



Calvert County Social Services Advisory Board
"Calvert Family Advocates"

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS FY 2023

- Mara Cunningham, CFA Chair
- Melanee Derenzy, SSAB Chair
- Danielle Rowe
- Denise Plater
- Jenifer Duff
- Renita Alexander
- Kim Foltz
- Nathalie Thon
- Sarah David
- Amye Scrivner
- Patricia Hooper

A big focus for us for 2023 was fundraising and letting the community know who we are and what we do. In April, we held an ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) training that was hosted with DSS. The focus was to present information about Adverse Childhood experiences, how they can be prevented, and how anyone can support the work already being done in our community through various organizations.

We reconnected with the HELP Association and received grant money to fund our youth program. Our youth program has been critical in assisting homeless and foster families with the ability to send youth to summer camp over the past few years and we continued that program and the relationship with Calvert County Public Schools this year.

We were excited to welcome several new board members with fresh ideas and a passion for helping their community! Melanee Derenzy officially stepped down as SSAB and CFA chair after leading CFA for the last 2 years with kindness and compassion for her community. Mara Cunningham is the new CFA Chair moving forward into 2024 and brings a wealth of experience and passion to serve her community.



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CFA partnered with DSS and panelists from various organizations to provide a free community training on ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences).

Strategic Plan Highlights

➤ PA2E Program

Seven (7) individuals took the PA2E courses for State Fiscal Year 2023:

One (1) individual opened her business, "She'z Pressed by Kalia" where she operates online sales and sells her product at 'Beach Beauty Supply' in Dunkirk.

Two (2) individuals are pending for their businesses to open. Expected opening is 1st Q 2024.

Headchef 2 You and Hip-Hop Sub Shop are scheduled to begin food pop-ups and personal catering through both his businesses beginning 2024

The student who will begin her Dog Trainer business will open and operate once she obtains the required certifications



Vision

We envision a community where individuals and families have unlimited opportunities to achieve independence and where all people are safe from harm. In addition, we envision a department that engages all team members in the mission, provides clear expectations to team members, strengthens shared values, builds trust, communicates effectively, recognizes good performance, and inspires all to be the best they can be.

Mission Statement

We will work with individuals and families of Calvert County in order to achieve a better quality of life by:

- Creating opportunities for obtaining independence;
- Protecting vulnerable children and adults;
- Providing appropriate financial support;
- Promoting preservation of families;
- Establishing strong business and community partnerships;
- Adopting programs and policies to meet the changing needs of our citizens and community.



Calvert County Department of Social Services
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<http://dhr.maryland.gov/local-offices/calvert->



Calvert County
Department of
Social Services



Annual Report
2023



Message from the Director

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Calvert County Department of Social Services (CalCoDSS) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024, which outlines the tremendous accomplishments of our agency. Our staff continue to challenge themselves to work swiftly and accurately to provide optimal customer service to those who seek assistance from us. The commitment of our staff is the foundation of our ability to serve our community.

The current leaders of our state, Governor Wes Moore, Lieutenant Governor, Aruna Miller, and our Secretary of Department of Human Services, Rafael López, are dynamic thinkers and have consistently charged us with ensuring that we do the best for all Marylanders. They have set a standard of our collective work based on the values

Moore-Miller Administration Values

-  **Be Responsive**
We work for you; when you reach out to us, you can expect a response within 48-hours
-  **Be Innovative**
We collaborate across agencies to identify and implement bold solutions
-  **Be Everywhere**
Marylanders are across the state, and so will be our administration
-  **Be Audacious**
We encourage taking risks and implementing bold solutions
-  **Be Data-Driven, Heart-Led**
We rely on data and experience to inform our decisions
-  **Move with Integrity**
We are honest and maintain strong moral principles
-  **Follow Through**
We are committed to completing all services
-  **Be Courageous**
Lead with confidence to tackle hard problems
-  **Move Urgently**
We move quickly and diligently with a purpose
-  **Challenge the Status Quo**
It's okay to disagree and offer a new viewpoint
-  **Over-Communicate**
We are transparent, honest, and open
-  **Outcomes-Focused**
We will spend each day focused on leaving no one behind

This upcoming year, we are leading our community in developing services that meet the needs of our population through the Families First Prevention Services Array. We will challenge our community agencies to work with us to develop and deliver a service array aimed precisely at the needs of the Calvert County Community. We will move forward with high expectations for our services delivery to all citizens of Calvert County.

