



Essentials for Social Services Governing Boards

AGENDA

November 16 – 17, 2021 Via ZOOM

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 (Live via Zoom)

9:30am – 9:40am

Welcome

*Aimee Wall and Kristi Nickodem, UNC School of Government
Betsy Wells, NC Association of County Boards of Social Services (NCACBSS)
Sharnese Ransome, NC DSS Directors Association (NCACDSS)*

9:40am – 10:30am

The Structure and Status of DSS and the Board

Kristi Nickodem

This section provides an overview of where social services governing boards fit in to the overall human services framework in North Carolina, including a brief overview of the law governing social services agencies, the various organization and governance models for human services in North Carolina, the size and composition of boards, and the legal status of the board.

10:30am – 10:35am

BREAK

10:35am – 11:10am

State Oversight and State Support

*Julie Cronin, DHHS (NC DHHS Oversight and Support)
Drew Pledger, Chair of the Social Services Commission (Role of the SSC)*

The public social services system in North Carolina is a state-county partnership. This section will introduce some of the key players at the state level.

11:10am – 11:15am

BREAK

11:15am – 12:00pm

Legal Powers and Duties of the Social Services Governing Board

*Aimee Wall
Glenn Osborne, Director, Wilson County Department of Social Services*

The board's primary responsibilities are set forth in state law. This section will summarize those laws and address some of the practical implications of the board's responsibilities.

12:00pm

Adjourn for the day



Wednesday, November 17, 2021 (Live via Zoom)

9:30am – 10:30pm The Business of Working as a Board

Kristi Nickodem

This section provides an overview of several key bodies of law that local governing board members should be familiar with, including those related to open meetings, public records, ethics, and liability of board members.

10:30am – 10:35pm BREAK

10:35am-11:30am How to Support Your Agency and Community: Best Practices and Common Challenges

*Heather Skeens, Director, Guilford County Dept. of Health and Human Services
Donna Fayko, Director, New Hanover County Dept. of Health and Human Services
Brandy Mann, Director, Tyrrell County Department of Social Services
Jim Sides, Treasurer of NCACBSS, Rowan County DSS Board Member
Tara Fikes, Secretary of NCACBSS, former Durham County DSS Board Member
Ray Jeffers, Chair, Person County Social Services Board*

During this section, experienced social services directors and board members will share some insights about how to be most effective. They will also highlight some of the challenges that boards often face and strategies for navigating those challenges.

11:30am – 11:35am BREAK

11:35am – 11:50am Opportunities to Connect: Professional Associations and Networks

Betsy Wells
Sharnese Ransome

This section will highlight how the associations work with DHHS, the legislature, and other stakeholders on behalf of all county social services agencies.

11:50am – 12:00pm Knowledge Check/Questions

12:00pm Adjourn