



**County Council of
Beaufort County
Community Services
Committee Meeting**

Chairman
LAWRENCE MCELYNN

Vice Chairman
MICHAEL COVERT

Committee Members
GERALD DAWSON
YORK GLOVER
CHRIS HERVOCHON

County Administrator
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Community Services Committee Minutes

Monday, October 5, 2020 at 2:00 PM

[This meeting is being held virtually in accordance with Beaufort County Resolution 2020-05] THIS MEETING WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. CITIZEN COMMENTS AND PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN WRITING VIA EMAIL TO THE CLERK TO COUNCIL AT SBROCK@BCGOV.NET OR PO DRAWER 1228, BEAUFORT SC 29901. CITIZENS MAY ALSO COMMENT DURING THE MEETING DURING FACEBOOK LIVE

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairman McElynn called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

PRESENT

Committee Chairman McElynn
Committee Vice-Chairman Covert
Council Member Passiment
Council Member Sommerville
Council Member Covert
Council Member Dawson
Council Member Lawson
Council Member Glover
Council Member Howard
Council Member McElynn

ABSENT

Council Member Rodman

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairman McElynn called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

FOIA

Committee Chairman McElynn noted that the Public Notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Chairman McElynn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Dawson, seconded by Council Member Passiment to approve the agenda. The vote: Unanimous without objection. The motion passed. 10:0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes from August 31, 2020

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve the minutes from August 13, 2020. The vote: Unanimous without objection. The motion passed. 10:0

ACTION ITEMS

A Resolution to appropriate \$398,000 from the Community Services Grant Program Funds.

Discussion: Fred Leyda, Human Services Director presented the Resolution to appropriate \$398,000 from the Community Services Grant Program Funds.

The purpose of the grant program is to promote activities that improve the quality of life for all Beaufort County residents.

Mr. Leyda explained the eligibility requirements, review process and the recommendation for the grants program. Eligibility Requirements: Registered 501 (c)3 non-profit in good standing, service Beaufort County residents, an active participant in Achieving Together for Beaufort County goals and objectives, and a registered Human Services Alliance partner. Review Process: 39 applicants received, \$705,208.00 was the amount requested, 60% more applications than the previous year, it is evaluated by a diverse volunteer panel of community professionals, and applications evaluated on their own merit using a competitive process. FY20 Grant Recommendations: Access Health Lowcountry \$20,000.00, Alliance Match Funding \$25,000.00, Beaufort County Community Relations Council \$10,000.00, Beaufort County Disability Coalition \$5,000.00, Bluffton/Jasper County Volunteers in Medicine \$15,000.00, Bluffton Self Help \$10,000.00, Boys and Girls Club of the Lowcountry \$10,000.00, Child Abuse Prevention Association \$17,000.00, Clemson Extension-Beaufort County \$10,000.00, Friends of Carolina Hospice \$10,000.00, Good Neighbor Free Medical Clinic of Beaufort \$25,000.00, HELP of Beaufort \$20,000.00, Hopeful Horizons \$20,000.00, Lowcountry Legal Volunteers \$15,000.00, Lowcountry Food Bank \$5,000.00, Memory Matters \$4,000.00, Military and Veterans Service Alliance (MAVSA) \$5,000.00, Mt. Caramel Baptist Church Med-I-Assist Program \$20,000.00, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Lowcountry \$5,000.00, Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) \$15,000.00, Pregnancy Center and Clinic of the Lowcountry Inc. \$6,000.00, Programs for Exceptional People \$3,000.00, Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Coastal Empire \$19,000.00, Second Helpings \$10,000.00, T4BC Administration \$10,000.00, The Children's Center \$20,000.00, The Literacy Center \$8,000.00, Transitional Workforce Educational Assistance Collaborative (TWEAC) \$9,000.00, United Way of the Lowcountry Inc. HELP line \$20,000.00, Volunteer Tax Assistance Program \$15,000.00, Volunteers in Medicine Hilton Head \$10,000.00.

Mr. Leyda presented Completed Activities for FY20 and Planned Activities for FY21. FY20 Completed: 1,921 low-income, uninsured patients receive medical assistance through AccessHealth network free clinics and partner providers, over 2,000 food-insecure individuals were served at 26 agencies across Beaufort County, 957 exiting/retiring mariens received local career transition information as part of a talent-retention program, 319 children received victim advocacy and trauma focused therapy. Planned for FY21: Implementing distance learning for both children and adult education programs, supporting the growth demand for basic needs resulting from COVID, enhancing medical services for low-income, uninsured residents, providing outreach and support services to low-income, at-risk children and families.

