

**King and Queen Department of Social Services  
King and Queen CH, VA 23085  
Advisory Board Minutes  
October 24, 2023**

**Present**

Vivian Seay, County Administrator  
Angie Alley, Chair  
Bette Albert, Vice Chair  
Alda Norris, Member  
Sandra Burrell, Member  
Betty A. Dougherty, Director  
Linda Cooke, Assistant Director  
Kittie Scott, Benefit Program Supervisor  
Lauren Smith, Benefit Program Specialist  
Lisa Lose, Administrative Office Manager

**Social Services Advisory Board Meeting Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. on October 24, 2023, by Angie Alley, Chair.

**Public Comment Period**

No one present for public comment.

**Consent Agenda**

The August 22, 2023, meeting minutes, statistical reports, and the Directors report were included in the consent agenda. Bette Albert made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Alda Norris seconded the motion. The consent agenda was approved.

**Assistant Director's Report**

**National Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

October is set aside for National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which has been observed nationally for nearly three decades as an opportunity to bring light to the issue of domestic violence and its effects on victims, survivors, families, and communities. Did you know that according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the United States have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner? If you know someone that is in an unhealthy or abusive relationship, call Virginia's 24-hour Family Violence & Sexual Assault Hotline number 1-800-838-8238.

**Christmas Wishes Program**

The Christmas program is off to a running start for the 2023 season. Our agency is accepting applications until November 15, 2023. Please refer any families with children that are interested in applying to King and Queen Department of Social Services at 804-785-5977. If you know someone that would be interested in sponsoring, please do the same.

## **Personnel**

I am happy to report that our agency is fully staffed. In the month of September, we hired a Benefit Programs Specialist, Family Services Specialist, and a Program Coordinator. Currently, we have no open positions at our agency.

## **New Energy Program Presentation**

Kittie Scott and Lauren Smith gave the New Energy Program Presentation.

## **2024 Social Services Advisory Board Meeting Schedule**

The following 2024 meeting schedule was proposed by the Social Services Director:

February 27, 2024  
April 23, 2024  
June 25, 2024  
August 27, 2024  
October 28, 2024  
December 17, 2024

Bette Albert made a motion to approve the schedule and Sandra Burrell seconded the motion. The 2024 Proposed Social Services Board Meeting Schedule was approved. All meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in the County Administration Building.

## **Board Member Agenda Items and Updates from Districts**

The County Administrator announced that on November 9 there will be a ribbon cutting with Riverstreet to celebrate the finishing of the main infrastructure held at the library at 1 p.m. She introduced Erin Lazar as the Director of Community Programming and Tourism. Erin explained her role and informed the members that Jesse Kelley will be joining her on November 6 as Deputy Director of Community Programming and Tourism. Erin answered all questions posed by the Board about the planned community activities and library services.

Alda Norris passed a signup sheet for members to participate with TRIAD in efforts to bringing together seniors and law enforcement in a cooperative effort to fight crime. The first meeting was October 18, 2023 and she would email the other meeting dates. Alda also suggested that it might be worth having a deputy join the Advisory Board meetings even if it was every other month. Vivian informed Alda that the Sheriff's department is understaffed, but there is a quarterly report that is provided by the Sheriff's department.

Bette Albert updates the members that a few people that weren't originally connected with Riverstreet are now connected. Vivian reveals that over 1,000 people are connected and that more had signed up than originally hoped for.

The Director requested that the members help spread the word about Purpose Medical Outreach. King & Queen not on their schedule yet but they plan to visit Poroporone Church monthly on the second Wednesday of each month. They need to see that there is a need/interest within the county for their services. This

program is to help people that do not have medical coverage. Betty distributed Purpose Medical Outreach's brochures.

**Meeting adjourned by Angie Alley, at 11:55 p.m.**