Administration & Finance

Recruitment, New Hires and Reinstatements

Merit - New Hires and Transfers: 5
Contractual - New Hires and Transfers: 2
Reinstatements: 0

Retirements, Resignations and Transfers

Retirements: 2
Resignations: 5
Transfers: 2

Other Actions

Non-competitive Promotions: 4
Interns: 2



Family Investment

SNAP

Average caseload size monthly: 3794
Average number of recipients monthly: 7106
Average hh size: 1.8
Net expenditure amounts monthly: \$1, 634,811.51

TCA

Caseload size on a monthly average: 71
Number of recipients on a monthly average: 164
Average HH size: 2.3
Net expenditure amount monthly: \$48,226.35

EAFIC

Total expenditures: \$23, 024
Grants: 13
Average Grant amount: \$1,771

*****COVID comment can be deleted or voided.*****

HPP

Total Expenditures: \$3,950
Number of Grants: 10
Average grant amount: \$395

Medical Assistance:

Number of Community Care cases on a monthly average: 965
Number of Long-Term cases on a monthly average: 177
Number of SSI cases on a monthly average: 1152

TDAP

Average Caseload size monthly: 90
Average caseload size monthly for customers on short term disability: 17

ity: 17

Average caseload size monthly for customers on long term disability: 73

ity: 73

Average net monthly expenditure amount: \$38,800.92

Local Assistance

Total expenditure amount: \$8,163
Number of Grants: 30
Average grant amount: \$272.10
*****NO GIFT CARDS ISSUED FOR FOOD*****

Services

Child Protective Services (CPS)

CPS Investigated Cases

Total CPS Referrals: 898
Monthly Referral Average: 75
Referrals Accepted for a CPS Response: 267
Investigated Responses: 120
Alternative Responses: 147
Children interviewed at CAC: 58

Assessments

Substance Exposed Newborns: 33
Risk of Harm: 12
Requests from Other Agencies: 18

Multidisciplinary Team

Cases Reviewed: 11
CAC Case Reviewed 76

After Hours

Calls for CPS Services: 176

Home Study

Total Home Studies: 5
Requests from Home: 10
Interstate Compact Placement of Children: 6
Supervised Placements: 7

Out of Home Care

Children Served: 66
New Entries: 15
Average Children in Care per Month: 46
Children who Exited Care: 20
Children who Aged Out of Care: 7
Children Reunified: 3
Adoptions Finalized: 7
Guardianship: 3
OOH was able to obtain permanency for 8 children.

Resource Home Providers

Resource Homes in Calvert County: 26
New Resource Homes Approved: 10
Closed Resource Homes: 10
Kinship Homes Approved: 3

Independent Living — As of June 30, 2023

Total Youth Independent Living Eligible: 21
45% of children in Foster Care are independent living aged.

Family Centered Practice

Family Team decision meeting (FTDM): 83
Families Served in FIMS: 81
Children Served in FIMS: 96

Family Preservation

In-Home Family Services: 100 families

Adult Services

Adult Protected Services (APS)

Total APS Referrals: 249
Completed Investigations: 51
Continuing APS services: 13
Financial Exploitation Total Investigations: 10

Adult Guardianship

Guardianship Assessments: 36
Total Guardianship (under 65 years old) Cases: 5

Senior Care

Customers Served per Month: avg. 6

Project Home Case Management and Home Licensure

Customers in Project Home: 4
Licensed Project Homes: 2

Social Services to Adults

Customers Served: 72

Respite Care

Customers Served: 21

In-Home Adult Services (IHAS)

Vulnerable Adults Served: 15 DSS: 8 Vendor: 6

Child Support

For FFY 2023 Calvert County Child Support Administration met and exceeded two out of four of our goals. Total Child Support Disbursed \$9.13 million for Calvert County's children. Our current caseload is 1966.

Court Order Establishment = 92.52% = #4 in the state
Goal 94.44%

Paternity Establishment % = 105.70% = #4 in the state
Goal 100.00% - ACHIEVED GOAL

Current Support Collected % = 72.30% = #1 in the state
Goal 80.50%

Arrears Paying % = 83.43% = #1 in the state
Goal 83.40% - ACHIEVED GOAL