

Child Advocates of Blair County/Blair County Head Start

Director's Report to BOD

July 24, 2018

Program Information:

- *Evergreen Manors:* The internal wall cabinets have been installed. The installation of playground equipment will complete the project.
- *Graystone:* Dan Hoover, BOD Chairperson; Daryl Sarver, CFO; Ken Poorman, Facilities & Transportation Manager and I met with Jeff Long at the Graystone Grand Palazzo on June 14th. We toured the designated space and were provided with floor plans. We are working on developing plans for completion of the layout of the space.
- *Greenwood Playground:* Sidewalk work is complete and it looks great! The excavation and leveling of the playground was completed on June 18 and 19 and the poured rubber foundation was completed on June 25. The pouring of the surface material was completed on June 26.
- *Wright School Nehemiah Project:* **No updates at this time.**
- *Healthy Blair County Coalition (HBCC) Dental Care Work Group:* Dental screenings by Dr. Novak were completed on May 29 at Greenwood. A total of 11 children were screened, 8 Head Start children and 3 siblings. Dr. Novak will work with our staff to schedule screenings at the beginning of the new program year.
- *Family Services, Inc. Homeless Shelter:* **No updates at this time.**

Grants:

- *2017-2022 Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program (HSSAP):* The narrative portion of the 2018-19 Continuation Grant application was submitted and received final approval on May 25. The budget portion of the grant was submitted on June 7 and received final approval on June 15. Distribution of the funding should begin now that the state budget is final.
 - A budget revision for the 2017-18 was submitted on June 21 and received specialist and OCDEL approval on June 22, final approval was granted on June 27. We requested the purchase of 2 buses and a variety of playground equipment for Greenwood, Evergreen, Fairview and Tyrone.
- *Federal Grants:*
 - The COLA application was submitted on June 15.
 - The Early Head Start (EHS) Conversion of Slots application was submitted on June 18. I spoke to our Regional Specialist and her plan was to review it and then send to Regional Office for final review by June 27th. We have not received any communication related

to questions or concerns. The application consists of four parts: a narrative, a budget and budget narrative, program schedules for Head Start and EHS showing how each option will change, and evidence of approval by the BOD and Policy Council. The request is to convert 30 preschool Head Start slots to 20 homebased Early Head Start slots.

- *PA PreK Counts*: The proposed \$40 million increase in funding for PKC and HSSAP was reduced to \$25 million with \$20 million going to PKC and \$5 million to Head Start. We received notification that the PKC grant was awarded to us for the next five years at the same level of funding as our previous grant, \$433,500 to serve 51 children.

Personnel:

- Interviews for teachers and a CDE Supervisor were conducted. Interviews for additional teachers, 2 CDE Behavioral Coaches, the maintenance assistant and bus aides are scheduled for the beginning of August.
- 4 new Case Managers have been hired and are participating in income verifications and home visits.
- The newly hired Intensive Case Manager resigned after the first week on the job. Interviews were conducted and the position has been filled.

On the Radar:

- Regional specialists were on-site June 12 to provide T&TA related to our child supervision policy and staff training on everyone's role in ensuring no child is left unattended. They also provided information about EHS and worked with the CDE staff around Practice Based Coaching.
- *Website*: The final details for the revision of the BOD and staff sides of the website are on hold while we try to locate our web designer. Our last phase of the website revitalization will be a Parent Portal. Parents will be given a secure access to information related to the classroom in which their child is enrolled. This will include items such as a classroom calendar, lesson plan and individualized child progress.
- *Parents As Leaders Training*: The advocacy training and Legislative Brunch will be scheduled in late September or early October.

Action Items:

- Job Descriptions