

Carteret County Human Services Board Meeting February 13, 2023

The Carteret County Human Services Board held its regular quarterly meeting on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 6 p.m. The meeting was held at the Carteret County Health Department.

Present

Carol Armistead
Lindsay Creech
Darden Eure
Kathy Foster
Richard Gray
Ralph Merrill
Tara Mitchell
Dr. Patrick Patterson
Dr. Gregory Reichert

Absent

Scott Cobb
Catherine Hayes
Jodi Lewis
Commissioner Mark Mansfield
Dr. Sam Schmitt
David Taylor

Staff

Jessica Adams
Gina Bruce
Jesse Dail
Kay Huffman
Nina Oliver
Dr. Randall Williams
Jamie Willis

Cheryl Burke, Carteret County News-Times reporter, also attended the meeting.

Call to Order

Vice Chair Foster called the meeting to order. Kathy Foster said the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approval of November 14, 2022 Consolidated Human Services Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Acknowledgement of Additional Funding- Agreement Addendum #151 Family Planning, Revision #1, Additional \$3,518
- C. Request to Accept Additional Funding- Agreement Addendum #452 Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP), Revisions 1-3, Additional \$9,400
- D. Request to Accept Additional Funding- Agreement Addendum #551 TB Control, Revision 1, Additional \$2,140
- E. Approval of Carteret County Work First Plan 2023-2025

Vice Chair Foster requested a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda.

MOTION – Carol Armistead made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Richard Gray, approved by all.

Adoption of Agenda

Vice Chair Foster requested a motion to adopt the February 13, 2023 Carteret County Human Services Board Meeting Agenda.

MOTION— Carol Armistead made a motion to adopt the February 13, 2023 Carteret County Human Services Board Meeting Agenda, seconded by Dr. Gregory Reichert, approved by all.

Public Comment

None

Annual Child Fatality Prevention Team Update

Gina Bruce, Care Management Supervisor



CARTERET COUNTY
North Carolina

CFPT Annual Report

February 13, 2023

Carteret County Child Fatality Prevention Team (CFPT)

- The North Carolina Child Fatality Prevention Team was established in 1991 by the NC General Assembly.
- CFPT seeks to identify and reduce preventable child fatalities through:
 - Review of deaths that occur for children ages 0-17 years of age who reside in Carteret County;
 - Purpose of the reviews are to examine causes and circumstances around each child death.
- The team then:
 - Recommends actions or policy changes that may help prevent future deaths;
 - Data-driven recommendations for legislative and public policy initiatives;
 - Promotion of community-based prevention education with the overall goal to reduce the number and rate of child deaths.
- Team make up includes:
 - One Child Fatality Review Team in each county made up of multidisciplinary and multiagency members;
 - Meet quarterly to review deaths from the previous year;
 - Team Chair submits a report from the review team to the state which includes any recommendations decided on by the team;
 - Submit an annual report to the Board of County Commissioners.

2022 Deaths Reviewed

- Between January 2022 and November 2022, Carteret County CFPT reviewed two child deaths that occurred. Causes of deaths included:
 - Perinatal condition; Newborn affected by incompetent cervix.
 - Illnesses; Septicemia due to Staphylococcus aureus; Cardiac arrest, unspecified.

Recommendations Based on the Deaths Reviewed

- As a result of the review process, the local CFPT made the following recommendations to the North Carolina Child Fatality Prevention Team:
 - Identified the need for mandated reporting protocols between health care providers and law enforcement to DSS.
 - Recommendation of grief counselling for decedent's family was made.

Health Department Updates

Nina Oliver, Health Department Director

Nursing Updates:

- Our Communicable Disease Nurse of 13 years, Donna Faiella retired. Her replacement will begin on 2/13. Her name is Elizabeth Desvoignes. She relocated to this area from California, where she served for 6 years as the CD/TB nurse for a local health department.
- We still have flu vaccine available for anyone who has not had one yet. Please call 5724 or 252-728-8550, Option 3 to schedule an appointment.

Environment Health/Animal Control Updates:

- Amy Guthrie, EH Onsite Supervisor, received an excellent customer service compliment from the Town Manager of Pine Knoll Shores.

“I want to send our gratitude to your Dept for the stellar work by Amy Guthrie. I’m probably not telling you something you don’t already know; she is very good at what she does and she is a pleasure to work with. We are replacing the drain lines at our Town Hall and she has been an incredibly helpful asset to us. I can’t

spell septic, and she has been exceptionally helpful in breaking this stuff down (no pun intended) to me. So great work by Amy.”

Health Education Updates:

- The Health Education Team presented to the PTO at Broad Creek Middle School on Wednesday, January 18th at 6 pm on Vape Prevention. They will also present on March 22, 2023 Vaping Health Issues at East Carteret High School 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. This is in partnership with Carteret Community College through a program called Carteret Links. Dr. Williams provided an updated on the Opioid Crisis on January 26th. Kathy Foster will be doing a suicide prevention one on February 28th.
- The Health Education Team will be working with Carteret County Schools to provide the Catch My Breath Curriculum which is a peer-reviewed, evidence-based youth vaping prevention program.

Dental Updates:

- The Miles of Smiles Dental Program was applied for and was awarded a grant of \$5,000 from Delta Dental. The funding will be used to increase the number of uninsured children that we are able to treat and provide dental health services to in Carteret County.

WIC Updates:

- WIC waivers were extended until August 2023. Physical presence, proof of income and proof of ID are not required under these waivers.

Admin Updates:

- We have all positions in the health department filled!

