



**Town of Greenwich**  
**BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**ATTENDING**

**Board Attendees:** Barbara Nolan, Abbott Jones, Jeffrey Medina, Natalie Queen, Alan Gunzburg, Winston Robinson.

**Staff Attendees:** Alan Barry

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson, Barbara Nolan, called the meeting to order at 7:00PM in the DHS Conference Room at Town Hall.

**BOARD PROTOCOLS**

The minutes of the November 21st Meeting were approved 6-0 as written.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Mrs. Nolan introduced the discussion by relating that many in the community do not understand the purpose of the Department of Human Services and also have a distorted view of how the department is serving the community. Some members of the community question the funding of the department and the population groups that are served by the department. The general discussion by the Board concerned the mobilization of bias against certain ethnic groups in Greenwich and is operationalized through criticism of the Department of Human Services. One example of this issue is a comparison of the department's funding compared to other Towns/Cities and an assertion that the funding for the department is not in line with other comparable Towns. It was discussed that because of the idiosyncratic nature of Connecticut's government structure, with no county government, each Town/City's response to establishing human services is different and not easy to compare. Mrs. Nolan emphasized the need for the Board and the department to be communicating throughout the community the role the department is playing in contributing to the quality of life in Greenwich. It is important to show the successful outcomes generated by the department. Mrs. Nolan ended the discussion by stating that any changes in the department's budget be provided in a timely manner so that the Board has enough time to discuss it.

**2018 MEETING  
SCHEDULE**

The meeting schedule for 2018 was unanimously agreed upon.



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**COMMISSIONER'S  
REPORT**

1. October Operating Statement and Dashboard – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter reports from all the community partners will be reviewed and then invoices paid. There are no significant variances from the operating statement.
2. An audit has been completed on business office. The recommendations are as follows: obtain a new safe, any surplus of food cards, gas cards, bus passes must reside in the finance departments safe. Lastly, the department will complete monthly audits on petty cash.
3. Also provided was the monthly dashboard along with the YTD. It was also provided in graph form and compared fiscal year '17 to '18. There were more referrals in '17 due to change in client status remaining open. This will even out at times go on. First time admissions and readmissions are compared in the charts provided.
4. Achieved goals from clients were 66% in '18 and was 68% in '17. Percent of goals being discontinued is lower so the services are becoming more accurate and reflective of the department's efforts.
5. Working on getting a health survey instituted for 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade and in both public and private schools and making progress. BOE will not fund the survey. They will implement it but not fund it. Dr. Barry will seek alternative funding for this initiative.
6. Achievement gap work group is being formed that will discuss developing strategies to help the 0-3 age range

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Board Meeting will be held on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 in the DHS Conference Room at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Medina