

Weeks of December 29 and January 5, 2009:

- I have missed my report for the last two weeks due to vacation and the Board retreat this past Friday. This report is for two weeks.
- We received some good news on the budget at the end of December from Sherri Ellington, Chief Court Counselor for Juvenile Probation. The detention bill for juveniles was \$85,128 less in 2008 than 2007. The total for 2008 was \$15,753 compared to \$100,881 for 2007. We are billed \$89/day for juveniles that are held in secure facilities.
- The last two weeks have been busy with end of the year issues and new items that have come up such as the Albemarle Mental Health situation. I have been asked to help organize a meeting of the ten counties, the local Mental Health Board, and state officials to talk about the future of mental health services in our area. That meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 22nd in Edenton. We are waiting for confirmation of the meeting date from the Mental Health Board. Numerous agencies are impacted by the services that are provided by mental health including Social Services, Sheriff's Department, and Albemarle Hospital. The patients and their families, however, are the main ones that are impacted if services are reduced. I will let you know as soon as the meeting is confirmed.
- Attached is the latest land transfer tax and sales tax report. Land transfer tax continues to be well below last year with a YTD decrease of 55%. Sales tax is above last year however the October results are the first month with the reduction of the Article 44 sales tax due to the Medicaid swap. The good news is that we projected the budget with a significant decrease in sales tax so I believe that we are on target to meet the budgeted amount.
- I would like to thank all of the department heads that presented reports at the retreat on Friday. It was the first time that all of the department heads have attended a retreat and the first time that all of the departments have met with the Board of Commissioners at the same time. I hope that everyone learned more about what each department does and some of the challenges that each department faces.

The following are reports from some of our other departments:

Social Services:

Income Maintenance Statistics

Report Month: December, 2008

Program	Applications Taken	Applications Processed	Reviews	Terminations/ Changes	Total Caseload
Adult Medicaid	51	62	214	374	2261*
Family & Children's Medicaid	300	338	237	639	3635
Food & Nutrition Services	236	255	274	393	2447
Work First Family Assistance	37	42	11	101	206

*Includes 1053 SSI Cases

Food & Nutrition Services increased by only 17 cases in December, compared to the 97-case increase last month. However, the Food & Nutrition Services caseload has increased by 295 cases in the past 12 months, which is a growth rate of 13.71%. The average number of Food & Nutrition services applications increased by 16.75 applications per month in the past quarter.

The Work First Family Assistance caseload decreased by 9 cases in December. Although the Work First caseload had a slight decrease, the caseload has increased by 35 cases in the past 12 months. 35 cases does not sound like much; however, with the goal of continuing to decrease the Work First caseload, any increase is considered negative. Medicaid caseloads are fluctuating but remain relatively stable for now.

Interpreter Contacts: 91 Total (increase of 14 from last month)

Spanish	89
Vietnamese	2
Other	0

As of December 31, there were a total of 906 interpreter contacts. The total interpreter contacts for the entire year of 2007 were 354 – this is a 156% increase. In December 2007 there were 32 contacts total – all were Spanish.

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