

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
April 16, 2019**

The April 16, 2019 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Board of County Commissioners' meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson
Susan Thompson, Vice-Chairperson (ABSENT)
John Messner, Commissioner
Roland Mason, Commissioner (ABSENT)

Joni Reynolds, Health & Human Services Director
Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Elizabeth Mense, Deputy County Clerk
Other Persons Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 8:31 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Moved** by Commissioner Messner, seconded by Chairperson Houck to approve the minutes of the 2/19/19 Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services meeting. Motion carried.

ECONOMIC SECURITY PROGRAM UPDATE & COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) UPDATE:

Brad Wheaton, the Eligibility & Economic Security Team Program Manager was present for the discussion. Program Manager (PM) Wheaton reported that the Eligibility & Economic Security Team is currently fully staffed. There are four eligibility technicians and two child support services workers on staff. PM Wheaton reported that in 2018 there were 479 food assistance cases in Gunnison County and \$1,227,618 of benefits distributed. Hinsdale County had 18 cases and \$44,066 of benefits dispersed. There were a total of 744 food assistance applications processed within 2018 with 98.7% timeliness. The State requirement is 95%. PM Wheaton discussed the number of adults and children on Medicaid in Gunnison and Hinsdale counties and the expenditures associated with those benefits. PM Wheaton also provided a brief overview on child support cases, fraud recovery & program integrity, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cases. PM Wheaton welcomed and addressed questions from the Board.

Betsy Holena, the Senior Resources Program Manager was present for the discussion. Brooke Furimsky, Case Manager from Health & Human Services was also present. Program Manager (PM) Holena provided an update on the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG). She explained that CSBG is a federally funded program administered by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The purpose of the grant is to provide support services to low-income individuals that help alleviate the causes and conditions associated with poverty within the community. It is a three year grant cycle. The CSBG grant provides emergency shelter, rent and mortgage assistance and financial assistance for medical needs. The grant also provides other supportive services including emergency vehicle repair, transportation and case management. PM Holena discussed the criteria to receive the grant and prioritization in dispersing grant funds. In 2018 there were 121 households and 180 individuals served with CSBG grant funding. Case Manager Furimsky provided an overview on case management.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Director Reynolds provided an update on the Robin Smart bill and Family First Act.

STAFFING UPDATE:

Director Reynolds stated that Shelley Tucker is now working as a Child Support Specialist.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2019.

ADJOURN: **Moved** by Commissioner Houck to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Elizabeth Mense, Deputy County Clerk

Minutes Approved September 3, 2019

Jonathan Houck, Commissioner