

# 4<sup>th</sup> Annual NCACDSS Best Practices Awards Nomination Form

Category: CSMIE#2 Tier 2  
Cost Savings Measures and/or Improvements in Efficiency

## Project Title: DSS Blue Ribbon Committee

- 1. Project/Program Summary:** Briefly summarize the project's history, purpose, timeline and budget. The Blue Ribbon Committee formation was requested by our Director and formed thereafter. During the past several years the Blue Ribbon Committee has been committed to addressing topics related to improving our agency and the services provided. The purpose is to promote and make changes agency wide that will help assure more quality services for the clients in Halifax County as well as the employees. The Blue Ribbon Committee completes fundraisers to help with the cost of the activities provided. Activities include expenses of agency meetings, employee assistance programs, client surveys, employee surveys, etc. The constant strive for improvement of services provided is ongoing.
- 2. Innovation:** Why is the program unique? How does your project differ from similar projects? The Blue Ribbon Committee of Halifax County is unique because it was formed by a group of employees from various areas of the agency who aspired to focus and act upon changes that would help assure more effective and adequate services to clients and employees. This group is a liaison between the leadership, employees and the clientele.
- 3. Project Success and Impact:** What were the objectives? How well were they met? How widespread is the impact of the project/program? What is the anticipated long-term impact? Did the project involve collaboration with other agencies, non-profits, businesses, etc.? Describe the outcome of the collaboration. Objectives over the year were to complete employees surveys to determine how effective our agency works and how people view the services provided, the employee assistance program that helps us help ourselves by assisting those employees who are struggling to make ends meet, as well as, requesting client feedback on how services were provided and ways to increase productivity, and worker appreciations. Efforts for some activities were in collaboration with the Halifax Chapter of the North Carolina Social Services Association.
- 4. Project Effort and Difficulty:** How well did the program use limited resources? What obstacles or challenges did you overcome? How was this done? Due to limited resources, various fundraisers are held throughout the year. The committee takes the initiative to host the annual meeting, and consider requests made by clients and employees that involve change and improvement.
- 5. Ability to Replicate Project:** Can this project be duplicated in other counties? What could counties do to minimize obstacles and problems? Yes. It is imperative that the committee represent all areas of the agency and address those needs of the

agency as a whole. Members must be dedicated and open minded to helping make changes that are for the betterment of all.

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