

# HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

301 N. Main Street, Adrian, MI 49221

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## MEMBERS

*Dawn Bales, Nancy Jenkins-Arno, James Goetz*

## MEETING LOCATION

Committee Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
301 N. Main Street  
Adrian, MI 49221

**MINUTES:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 - 1:30 p.m.

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**Present:** Commissioners Bales, Jenkins-Arno, Goetz, and Stimpson

**Also Present:** Marty Marshall, Kim Murphy, and Shannon Elliott

### I. Approval of Minutes

*Motion by Goetz, seconded by Jenkins-Arno, to approve the March 8, 2022, minutes. Motion carried.*

**II. Child Abuse Awareness:** Nancy Bishop and Amanda Scott were present to discuss the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month. The CAC opened in 2017. They offer counseling services to children who are victims of various type of abuse and trauma, they provide caregivers where needed, and provide a consolidated safe place for forensic interviews of children that have been physically, sexually, or emotionally abused. Since opening, the number of children that have needed their services has increased. In 2018 they serviced 150 children, in 2019 they serviced 225 children, in 2020 this serviced 250 children, in 2021 they serviced approximately 256 children. They do believe that the true number of children being abused will not be known until schools are fully open and children have a safe place to talk. Historically, children will delay their reporting. It is not uncommon to have reports of abuse not become known for 1 to 3 years post the event. This past month there were 42 open CPS cases, 198 referrals, 87 investigations of abuse. Of that 87, 25 were substantiated. There are currently 146 children in foster care during the month of March. There is still a desperate need for foster care families. In the past, relatives of the family were permitted to act as foster parents without any licensing. However, the law has changed and requires ALL foster parents, whether related to the child or not, must become licensed.

**III. Department Highlights:** There were not department highlights.

### IV. Updates / Other Business

Scholarship Fund: The Board of Commissioner scholarship fund is short by \$24.64 from having enough to cover the two \$500 scholarships offered. The Committee did select two students to receive the scholarships. Out of 16 applicants, one candidate from Blissfield, and one from Sand Creek were chosen to be awarded the scholarships. Commissioner Jenkins-Arno will make the presentation at the May 15<sup>th</sup> awards ceremony.

The minutes of the Region 2 Area Agency on Aging Board were available for review.

The minutes from the Human Services Collaboration were available for review.  
The April newsletter was also available.

**V. Plan Objectives:** Marty mentioned that Bev Ahlers continues to promote financial wellness with county employees.

**VI. Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**VII. Adjournment**

*Motion by Jenkins-Arno, seconded by Goetz, to adjourn the meeting at 2:02 p.m. Motion carried.*