

**ADULT FOSTER CARE LICENSING ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 10, 2021**

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** Kathy Lentz called meeting to order.
2. **Roll Call:** Roll call of council members completed via participant list, showing a quorum. *Meeting was held virtually*
 - a. **Members Present:** Kathy Lentz, Jessica Kross, Connie Clauson, Jennifer Warnos, Salli Christenson, Belinda Hawks, Linda Lawther, Danis Russell, Cheryl Loveday and Deborah Mock.
 - b. **Members Absent:** None
 - c. **Adult Foster Care/Home for the Aged Licensing Staff Present:** Jay Calewarts, Director, Dawn Timm, Area Manager and Ashley Harris, Executive Secretary.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Salli Christenson moved to approve the Agenda as reviewed with support from Deborah Mock, Agenda approved per common consensus.
4. **Approval of Minutes – November 4, 2020: Approval of Minutes:** Kathy Lentz moved to approve Minutes with support from Linda Lawther and Danis Russell, approved per common consensus.
5. **Public Comments:** N/A
6. **Council Business:**
 - A. **COVID-19 vaccine rollout:** DHHS is overseeing the rollout and is doing weekly calls to provide an overview of how it is progressing. Data is showing that acceptance of the vaccination varies by area of the state. A lot of staff are indicating that they are nervous about the first round and are possibly waiting for the second round. It was recently determined that AFC licensing consultants can piggyback on clinics for AFC's. Salli Christenson raised concerns over those that live in congregate setting should be offered this as well, even though they do not live in an AFC. Cheryl Lovejoy talked about her experience with Oakland County to get this population vaccinated. Dan Russell mentioned that Flint is having trouble getting supplies and that is causing frustrations. Linda Lawther spoke to the disparity between health departments across the state is causing great frustration. Recently the Governor created a work group to help address some of the challenges being seen.

B. COVID-19 alternative placements: This was a question for the department – is the department seeing many? Jay indicated that we had quite a few at the end of last year and seems to have slowed down as of now. Pine Rest will open up soon to provide alternate placement as a 10-bed unit. DHHS has also put out assistance so that placement does not have to happen. In some cases, local EMS have covered staff that were positive until others could cover. Deb Mock spoke about staffing issues being the worst ever and the experience she had with a staffing agency that DHHS listed was not helpful and very unresponsive. Jay would like to be informed if there are future issues like this. Linda Lawther said that the level of the application process almost in itself is a detour ant. Connie Clauson shared her experiences, one positive and one negative. Kathy Lentz indicated that providers in her county are reducing capacity or combing homes.

C. AFC Advisory Board member appointments update: Danis Russell, Jennifer Warnos, Salli Christenson and Connie Clauson were all reappointed, leaving one vacancy. The vacant spot is for an AFC provider. If you have any ideas, please send to Jay. The council expressed their desire to remain virtual to meet. Linda Lawther made a motion, Salli Christenson seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried, to have the following presented and placed in the minutes:

AFC Licensing Advisory Council recommends and requests, that the Department explore avenues so that the AFC Advisory Council can continue to meet via video conference. AFC Advisory Council members have found video conferencing to be effective and more efficient and has the potential to increase the public's participation due to ease of use. AFC Advisory council is advisory only and does not make decisions.

D. Investigations and Inspections status: Renewals are being done in person for the most part and the consultants are requesting paperwork on the front end. Investigations are being handled case by case and the number of complaints has gone down a little. Renewals appear overdue; however, BFS is a little behind and in some cases environmental health is a little behind. Workloads are doing well currently; we only have one AFC licensing consultant vacancy in Detroit.

E. Review of Data – does it look like we lost any capacity in the state due to COVID-19: Discussed under division update

7. Division/Bureau Updates – Jay Calewarts

- **Bureau Updates:** Jay Calewarts went over the statistics that were provided to council members. Nothing significant; starting to see large group twin-twenty homes convert to HFA's.

Helpful Links & Resources

You can email MDHHS-COVID-AFC-HFA-Response@michigan.gov if you would like to be included on future email notices.

You can also go to www.michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine to get updates on vaccine roll out and other vaccine related info.

F. ADJOURNMENT: Salli Christenson motioned to have meeting adjourned with support from Kathy Lentz.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Conference Room: Upper Level (UL) DMB-ConfRoom-Ottawa 4