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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
WASHINGTON COUNTY
33 West Washington St.
Hagerstown, MD 21740

301.791.3076
301.790.3502 [FAX]
MD Relay 411

ALLEGANY CO. OFFICE
152 Baltimore St. STE 100
Cumberland, MD 21502

240.362.7329

GARRETT CO. OFFICE
23789 Garrett Highway, Ste. 6
McHenry MD 21541

301.334.8136
301.334.1400 [FAX]

Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: December 17, 2025

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual

Attendance

- Stacey Ferrare, Executive Director
- Brian Grimm
- Sharon Plump
- Mike Geneviro
- Juli McCoy
- Sarah Nadeu
- Nitza Rivera
- Ashley Gossert
- Kevin Simmers

1. Call to Order and Welcome

- The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.
- Welcome remarks were delivered by Stacey Ferrare, Executive Director.

2. Introductions

- Each attendee introduced themselves, sharing their name, role, organization or business affiliation, and, where applicable, their length of service on the Board.

3. Executive Director's Report

- Ms. Ferrare provided updates on future funding streams currently being pursued through various grant applications.
- Updates were also shared regarding ongoing grants, program progress, and partnerships with:
 - Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
 - Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
 - Recovery Friendly Workplace (RFW) initiative
- No questions were posed.
- Sharon Plump offered comments regarding DORS Notices of Grant Awards (NOGAs), highlighting delays in federal funding during this period. She will follow up to request additional updates.

4. Performance Report

- Ashley Gossert, MIS Supervisor, presented the Performance Report for the Western Maryland Region.
- No questions were posed.
- Brian Grimm noted the absence of red indicators in the report columns, which internally has earned the nickname "the Christmas Tree Report." He commended the strong performance, particularly in the youth population—a group historically difficult to meet or exceed performance measures with.

5. Board Disclosure

- Ms. Ferrare disclosed an event involving the termination of a WMC employee, which led to the discovery of an email and subsequent consultation with Executive Counsel.
- Based on this review, allegations of fraud/misconduct were elevated to the State, prompting an end-of-cycle review by funders through the Maryland Department of Labor.
- Ms. Ferrare reported that the review has been completed, with allegations still under substantiation and guidance pending from both the Maryland and U.S. Departments of Labor.
- A report was generated, and corrective actions were identified. Next steps will be shared with the Board once finalized.

- No questions or comments were posed at this time.

6. Board Chair Nomination

- Kevin Simmers, of Brooke's House, was introduced as the proposed new Board Chair. He was given the opportunity to speak and stand for the position.
- A motion was made to accept his nomination.
- A majority vote was recorded among voting members present, with the exception of new Board member Nitza Rivera, who raised concerns about a potential conflict of interest and abstained from voting.
- Ms. Rivera requested a copy of the bylaws, which will be provided to all Board members in attendance.
- The group agreed to pause the vote and reconvene at a future meeting to finalize the decision.

7. Action Item

- Juli McCoy requested that grant applications be shared with future Board members.
- This action item was noted by Ms. Ferrare as part of efforts to increase business involvement and ensure compliance with the requirement that 51% of the Board and voting membership represent business interests.

8. Adjournment/Summary

- Summary of items: Doodle poll to determine next quarterly will be sent out with meeting minutes along with grant application and bi-laws.
- Meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:10am.