



STATE OF GEORGIA  
Division of Family and Children Services

Nathan Deal  
Governor

Bobby D. Cagle  
Director

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 2015 MEETING OF THE  
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES

The Clayton County Board of Family and Children Services meeting was held on  
Wednesday, August 26, 2015.

Members Present

Keesha Dabney  
Deborah Lazarus  
Tia Simon  
Keisha Wright-Hill  
Barbara Pulliam

Staff Present

Deneka Manning  
Donna Cason  
Renee Banks  
Andre Chambers

Ms. Dabney called the meeting to order and Ms. Wright-Hill led the invocation.

Audience Participation

None

Minutes

Minutes of the July 22, 2015 meeting were approved.

Program Reports

Social Services

Mr. Chambers went over services report.

Ms. Wright-Hill asked for an explanation of Impact Classes. Mr. Chambers explained it is a training class for new foster parents. Ms. Dabney asked to be notified of the next meeting date.

Ms. Wright-Hill asked what MWO stood for. Mr. Chambers explained Maximum Watchful Oversight.

Eligibility

Ms. Banks discussed OFI changes. She stated as of August 3, Georgia One will no longer exist and Clayton County work will be processed within the county and going back to one

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case manager to one family. Clayton is now a part of District 8, the applications, and renewal volume is extremely heavy and the lobby is getting crowded. We are short staff and struggling for space to sit new employees. Adult Medicaid and child care will be moving back to Clayton also. Ms. Wright-Hill asked about seating space for new employees. Mr. Chambers stated they are adding cubicles.

Ms. Pulliam asked for an explanation of OFI. Mr. Chambers explained OFI stands for Office of Independence where customers go to apply for food stamp, Medicaid, TANF, and child care.

Mr. Chambers explained complications with Georgia One system and shared some reasons why it did not work. He explained the federal government did not like the process and the department could be penalized so changes are being made to resolve issues. Ms. Pulliam asked about funding to help get back into compliance. Mr. Chambers will find out what efforts are being made and follow up.

Ms. Dabney asked about case manager caseloads. Ms. Banks stated they are in the process of setting case load standards now and that they should not be more than 850 families per case manager.

Ms. Manning mentioned as of October 1, customers will no longer be able to apply for food stamps online due to system issues and not sure if this will become a permanent change.

#### Personnel Matters

Closed Session: The affidavit supporting closed session was signed.

Mr. Chambers discussed the personnel report.

#### Other Matters

Mr. Chambers discussed Blue print for Change and HB 177 and provided clip notes.

Mr. Chambers informed the Board that Commissioner Bobby Cagle will be doing road shows to discuss Blue print for Change.

Ms. Dabney invited Mr. Chambers and Ms. Manning to attend a Lunch and Learn on September 10, at the Advocacy Center. The meeting is to reintroduce staff to law enforcement.

Mr. Chambers stated Clayton DFCS will be hosting a stake holder meeting soon.

Mr. Chambers discussed the budget letter with the board for approval. The letter states any expenditures over \$1,000 must be approved by the board and also requesting that any unused County funds will be retained in the cash advance account and used to supplement the upcoming years county budget. Ms. Dabney will sign for submission to

Clayton County Board of Commissioners. Mr. Chambers will meet with Ramona to discuss a decision on unused county funds.

Ms. Pulliam asked to review last year's county budget spreadsheet. Mr. Chambers will get Mary to print it out and follow up.

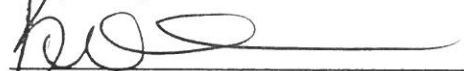
Ms. Dabney mentioned that the Rainbow House was featured on 11 Alive news promoting The Safe Place Program. The Rainbow House is partnering with QT and Libraries for a safe place for runaways to go to and say they need help and they will be provided shelter for 14 days and try to assist with reuniting with their family. Locations are in Clayton, Henry, and Alpharetta.

Ms. Dabney mentioned she is still selling Macy cards for Rainbow House fund raiser and reminded staff of the upcoming Poker Run for the Rainbow event.


Ms. Manning asked the board members to advocate for volunteer groups to renovate the DFCS playground area.

**Date of the Next Meeting:** The date of the next meeting of this Board is Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Keesha Dabney, Chairperson  
Clayton County DFCS Board



Deneka Manning, Deputy Director  
Clayton County DHS



Donna Cason, Administrative Assistant