

**Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency  
Policy Council Meeting**

<b>MINUTES</b>	<b>OCTOBER 6, 2021</b>	<b>9:00 A.M. COOKEVILLE, TN</b>
<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Chairman Randy Heady called the meeting to order.	
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	UCHRA Policy Council Meeting	
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Chairman Randy Heady	
<b>NOTETAKER</b>	Sherry Thurman	
<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Randy Heady, Marvin Lusk, Charlene Whittaker, Cindy Putman, Darrin Stout, Barbara Wheeler, Don Hollingsworth, Billy Adcock, Linda Pastrick, Marilyn Davis, Ashley Gray, Kristi Paling, Marie Ferran, Bill Gibson, Michael Burton	
<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Mickey Robinson, Shaquawana Wester, Anne Stamps, Ethel Minor	
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>		<b>CHAIRMAN RANDY HEADY</b>
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Chairman Randy Heady called the meeting to order.	
<b>INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND STAFF</b>		<b>CHAIRMAN RANDY HEADY</b>
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Chairman Randy Heady welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.	
	The new members of the Policy Council introduced themselves and gave a brief overview of the position that they hold.	
	Executive Director Mark Farley recognized the UCHRA and UCDD staff attending the meeting. Staff gave a brief overview of the programs in their department.	
<b>ROLE OF POLICY COUNCIL</b>		<b>CHAIRMAN RANDY HEADY</b>
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Executive Director Mark Farley advised that the Policy Council will be represented by Consumer Representatives; Elected Officials or Representatives (utilities, public housing, education, and law enforcement; Provider Representatives (Social Services, Children's Services, Senior Services, Substance Abuse, Mental Health, and Corrections) and a minority representative. We would like for the Policy Council to help the agency address and improve the region by helping children out of poverty, addressing homelessness, etc.	

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>An introduction packet was presented to the Policy Council (UCHRA Bylaws, UCHRA Organizational Chart, Program Guide, 2021-2022 Strategic Plan, Community Needs Assessment and TANF-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Synopsis).</p> <p>Executive Director Mark advised that there are a number of organizations in the Upper Cumberland providing a lot of services but there is a gap in services. The more urban areas have more resources and programs than the Upper Cumberland. We would like for the Policy Council to help us identify what services is needed in the Upper Cumberland region and how we can receive the services.</p>
	<p><b>DISCUSSION ABOUT THE HISTORY OF UCHRA AND WHAT DIRECTION THAT THE AGENCY IS HEADING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>TANF OPPORTUNITY GRANT</b></li> <li>• <b>EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMS</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CHAIRMAN RANDY HEADY</b></p>
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Executive Director Mark Farley advised that The Tennessee General Assembly, under the direction of Commissioner Clarence Carter of the Tennessee Department of Human Services, created the Tennessee Opportunity Pilot Initiative to transform the lives of Tennesseans living in poverty. Areas can apply for six pilot grants (two in each grand division West, Middle, and East). These grants are for three years - \$25 million to be used by numerous organizations in the Upper Cumberland. UCHRA is in the process of applying for a three-month planning grant for \$500,000. The application is due October 15, 2021. The agency is in the process of pulling a coalition together with Workforce Development, Economic Development, Higher Education, Employers, Nonprofit Organizations, and the Faith Based Community that would be formed to analyze, establish best practices, and develop a unique model to assist TANF eligible families overcome barriers that prevent them from moving out of poverty. The goal would be to work with 500 children (250 families) to deploy proven methods for overcoming barriers, to move those families out of poverty. A consulting firm from New Mexico has been hired to develop an evidence-based model.</p>
	<p><b>FUTURE DISCUSSION TOPICS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>HOMELESSNESS</b></li> <li>• <b>WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION</b></li> <li>• <b>CHILDCARE</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CHAIRMAN RANDY HEADY</b></p>
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Executive Director Mark Farley gave an overview of how the Policy Council meetings will flow. The Policy Council will review budgets/policy decisions for the agency and we will have a specific topic for discussion at each meeting. If there are recommendations from the Policy Council, the recommendations will flow to the</p>

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Executive Committee for approval.</p> <p>A discussion was held on future topics that the Policy Council could discuss. The topics mentioned were: prescription drugs, mental health, ACE's issue and domestic violence.</p> <p>Executive Director Mark Farley presented the membership form and the Conflict of Interest form for the members to complete.</p>
	<p><b>PUBLIC COMMENTS</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>CHAIRMAN RANDY HEADY</b></span></p>
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Chairman Randy Heady asked if there were any public comments to be presented.</p> <p>Barbara Wheeler announced that the food program in Jackson County is diminishing. There are several clients that are unable to cook a meal.</p> <p>Holly Williams advised that the CARES Act funds have run out. Ms. Barbara and the team at Fairview Senior Center did a remarkable job with the meals over the past year and a half.</p> <p>Executive Director Mark Farley advised that the agency is advocating to the state and federal officials to continue the funding at a higher level.</p> <p>LaNelle Godsey announced that the LIHEAP Energy Program is available October through September. Flyers on the program were distributed to the members.</p>
	<p><b>MEETING CONCLUDED</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>CHAIRMAN RANDY HEADY</b></span></p>
<b>ADJOURN</b>	<p>There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned.</p>
<b>CONCLUSION</b> <b>10:20 A.M.</b>	

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairman Randy Heady