



Richmond – Anson – Scotland Tri-County Children's Advocacy Center

**Human Services Building
125 Caroline Street, Rockingham, NC 28379
Phone: 910-997-8400**

The Tri-County Children's Advocacy Center meeting was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 3:30pm at the CAC building and via webinar. The following were in attendance:

Robby Hall, Richmond County Director of Social Services
Lula Jackson, Anson County Director of Social Services
April Snead, Scotland County Director of Social Services
Lynette Parks, Paralegal, Richmond County DSS
Tierra Gilbert, QCPI Supervisor
Kendra Faries, Public Health Educator
Tracy Grimes, Assistant Prosecutor
Sandra McDonald, Richmond County Schools
Dustin McQueen, Special Victims Unit, Richmond County Sheriff Department
Patricia Powell-Patrick, Scotland County School Lead Counselor
Sheila Brosier, Administrative Assistant

Robby Hall reviewed the Action Steps identified at the last meeting:

1. Plan an open house to bring awareness to the neighboring businesses and community - April 26th from 3:30pm to 6:30pm.
2. Search for a hospital bed and weight scale (check with hospitals, health department)
3. IT staff will inquire about the lease to own option program offered by iRecord. Waiting on response.
4. Lula Jackson will follow-up with Jamie Adams on available dates to schedule MDT training in Anson County.
5. Identify sites in Anson and Scotland counties to hold MDT meetings.

CAC will plan to host the open house on April 26th (in lieu of the next meeting) from 3:30pm to 6:30pm. It will be open to the community and surrounding businesses to tour and hear about the Tri-County CAC's purpose and mission. Light refreshments will be served and the event will be advertised in the newspaper. Invitations will be sent to the county manager and commissioners and city officials. Kendra Faries will create a flyer for the event. Lula Jackson and April Snead will send Kendra a list of contacts for their respective counties to send invitations.

Kudos to Kendra Faries for finding a medical examination bed and stool at a fraction of the cost. It was delivered and is situated in the CAC building. Area of Richmond Transit has surplused a sofa with matching chair and two tables that we will obtain free of charge.

IT staff received a quote for the iRecord system and is waiting on a response for the lease to own option. The system will be acquired using this fiscal year's funding.

MDT team meetings will begin in Anson and Scotland counties in July. April Snead is working on reserving the conference room at the EMT and Lula Jackson found office space in Anson county. Kelly Kirk is attending Forensic Interview training and Tierra Gilbert, Lynette Parks and Linda Goodwin completed MDT Facilitator training.

The funding request from Anson County was approved and will be combined with Richmond and Scotland counties' funding to purchase equipment and other items for the building and pay for training. Sandhills and Eastpoint have committed to donating funds for mental health assessment services. Robby Hall noted the CAC bill was written and allows CACs to get funds directly from the state. We will apply for eligible grants as they become available.

Robby Hall briefly discussed the Opioid Settlement Fund. Richmond County has joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids and has been allotted opioid settlement funds in the amount of \$4,825,356.00 to be distributed over an 18 year payment plan during 2022 through 2038. The first two allotments received by the county for fiscal year 2022-2023 total \$592,992. Opioid settlement funds may be used to support programs or services that serve persons with opioid use disorder or any co-occurring substance use disorder or mental health condition. The Drug Endangered Family Taskforce will implement collaborative strategic planning to provide oversight and monitor how the opioid settlement funds are used in the county.

The committee identified the following action steps for the next meeting.

1. Continue planning for the CAC open house - April 26th from 3:30pm to 6:30pm.
2. Search for a weight scale and other equipment, furniture, etc., for the CAC building.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20pm. The next meeting is Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at 3:30pm at the CAC building and via webinar.