COVID Updates:

- We are in low community transmission
- Total cases 18,417; Deaths 163
- Percent of Population Vaccinated with at Least One Dose: 71%
- Percent of Population Vaccinated with Initial Series Completed: 56%
- Percent of Population Vaccinated with at Least One New Booster Dose: 18%
- Website available with state and county level data: <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/>

Darden Eure asked if with the new dental grant will we be seeing patients with other coverage. Nina said our goal is to see patients with other dental insurance in the future, hopefully by April, but it is a long process. Dr. Eure stated it is a complicated process.

DSS Updates

Jessica Adams, DSS Director

Medicaid Updates:

- Omnibus Bill decoupled continuous Medicaid coverage from the PHE. NC is no longer required to maintain coverage as on 4/1/2023. NC Medicaid believes starting April 1 allows us to get system changes, train, and automate as much as possible.
 - We will be starting redeterminations on 4/1/2023. Cases reviewed that result in terminations would end coverage in July.
 - Have to complete within 14 months per the feds.
 - Conducting training on redeterminations that will include all the waivers.
- On April 1, 2023, beneficiaries currently receiving NC Health Choice coverage will move to NC Medicaid.
 - Currently, North Carolina has two similar, but different, programs that offer medical coverage for eligible children age 6 to 18- NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice.
 - With NC Medicaid beneficiaries will:
 - No longer have enrollment fees or copays
 - Be eligible for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) for Medicaid covered services
 - Have pregnancy and 12-month postpartum coverage
 - Be eligible for Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT); a benefit designed to discover and treat health conditions before they become serious
- North Carolina will launch the NC Medicaid Managed Care Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Tailored Plan on April 1, 2023. This is an integrated health plan for individuals with behavioral health needs and intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DDs). NC Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled in a Tailored Plan can choose their primary care provider (PCP) by calling their Tailored Plan until February 27.

Food & Nutrition Updates:

- In North Carolina and nationally, emergency allotments for COVID-19 in the Food and Nutrition Services program will end in March. Households that have been receiving extra FNS benefits (called “emergency allotments”) each month since March 2020 or after will see a reduction in benefits because of a federal change that ends emergency allotments for all states.
 - As part of the COVID-19 public health emergency, families enrolled in the FNS program in North Carolina have been receiving at least \$95 extra per month since March 2020 through emergency allotments. With the end of emergency allotments, the average FNS benefit per person per day will decrease from \$8.12 to \$5.45.
 - Beneficiaries will continue to receive their regular monthly benefit amounts in March 2023 based on a person’s or household’s current eligibility, income, household size and other federal eligibility requirements.

- We are working on messaging to go out via text and phone call by utilizing CodeRed to ensure clients are made aware. They will also receive mailings and other outreach.
- We anticipate that we will see more people who need referrals to other community resources for food and have those options available for clients in need.

LIEAP Updates:

- We have been allocated \$327,149 for FY23. As of today, we have obligated \$269,300, serving 792 households.
- This benefit goes directly to the client's heating source vendor.

Foster Parent Recruitment:

- Prospective Foster Parent Orientation went well last week.
- We currently have six families confirmed to start the class next week and two more that we are waiting to hear from.

Dr. Reichert asked how many Medicaid recerts will be done in a month. Jessica said that it depends on the month. Dr. Williams stated that there are 15,000 residents receiving Medicaid currently. Jessica mentioned that during the recent REDA audit, DSS was dinged on a finding. The policy was reinterpreted, and Carteret County ended up being correct.

Director's Report

Dr. Randall Williams

Consolidated Human Services Director

Dr. Williams thanked the Board members for their support and attending the meetings. He mentioned that today marked the one-year anniversary of the tragic plane accident of the down east residents last year and that several dedications took place earlier in the day. Dr. Williams stated that in November, December, and January the employees of the month were from the Consolidated Human Services Departments.

He then went on to discuss the opioid settlement. Originally Carteret County was slated to get 7.5 million dollars, now that other companies have joined the lawsuit, we will be receiving 10 million over the next 18 years. One million this year and \$500,000 over the next 17. The main expense with these funds will be used to pay for a Post Overdose Response Team. This team is responsible for finding a treating facility for those who overdose. The team consists of two paramedics and four peer support specialists.

The facility in Sea Level is becoming more of a reality. This will not be part of the opioid settlement. Dr. Williams stated that the building will be leased for \$1 a year for 25 years and will be a detox center, a residential & transitional center, and offer psychiatric care. The process will take quite some time but he is hopeful it could be up and running in August of 2024.

He also mentioned that he recently attended a Consolidated Human Services Agency meeting. It was interesting to hear what the other consolidated agencies around the state are doing with their opioid settlement monies.

Next, Dr. Williams introduced Brooke Barnhill. Brooke is a graduate of Croatan High School and has her Masters in Public Health from ECU. She is working with the CDC Foundation to address the opioid problem facing the top 5 counties in North Carolina. Carteret County is one of those counties. Brooke is working on a school-based campaign about the dangers of fentanyl at local schools.

Brooke stated that the students have given her great insight. There are lots of students impacted and they want to learn more about this topic. Students seem excited about the idea of this new resource available to them. Dr. Williams said that Brooke will be going to all three schools with a curriculum for the 9th graders. He said this is a very positive campaign. It is focused more on helping others who may be facing temptation. Many students stated they know how to get drugs easier than they know how to get off of drugs.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

The Carteret County Consolidated Human Services Board went into closed session pursuant to § 143-318.11(a) for the permitted purpose to discuss personnel issues

****CLOSED SESSION****

Adjournment

Kathy Foster asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION – Dr. Gregory Reichert made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Lindsay Creech, approved by all.

Scott E. Cole

Chair, Consolidated Human Services Board

5/15/23

Date

[Signature]

Director, Consolidated Human Services

5/15/23

Date