Motion: It was moved my Councilmember Covert, seconded by Councilmember Howard to approve the resolution to appropriate \$398,000 from the Community Services Grant Program Funds. The vote: Unanimous without objection. The motion passed. 10:0

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion of DSN Department Update- Bill Love, Director of DSN.

The mission of Beaufort County Disabilities and Special Needs Department to provide quality services and support to consumers and facilitate opportunities for them to live productively and inclusively in the community.

Mr. Love explained the BCDSN workings: BCDSN serves individuals with intellectual and/or developmental delays, Autism, or related disabilities such as cerebral palsy, Spinal Bifida, down's syndrome, and fragile X syndrome from birth to death. All Services are based on assessed needs and must comply with local, state, and federal policies. BCDSN became a County Department in 1986 and provides services under the direction of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services (Medicaid), South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (SCDDSN), and Beaufort County. BCDSN has 128 staff, this staff is trained/re-trained in specific areas to maintain professionalism and provide utmost care to consumers. SCDDSN receives funding from federal Medicaid and SC Legislature, determines the individual's eligibility for services, determines what services BCDSN can provide, contracts with Beaufort County to provide those services, sets the rate of services, and monitors BCDSN for compliance with SCDDSN and federal regulations. An individual can apply for services by calling 800-289-7012. BCDSN currently services 52 individuals in-home and 151 individuals through adult day programs and supports 34 others at qualified private providers in the county. BCDSN also provides a 4-week summer camp that services 30 campers ages 6-21.

Discussion of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department- Steve Donaldson, BCADAD

Discussion: Steve Donaldson, with Beaufort County Alcohol and Drug, presented updates with BCADAD.

Mr. Donaldson explained that patients continue to engage in services at a 48.27% reduction from last year. There are 3 full-time counselors and 2 grant-funded positions vacant. Adolescent numbers are alarmingly low (7 in services) when schools open-up referrals are anticipated. Intensive Outpatient Programs are not active (cannot do virtual groups, except ADSAP per regulatory bodies). Groups are high revenue producers. The absences is noticed, but the departmental fund balance is balancing the bottom line. Communications with referral sources have increased to alert to virtual care options and to dispel the myth that we are closed. Continue to communicate interest with Drug Court continuation with the solicitor's office. The department has communicated with an attorney hired by the solicitor to target the DUI's and dispositions in Beaufort County. Public Service Announcements are being disseminated regarding the Opioid Crisis and the promotion of drop boxes and other safe disposals of medications.

Mr. Donaldson updated the Committee on how services are being provided during COVID. All services are done virtually except for urine drug screens. Staff was converted to mobile computers and cell phones to provide telephonic or telehealth services as a response to COVID. Patients without technology to engage in services are purchased a flip phone with month to month services provided through a grant. Medication-Assisted Treatment referrals continue. Department continues efforts to distribute overdose reversal medication to patients, support sources, and the community. BCADAD's website offers virtual counseling links, PSA's, expanded resources for citizens to gain support during COVID, and a link for satisfaction surveys and input.

Mr. Donaldson mentioned that prevention Services are being provided by starting a monthly newsletter, through social media, curbside Narcan, and Detera Bag events.

Mr. Donaldson stated that some accomplishments and outcomes during the first quarter are, 71% of patients successfully completed services, 84% of community partners were satisfied or very satisfied with the services received. 100% of patients surveyed were satisfied/very satisfied with the services received. The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) visited on August 12-13, 2020. A 3-year accreditation award is expected.

Mr. Donaldson reviewed what is new with BCADAD. The Beaufort Memorial Hospital and the Alliance Health System are partnered with BCADAD and serves on their controlled substance task force and provides technical assistant for new emergency department services. The Department is providing the oversight of the New Paths Program, which is for women transitioning from corrections. Peer Recovery Services are developing through grants made available. The Department's Counselors are receiving capacity building opportunities through the generosity of the Horry County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department. New Urine Drug Screening Labs are open through the assistance of SC State Infrastructure funding.

Mr. Donaldson explained what is next for BCADAD. The department is adjusting to the new virtual normal, working to expand the use of Novatime in cooperation with the Human Resources Department, development of an anti-stigma and MAT program/series for the County Channel is in discussion with leaders in the field throughout SC. The Department will seek to fill a grant-funded Adolescent Counselor position for the Right Choices Program in the Beaufort County School system with school reopens.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 pm.

Ratified by Committee: December 7, 2020