

Stokes County Department of Social Services

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Annual Report 2009-2010

2009-2010 Board Members

Jan Culler, *Chairperson*
Linda Hicks, *Vice-Chairman*
Patricia Hairston, *Member*
Louise Flynt, *Member*
Jimmy Walker, *Member*



Leadership Team

Kristy Preston, *Director*
Marsha Marshall, *Child Welfare Mgr.*
Stacey Elmes, *Adult Services Mgr.*
Patty St. Hilaire, *Administrative Mgr.*

To the Citizens of Stokes County...

The past year has been a challenge for our community. As our economy struggled, more community members found themselves in need of social services. Throughout this demanding time, the staff at the Department of Social Services has maintained a sincere commitment to providing compassionate, accurate and timely assistance to families in need in Stokes County. Our management team, social workers, caseworkers and support staff have worked diligently to meet the needs of the community. We take seriously our commitment to be "responsible and sensitive to the needs of each individual or family we serve." Because our agency exists to help people in crisis develop the skills they need to stand on their own, individuals who find themselves in need should not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to serve you, the citizens of Stokes County.

As we end one fiscal year and begin another, we offer thanks to our community for the opportunity to serve you and look with anticipation towards what we hope will be a promising year.

Kristy Preston, Director

CHILD WELFARE

Child Protective Services

Receive and assess reports of child abuse or neglect. Services are provided twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

- 716 Reports Received
- 424 Reports Assessed Involving 821 Children
- 72 Reports were Substantiated or Found to be in Need of Services
- 30 Average Monthly Case Management Cases
- 96.5% of Children who received services remained with parents or relatives

Adoption Services

Adoption services are provided to birth parents, children in need of adoption, and adoptive parents.

- 11 Adoptions Finalized

Foster Care

Temporary out-of-home placement for children because of family disruption as a result of abuse, neglect, or dependency.

- 30 Children Entered Agency Custody
- 106 Children Served
- 21 Children Reunited with Family



Foster Home Licensure

Recruitment, training and supervision of foster homes to assure safe and secure temporary homes for children.

- 13 New Homes Licensed
- 34 Homes Supervised

MAPP/GPS

Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting/Deciding Together.

- 35 Program participants
- 2 Sessions Conducted

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Family & Children's Medicaid

Helps eligible families access medical care. The program covers prescriptions, inpatient & outpatient hospital care, physician services as well as routine preventive check-ups for children. The program also emphasizes prenatal care for pregnant women.

- 3349 Monthly Average Active Recipients
- 2112 Applications Taken
- 463 Children were Approved for NC Health Choice

Information and Referral

- 17,468 Walk-In Traffic
- 83 Work Permits Issued

Breast Cancer Fund

Stokes County Department of Social Services employees have tirelessly contributed to and raised money for a breast cancer fund that provides breast health screenings and provides stress baskets to newly diagnosed victims of breast cancer (both male and female). During this fiscal year, these funds allowed 1 individual to have genetic testing and provided 20 stress baskets to those newly diagnosed. A total of \$2,129 was raised to provide this assistance.



Transportation

Transportation of elderly, disabled, and low-income persons to medical appointments.

- 708 Average Monthly Number of Clients Served
- 4296 Trips Provided
- \$464,709.60 spent on Medicaid Transportation

Emergency Assistance

Cash assistance for families or individuals in crisis situations: rent, utilities, medicine, car repair, etc.

- 528 Families Assisted
- \$185,152.67 Annual Expenditures
- \$350.67 Average Payment Per Household

Christmas Toy Drive

Our agency holds an annual Christmas toy drive for families in need in the county. We do this with lots of support and assistance from our staff as well as from volunteers and donors in the community. During this fiscal year, we served 347 families and 717 children .



A grant from the North Carolina Triad Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure provided breast health screenings to 16 uninsured women and assisted 6 low income women with transportation expenses. Grant funds expended totaled \$2,948.70.

Child Support

Assures that children receive adequate parental support by locating absent parents; establishing paternity; medical and financial support; and enforcing court-ordered support obligations.

- 99 Paternity Establishments for Children
- 187 New Court Orders for Support
- \$3,132,361 Collected in Support Payments
- 1,758 Children Provided with Support

We continue to be a member of the Stokes County Service Unit of the Salvation Army. Salvation Army funds are used to assist with heating/cooling needs and housing needs.

- 82 Families Assisted
- \$9,306.45 Annual Expenditures
- \$113.50 Average Payment Per Household



Crisis Intervention Program

Assistance with heating or cooling emergencies. Payments made directly to vendors for households experiencing life-threatening or health related emergencies. Due to extreme heat conditions, extra money was received and households could receive benefits in summer and winter months.

- 465 Families Assisted
- \$117,195.54 Annual Expenditures

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES, CONTINUED . . .

Low-Income Energy Assistance

A cash benefit to assist with heating/cooling expenses. Payment is based on the number of applications approved statewide and the amount of money allocated. All federal money.

- 3,308 Total Recipients
- 1,360 Total Households
- \$175 Average Payment



Child Care

Assists eligible families with child care counseling and expenses in order to help them secure or maintain employment, attend school, prevent removal of children from homes, and assist in developmental needs of children.

