareness in Davie County, including adding a mental health advocate’s group page to the County’s website.

- **Opioid Settlement Funds Update**

North Carolina is part of a historic \$26 billion agreement that will help bring desperately needed relief to communities impacted by opioids. These funds will be used to support treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and other life-saving programs and services in communities throughout the state. North Carolina’s Opioid and Substance Use Action Plan lays out concrete strategies to advance prevention, reduce harm, and connect people to the care that they need.

Davie County is scheduled to receive \$3,304, 754 over the next 18 years. The funding also came with an agreement and 3 pages of approved strategies that can be supported by these funds. Since becoming aware of the settlement amounts and criteria for use, HHS, Sheriff’s Office and EMS leadership have been meeting to discuss current programs/projects in place to address the opioid epidemic, and also plan for addressing the epidemic as we move forward. This group is the planning phase before money is received.

Before receiving funds, the county must have a meeting where community members can weigh in on the strategies and plans for funding use. At this time, the meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2022, but the timeline might need to be adjusted.

X. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

XI. Closed Session:

Not applicable for May 10, 2022

XII. Adjourn -

Vote: Richard Poindexter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathy Cornatzer seconded.