

Christen Gallik
Director of Social Services



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**City of Fredericksburg Department of Social Services
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2012**

Present for the meeting: Kathy Anderson, Florence Bailey, Diane Clark, Christen Gallik, Beth Girone, and Libby Wasem

- I. Meeting called to order at 8:00 am.
- II. Public Comment – There was no Public Comment.
- III. Libby Wasem motioned, Florence Bailey seconded and the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the December 9, 2011 Board meeting.
- IV. **Budget Report:** Christen Gallik distributed the budget report. It was noted that we will soon be accessing Pass-Thru dollars in both 853 and 854. Pass-Thru dollars require a higher local match rate, so this is something that is monitored closely. An increase in State Subsidy/IVE Foster Care expenditures was noted, but there is no local match to either of those categories. In January, we will see a change in Childcare expenditures due to funds returned as part of the transition to the new Child Care Automation program. As of today, Ms. Gallik stated that we have not heard any information pertaining to the 2013 budget submission.
- V. **Guest Megan Cotter, Executive Director, Micah:** Megan spoke to the Board about Micah's mission and the growth they have experienced over the last 6 years when several downtown churches pooled their resources to help the population of people still living on the streets in the City of Fredericksburg. They now have a 2,000 square foot hospitality center where they give out lunches daily, provide emergency food and clothing, and have a mental health worker on staff. They have trained volunteers to help people with paperwork necessary to get them resources and Ms. Cotter praised the partnering of Micah with the DSS Community Based Eligibility Worker program that helps Micah's clients get SNAP and Medicaid benefits and links them to other helpful community resources. Ms. Cotter stated that there are now meals available every night at various churches in the community so people in need can receive a free dinner 365 days a year between 5-6:30 p.m. Micah also has a housing program, that with the help from a HUD grant, has enabled them to hire a housing navigator who works to help find housing for the 95 identified chronically homeless people in the City. This position also helps with Micah's residential recovery program that helps to find housing for people who are coming out of the hospital and continue to need community supports to heal, but no longer require hospitalization. The program opened an 8 bed facility one year ago and components include Home Health and Hospice care. Overall, Ms. Cotter stated that she has seen a change in the homeless population to now include more young males and also those with more complicated mental health issues. Their overall goal is to develop a success plan with each of their clients that, in the long run, will help to decrease the number of chronically homeless in our area.

- VI. **Director's Report:** Highlights from the Director's report included Ms. Gallik's involvement on the League of VDSS's Legislative Committee. Ms. Gallik also stated that there are currently 2 vacant eligibility worker positions that we will soon be interviewing for. Ms. Gallik spoke about how enjoyable her participation in the City School's Breakfast Buddy program has been. The Breakfast Buddy program is for children identified by school personnel as those they feel could benefit from having a caring adult meet with them a couple times a month over breakfast to be an added support in their lives. So far, two other staff members have signed up to be a Buddy and they have also found the experience to be very rewarding.
- VII. **Old Business:** Election of Chair and Vice Chair. Libby Wasem made a motion to keep the current chair and vice chair until their terms on the Board expire later in the year and have elections when that time comes. Kathy Anderson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- VIII. **New Business:** There was no new business to discuss.
- IX. **Executive Session:** *WHEREAS*, the Social Services Board desires to discuss in Executive Session matters relating to confidential personnel issues; and *WHEREAS*, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 VA Code such discussions may occur in Executive Session; **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Social Services Board does hereby authorize discussion of the afore-stated matter in Executive Session:

Call for the motion to move into Executive Session:

Motion was made by Kathy Anderson and seconded by Libby Wasem that the meeting move into Executive Session at 9:05 a.m. to protect the privacy of individuals involved in personnel matters not related to public business. Motion passed.

CERTIFICATION:

WHEREAS, the Social Services Board has this day adjourned into Executive Session in accordance with a formal vote of the Board in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and,

WHEREAS, the Freedom of Information Act requires certification that such Executive Session was conducted in the conformity with the law;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Fredericksburg Social Services Board does hereby certify that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the Executive Session to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion by which said Executive Session was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Board. No matter dissents from the afore-stated certification.

Call for the motion to move out of Executive Session:

Motion made by Libby Wasem and seconded by Kathy Anderson to move out of Executive Session at 9:15 a.m. Motion passed.

- X. **Items for Consent:** There were no items for consent.
- XI. **Items for Approval:** There were no items for approval.

Next Meeting Schedule: The next meeting will be **Friday, February 10, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.**

Helping People Triumph over Hardships to Promote Healthier Futures Within Our Community

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Beth Girone Date 2/10/12
Beth Girone, Assistant Director

Diane Clark Date Feb 10, 2012
Diane Clark, Chair

APPROVED

