

Madison Shared Services Meeting
Madison County Public Library
October 29, 2024, 9:30 AM – 11 AM

Present: Donna Hagan, Tonya Bell, Cindy Hutto, Laura Blue, Elizabeth Schmidt, Gabrielle Aboki, Cumi Allen, Lisa Hill Boatwright, David Boatwright, Jessica Brantley, Lisa Burnham, Lorraine Buffington, Jacob Clore, Yolanda Gillette-Carlson, Debbie Graham, Susie Hernandez, Tamara Johnson, Jessica Long, Justin McCray, Pamela Moore, and Sebastian Plank,

Agencies Represented: Healthy Start Coalition, Madison County Health Department, Jefferson County Health Department, Battlefront, T.E.A.M. Dad, Disc Village, FDLRS NEFEC, Partnership for Strong Families (PFSF), Big Bend AHEC, Big Bend Cares, FDOH Healthy Start, Refuge House, and Endeavors.

Tonya Bell opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Jacob Clore, PFSF, advised that three children had been removed from their home in Madison County. Two of these children were placed with relatives and one was placed in a foster home. He also told us that Madison still has \$635.88 available. He advised they have helped 6 Madison families and out of these families, 15 children have been assisted as well.

Sebastian Plank, also with PFSF, said that when they have to remove a child/or children from a home, they prefer to release them to a family member. If the relatives are not available, they have to send the children to foster homes. The risk for these children is that sometimes they don't fit in with the foster family per se, the family can release the children back to the program and risk having to try out another foster family. He said that things seem to go easier when the children are placed with relatives. He also said that he would be happy to educate people if they want to become a foster family.

Jessica Long with the Madison and Jefferson County Health Department is the Heart Health Plus Outreach Manager, and the Heart Health Plus Program. She educates people by offering Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring Classes and they also have NARCAN stands at their businesses.

Lisa Hill Boatwright with Battlefront said that she assists pregnant and postpartum women with a program called Moving Beyond Depression.

Jessica Long, Disc Village, advised that they finally have a full staff. Lisa Burnham is a new employee, and she is a new counselor as well.

Lorraine Buffington, with FDLRS NEFEC, told us that she is a child find specialist and that she also does development screenings for children aged 2 ½ and 5 years old.

Pamela Moore is with the Refuge House. They provide direct services to victims of domestic violence, as well as to eliminate such violence through community education and public advocacy.

Justin McCray is with Endeavors and advised that this visit was his first time joining us and he is glad to be a part of our Shared Services.

Yolanda Gillette-Carlson, with Big Bend AHEC, reminded everyone that they offer assistance through these programs: Diabetes Empowerment Education, Tobacco Free Florida AHEC Cessation, Health Insurance Navigator as well as free cooking demonstrations, free financial literacy, and free health education.

Our next meeting will be held on *26 March 2025*.

Notes taken by Laura Blue