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Date: 5/14/2014 9:20:11 AM

Subject: Richland County DSS News

Attachments: Richland County Information.pdf

FYI

Greenville News: Haley proposes changes at DSS

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/south-carolina/2014/05/13/haley-lays-dss-changes-richland-county/9037713/>

Tim Smith

Gov. Nikki Haley said she knew there had been problems at the Richland County Department of Social Services last year but when a 5-month-old boy died last month who had been sought for weeks by caseworkers, Haley said she had to act.

Note: "That's when I thought, all right, something's got to give," Haley told The Greenville News. "That's when I went into the DSS offices and said, 'Let's look at this again.' "

Note: "What a lot of people don't realize is that in 2011 we had a lot of problems in Greenville County," Haley said. "And we basically went in and did a kind of fix-it to get them back on track. Now we're looking at the fact that we've got a problem in Richland County."

Post and Courier: S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley to implement additional changes at Richland County DSS office

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140513/PC1610/140519723/1031/sc-gov-nikki-haley-to-implement-additional-changes-at-richland-county-dss-office>

Cynthia Roldan

Gov. Nikki Haley is taking a hands-on approach with the Department of Social Services, implementing changes on a local level, which might lead to statewide modifications in the future. Haley said Tuesday changes are needed at the Richland County DSS office following a case in April in which an infant died while a DSS staffer was searching for his family.

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WLTX: Gov. Says Changes Coming to DSS

<http://www.wltx.com/story/news/local/2014/05/13/nikki-haley-dss-south-carolina/9058513/>

Governor Nikki Haley outlined some changes to the Department of Social Services in the wake of recent problems with the agency. In February, we told you the story of Robert Guinyard Jr, a four-year-old boy who was deputies say was physically abused by his parents and taken into DSS custody.

Note: "At this point there's never a time where we can be satisfied," Haley said. "Because as long as babies are dying, we've got more work to do. And the said part is I can't tell you that more kids won't die."

The State: State stepping in at Richland DSS, SC governor says

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/05/13/3444212/haley-after-child-deaths-richland.html#storylink=cpy>

Jamie Self

Gov. Nikki Haley unveiled a plan Tuesday to improve caseloads and child-welfare services at the Department of Social Services' Richland County office. A short-term intervention team and new hires, including more caseworkers, are part of the plan, Haley said in an interview with The State.

Note: "I knew as a legislator all the problems we had with it. I knew that it never seemed to go well, and it's a sad agency," Haley said, adding she sought out Lillian Koller to lead the agency from a similar position in Hawaii to bring an "outside perspective."

Associated Press: Gov. Haley touts DSS improvement plan for 1 county

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=BxUqQECE

The South Carolina Department of Social Services is hiring 20 caseworkers to improve child-welfare services in Richland County, Gov. Nikki Haley's office said Tuesday. The plan's release follows questions surrounding children's deaths.

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