- 373 Average Children Served Monthly
- 68 Participating Licensed Child Care Providers
- 14 Participating Home Providers
- \$340.48 Average Monthly Payment for Care

Food and Nutrition Services

Assures nutritious meals for low-income families. Eligibility is determined by number in household and income/resources. All federal money.

- 2,243 Monthly Average Active Cases
- 5,113 Monthly Average Active Participants
- 2,781 Applications Taken
- 1,572 Applications Approved
- \$268 Average Monthly Payment
- \$7,198,336 Total Value of Food Stamps Issued

Work First Family Assistance

Financial/medical assistance to families in which deprivation exists. Key elements are personal responsibility, time limit on eligibility period, and all non-exempt recipients required to participate in work related activities or employment.

- 484 Applications Taken
- 146 Monthly Average Active Participants
- 21 Adults Obtained Employment
- 60 Families Were Diverted from Welfare

Program Integrity

Investigates/resolves questionable information on pending applications to prevent payments to ineligible families. Detects/determines client misrepresentation or worker error in active cases. Recovers all overpayments made in public assistance programs.

- \$92,808 Total Collections
- 198 Monthly Average Active Cases



Stokes County DSS works closely with the Stokes Partnership for Children to ensure appropriate child care for Stokes County families.

ADULT SERVICES

Assisted Living Licensure

Monitor six assisted living facilities to ensure compliance with rules.

Aid to the Blind

Assisted 20 visually impaired individuals with eye care to ensure total integration into environment and community.

Also assisted 15 blind or visually impaired to gain skills in independent living.



Guardianship and Payeeship

Court appointed guardian for 31 adults to ensure health and safety.

Serve as protective payee for 13 individuals receiving Social Security or Public Assistance who are in jeopardy of being deprived of basic needs.

Family Caregiver Support Voucher Program

Through a grant with the Northwest Piedmont Area Agency on Aging, we were able to serve 26 caregivers spending \$22,296.95 allowing caregivers time away from care giving responsibilities.

Special Assistance—In-Home Program

Provides a cash supplement to help low-income individuals who are at risk of entering an adult care home and prefer to remain safely at home.

- 40 clients received a supplement to assist with in-home aide, life insurance premiums, telephone alert, household bills, or heating/cooling issues.

ADULT SERVICES, CONTINUED

Medicaid for Elderly/Disabled/Blind

Provides medical services for eligible elderly and disabled and/or blind citizens. Helps adults remain in the community and pays cost of care for eligible citizens in nursing home placements.

- 1,968 Monthly Average Active Cases
- 978 Applications Taken

Special Assistance for Adults in Assisted Living

Supplements cost of care for recipients in assisted living facilities.

- 167 Monthly Average Active Cases
- \$599 Average Monthly Payment

Enhanced Care Case Management Services

A series of Medicaid funded services to address the overall health care needs of the heavy care residents in assisted living facilities.

- 10 Clients Served

Community Alternatives Program (CAP/DA and CAP/C)

Enables disabled adults and children to remain safely at home with appropriate in-home services.

- 41 Individuals on Inquiry List for CAP/DA
- 76 CAP/DA Individuals Served
- 7 Children Served Under CAP/C

In-Home Aide Services

Provides basic home management and personal care services to elderly and disabled adults to avoid out of home placement.

- 19 Clients Served
- 36 Monthly Average of Individuals on Inquiry List

Protective Services for Adults

Screens, assesses, evaluates reports of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Services are provided 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

- 93 Reports Received
- 57 Evaluations Completed
- 20 Cases Substantiated
- 20 Visits to Screened Out Reports to Offer Services



Adult Day Care

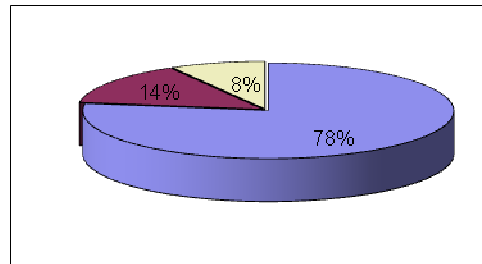
Assisted three persons with the cost of care in an adult day care facility allowing caregivers to work or receive respite.

DSS BUDGET

Where the Money Comes From . . .

Funds for our services and programs come from several different sources. Reimbursement by the state or federal government to Stokes County varies from program to program, from 100% reimbursement to 100% county funding.

SOURCE	SHARE
FEDERAL	\$8,592,092.00
STATE	\$1,590,014.00
COUNTY	\$926,075.00
TOTAL	\$11,108,181.00



Where the Money Goes . . .

More than 97% of our funds are spent in the form of direct benefit to clients, rather than administrative costs.

Medicaid	\$20,000.00	1%
Food Stamps	\$6,797,607.00	61%
Adult/Child Day Care	\$1,582,730.00	14%
Rest Home	\$910,000.00	8%
Foster Care	\$1,436,065.00	13%
Work First	\$361,779.00	3%
TOTAL	\$11,108,181.00	100%

