

**LANCASTER COUNTY CHILDREN & YOUTH AGENCY  
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

March 17, 2014

**Board Members Present:** Alice Yoder, Brett Cole, Jeff Shank, George Pappas, Juli Vesper and Joshua Keller

**Staff Present:** Crystal Natan, Robin Boyer, Betsy Frame and Kali Kunkle

**Excused:** Stephanie Roy, Rebecca Sollenberger, Ollie Jones, Melvin Frye, Loretta Nolt, Commissioner Scott Martin, Heather Girvin, and Ryan Aument

**Public:** None

**Guests:** None

**Call to Order:** Alice Yoder called the meeting to order at 7:38 a.m.

**Approval of Board Minutes:** George Pappas made a motion that the minutes from the November 2013 Board meeting be accepted as presented. Joshua Keller seconded. Motion passed.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** The Board discussed upcoming elections and the possibility of new officers. Brett Cole and George Pappas expressed interest.

**Director's Report:**

- The Lancaster Board of Commissioners approved the Facilities Management Department going forward with the Children and Youth Agency offices moving to the 150 North Queen Street Government Center office building. The projected move date is August of 2015. The hope is to have the Children and Youth staff from both offices relocated to the new location. Planning meetings will begin and continue through the next year. The Board members discussed several issues that still need to be resolved such as security, parking for staff and resource parents and space for parent/child visitations.
- LUIS Database-During the last few months staff have been working a tremendous amount of hours to clean up the data necessary to submit the AFCARS report to the State. We were able to submit the report to the State and it has been accepted. The next challenge will be the Federal Audit on AFCARS.
- Crystal distributed a copy of the current Expenditures and Revenues report. We received our Needs Based allocation based on the 2014/15 State budget that Governor Tom Corbett has introduced. Our approval was approximately \$750,000 below the amount requested, which included a 2% budget increase based on a request from our providers. We have not been able to give cost of living allowances to program and placement providers for the last 5-6 years. In the upcoming budget, we will be requesting funding for additional staff in preparation to meet the guidelines from the new Child Abuse legislation.

- Child placements have almost doubled from last year's numbers, mainly due to an increase in heroin drug use and housing conditions.
- Crystal reviewed the State of Child Welfare report for 2014. This report primarily focuses on key elements in Pennsylvania pertaining to child abuse, foster care and adoption. Some of the key elements are age, race, ethnicity, gender and placement setting, length of placement, reunification rates, etc. This report is generated from the Pennsylvania counties AFCARS data.
- The Agency is implementing changes to our safety plan process. All cases where a safety plan is implemented will have a court safety plan hearing within 3-6 business days. This will afford the parents/legal custodians their due process rights. These hearings are anticipated to begin by mid April.

**Upcoming Events:** April is Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness month.

**Announcements:** None

**Public Comment:** None

Meeting was adjourned at 9:13 a.m.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 21, 2014</b> <b>7:30 - 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>at</b> <b>Children and Youth Agency, 900 East King Street, Lancaster, PA</b></p>
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Respectfully submitted,

Kali Kunkle