

The Northampton County Board of Social Services met in the Board Room of the Social Services Building on December 20, 2022. The meeting was called to order under code §2.2-3708.2 at 9:00 am. Present were Edith Johnson, Chairwoman, Spencer Murray, Board Member, Janice Langley, Board member, and Mozella Francis, Director.

Mr. Murray had a few questions for clarification on the November board minutes prior to approving the minutes. There was no public comment or correspondence. The approval of the November minutes was deferred to the next month's board meeting when there is a quorum present.

The Board was provided with a copy of the FY 2023 budget. Ms. Francis pointed out that on budget line 872, VIEW Purchases, initially, we received \$45,376 from the state at the beginning of the fiscal year. However, there is a little under \$5K left as we had an abundance of expenses for sheltering. Ms. Francis has asked for an additional \$10K from the State to last until the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Francis brought attention to budget line 858, Staff and Operations Pass Through, where she has requested an additional \$100K for staff and operations. Ms. Francis will review this need as the fiscal year continues. If not needed, Ms. Francis will return funds back to the State. Ms. Francis will discuss the details of the request during the closed session as it relates to staffing.

Ms. Francis advised that she is working on the budget for FY 2024 and will be prepared to submit and present it to County Administrator and Financial Director in January. Ms. Francis reported that she is

scheduled to present an overview of the Agency to the Board of Supervisors in February.

Ms. Francis updated the Board of Directors on some of the programs. She noted that with impending cold weather, we have had an increased number of families who need assistance with utilities and housing. Ms. Francis noted that there is an increase in adults requesting UAI screenings. Department of Rehab services reports that this is occurring across the state. Ms. Francis reported that we are also receiving more APS referrals in the past couple of months and a lot of those referrals are about inadequate sheltering as well.

The VIEW and TANF programs will resume their pre-COVID policy and practices in January 2023. TANF clients who have exceeded the sixty-month lifetime benefit will no longer be eligible effective March 31. Therefore, March will be the last monetary benefit for those who fall within that category. Ms. Francis noted that the agency is working very closely with those who will be the most impacted by the change.

Ms. Francis discussed the outcome of the Office of Children Ombudsman's Report results with the board. Discussion ensued and Ms. Francis will provide more updates at the upcoming meetings.

Ms. Francis requested to discuss the 2023 Compensation Plan during the closed session.

On a motion by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Langley, the Board went into Closed Session in

accordance with Section 2.1-344 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, for the purpose of discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining appointees or employees of any public body.

On a return to the open session, each Board member voted that nothing was discussed that was not in accordance with Section 2.1-344. All agreed.

Ms. Francis informed the board of her upcoming schedule that included a legislative board meeting in Richmond on January 17-19, 2023. Ms. Francis asked the Board if the Board of Directors' meeting could be adjusted to allow her to attend the meeting in Richmond. All agreed to allow for the change.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

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Edith Johnson, Chairman December 20, 2022,	Mozella F. Francis Director