

MINUTES

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

DATE: Wednesday, February 20, 2019

Call to Order

Representative Mary Whiteford, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Attendance

Members Present: Representatives Whiteford, Green, Inman, Allor, Yaroch, Glenn, Huizenga, VanWoerkom, Hammoud, Hoadley, Love, Brixie, and Cherry.

No members were absent.

Approval of the February 13, 2019 Minutes

Representative Hoadley made a motion to approve the February 13, 2019 meeting minutes. There being no objection, the minutes were adopted.

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Presentation on Child Welfare Programs and Services

Stacie Bladen, Deputy Director of Policy and Program for the Children's Services Agency of DHHS, presented an overview of child welfare programs and services. Accompanying Ms. Bladen for the presentation were 3 DHHS managers:

- Sarah Goad – Manager of the Foster Care Program
- Colin Parks – Manager of Child Protective Services
- Catherine Hoover – Manager of the Adoption Program

Ms. Bladen also provided written testimony, and she and DHHS staff answered questions from Subcommittee members.

DHHS agreed to provide information to the Subcommittee on the following issues:

- The percentage of children in foster care in Michigan that have had a trauma assessment.
- A full list of changes implemented in response to the recent Child Protective Services audit by the Legislative Auditor General.
- The number of child deaths from abuse and neglect.
- Document with detailed information listing all of the resources and programs available for youth transitioning out of foster care.

Presentation by Michigan Federation for Children and Families and Wellspring Lutheran Services

Janet Reynolds, Executive Director of the Michigan Federation for Children and Families, and Sean de Four, Senior Vice President and COO at Wellspring Lutheran Services, testified before the Subcommittee on child welfare programs and services. Ms. Reynolds and Mr. de Four also provided written testimony and answered questions from Subcommittee members.

Presentation by Association of Accredited Child and Family Agencies

Michael Williams, President and CEO of the Orchards Children's Services, testified before the Subcommittee. Mr. Williams provided written testimony.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Whiteford at 11:51 a.m.