



Acadiana Area Human Services District-Board Meeting Minutes

Tyler Mental Health Center

November 17, 2014

Members Present: Rob Eastin (Evangeline Parish); Janise Hardy (Vermilion Parish); Patricia LaBrosse (Governor Appointment/Lafayette Parish); Mary Neiheisel (Lafayette Parish); Amy Theobald (St. Landry Parish); Darla Louviere (Iberia Parish); Denise Leonards (Acadia Parish);

Members Absent: VACANT (Governor Appointment/Evangeline Parish); Georgie Blanchard (St. Martin Parish); Claire Daly (Governor Appointment/Iberia Parish)

Employees: Brad Farmer, Executive Director; Monica Echeverria, Administrative Assistant

Others: Kristen Boutte (Guest Speaker-Faith House presentation)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Call to Order		Call to order by Dr. Mary Neiheisel, Chair, at 6:17 p.m.
Roll Call	7 board members personally present.	
Quorum	7 board members personally present.	Chair announced a Quorum present.
Approval of October 27, 2014 Minutes	Amy Theobald / Patricia LaBrosse moved/seconded approval of the October 27, 2014, minutes as presented.	Motion passed unanimously.
Solicit Public Comment Requests	None	
Public Comments/Input	Open meeting laws available. No public comments.	
Guest Speaker – Kristen Boutte, Faith House	Kristen Boutte, Development Awareness Coordinator, Faith House presented their campaign of “No More Violence, No more Silence”. The campaign began at the end of September 2014. The Ray Rice situation was a big motivator for the campaign. The goal of the campaign is to prevent the re-victimization of battered or abused women by asking the people of	

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	<p>our community to stop using victim-blaming words.</p> <p>As part of the campaign participants are asked to sign a pledge against domestic violence. The pledge is not to use violence, speak up if violence is perpetrated, support victims, not use victim-blaming language, and know that violence is a choice made by abusers and they should be held accountable for their actions. Kristen Boutte also took a picture of participants with the No More Violence, No more Silence banner.</p> <p>The campaign has received seven hundred pledges since the end of September 2014. Kristen Boutte recently made a presentation to a class at the University of Louisiana. October is Domestic Violence Awareness month but Faith House plans to continue the campaign to reach as many people in the community as possible. Faith House is also looking for partners and sponsors to team with them in support of the campaign.</p> <p>Faith House currently serves six parishes in the Acadiana area.</p> <p>The Board members all signed the pledge and received a t-shirt. Kristen Boutte took a group picture and plans to post it on the Faith House Facebook page. Brad Farmer stated that the picture could be posted on the AAHSD website.</p>	

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Comments from Ex. Director	<p>Brad Farmer explained that the governor's office has frozen the state budget. There are some exemptions for some items such as supplies and anything that helps with the direct care of patients. The facility will continue to operate but any additional funds must be signed off by him on an exemption form. The district can hire employees but can't send them to be fingerprinted or drug tested because this is considered expenditure.</p> <p>Mr. Farmer shared that several of the district's colleagues have gone through the CARF survey. Brad Farmer and a group from AAHSD recently assisted VOA by answering questions they had about the CARF survey. Brad Farmer also assisted the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office with their CARF survey. He stated that it is beneficial to both companies to do well on the survey.</p> <p>Brad Farmer shared that the RFP for the clinical advisor system was due October 31st. At this time it is still unknown who will receive the contract. AAHSD is pursuing another option and in the long run it will be beneficial to change. The current system being looked at is Care Logic. There are certain bid laws that must be followed for this type of expenditure due to the fiscal year rules.</p> <p>Brad Farmer shared a letter he received from the LSU Social Work Program. The program was awarded a grant to help children ages 15-25. AAHSD will be a</p>	

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	<p>field site for their students. The program will also provide training to our clinical staff.</p> <p>AAHSD has an account with the Community Foundation of Acadiana. It was opened with an initial deposit of three hundred dollars. There is a maintenance fee that is recurring monthly. These funds do not run through the AAHSD budget, but are tracked by the CFO.</p> <p>The Community Foundation strictly houses the funds. Brad Farmer is looking for a group of volunteers to help work with the fundraising activities. He handed out a form for possible volunteers to create an auxiliary to help sponsor and pull off events for AAHSD.</p>	
Comments from Chair	<p>Mary Neiheisel reminded the members about donating toys to the children's services department. She thanked those members who brought their donations to the meeting. Amy Theobald asked about the adoption tree. Brad Farmer explained that children's services would be placing a tree up that had the children's names on it. Staff would be able to choose a child and purchase gifts that the child had requested. There is a fifteen dollar limit.</p> <p>Mary Neiheisel announced that Rob Eastin paid for the meeting refreshments and thanked him.</p> <p>There will be an orientation for the new board members on December 15th. The orientation will take place at 5:00 p.m. before the board meeting.</p>	

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	Patricia LaBrosse asked if the board would be giving a parting gift to Kay Marcel. A certificate will be mailed or presented to her when she returns.	
Date and location of Next Meeting	Monday, December 15, 2014	Date and Time: Monday, December 15, 2014, 6:15 p.m. Location : Tyler Mental Health Center – 302 Dulles Drive, Auditorium 2, Lafayette, LA
Adjournment	Janise Hardy/Amy Theobald-moved/seconded adjournment.	Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.
Submitted by Secretary		 Secretary, AAHSDB