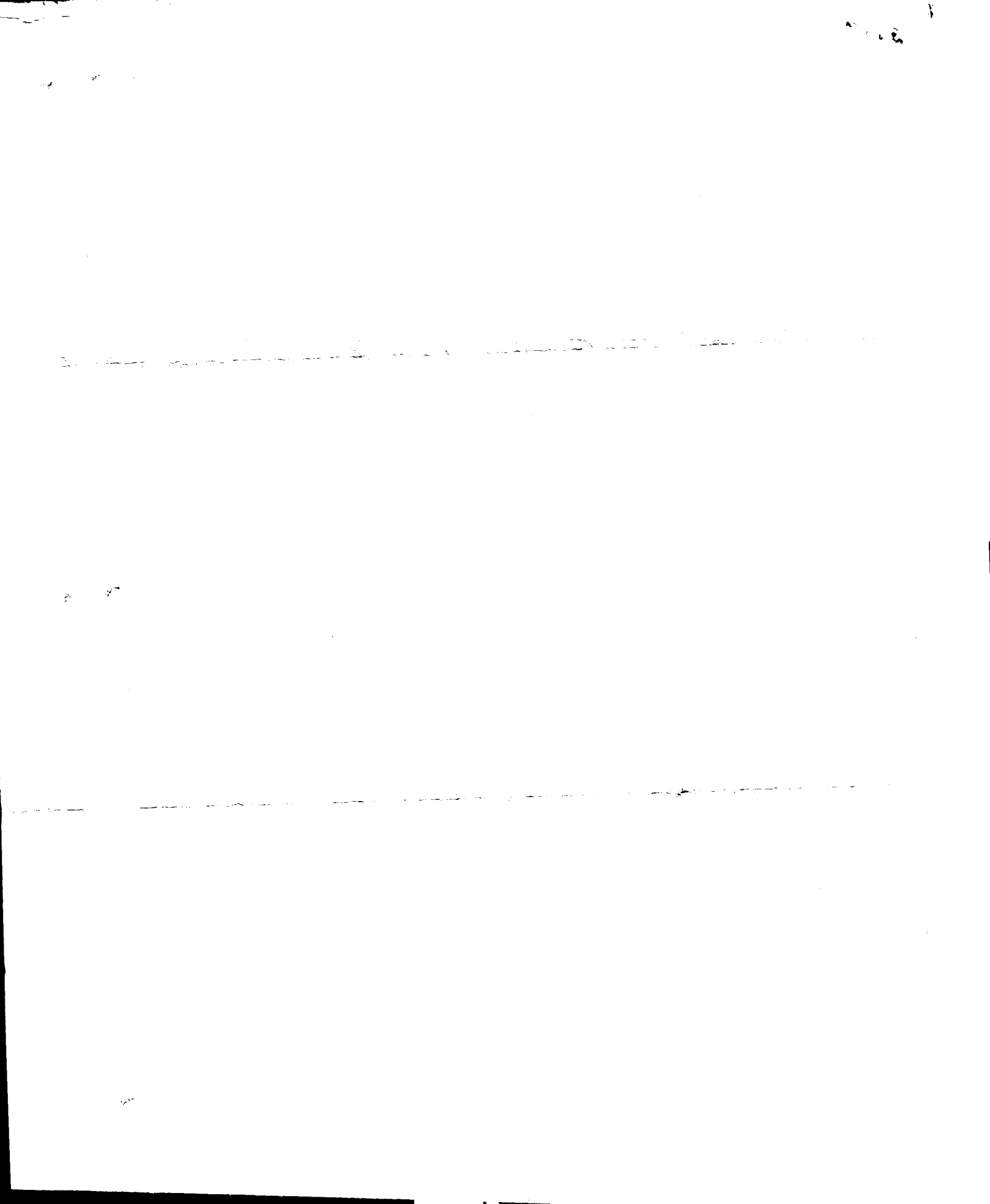


I am writing this letter because I must report the unethical, mismanagement and misappropriation of taxpayer's money and resources at Richland County DSS. I decided I could no longer work at this particular state agency because of the unparalleled changes and decisions that are made daily that affect not only the staff, but the residents, and the taxpayers.

- I did not want to report this because I did not want to be seen as a disgruntled former state employee
- The director's admin coordinator salary is more than \$50,000. How can this be? Most program coordinators never see this kind of money, what are the job duties that would justify such a salary.
- Many of the program coordinators, especially on the Human Services side are operating without admins, they have no one to assist them with the daily duties.
- They hired temp workers from Kelly services for more than a year who were supposed to clean up the Human services file situations, as of today, they were more than 2000 files not clean, which essentially means children are not being kept up with here in Richland Co. they don't know where they are, if they are still in Foster care or what's going on with the case.
- The workers were required to pay for an all-staff thanksgiving luncheon.
- Even more egregious staff was required to pay for an All-staff Christmas luncheon. The religious overtone was offensive. People were in there preaching, yelling "hallelujah and Amen", reading scriptures, and other Christian actions. Personally, I believe in no God, however I was told this was an all-staff meeting therefore it was something that I must attend. In attendance, I was required to pay, then required to be saturated with all this religious stuff. I was shocked by this! I could not believe that this was ok in a state agency. No one was asked to leave if they didn't want to hear this.
- When the email is sent out for the all-staff meeting, we receive multiple emails throughout the week that the monies are due. First, we are told we do not have to pay then we are inundated with so many emails that it can be quite intimidating if you don't pay your money.
- Then we must pay to decorate, if we would like to decorate your area, then money was required. It became the most expensive place to work.
- But then it became such a religious overtone again. All of these decorations was put up with no consideration for non-religious folks. It has become the most non-sensitive place to work.
- As I said, I truly could no longer work for an agency with so much tyranny as this one.
- This is a dictatorship. An unprecedented amount of people have been terminated for voicing their feelings. If you don't do it the way they want, they will let you know and let you go. I've seen more supervisors on Human Services side either quit or be terminated than ever, more workers have quit or been terminated than ever. This is a revolving door.



RICH-LAND COUNTY ALL STAFF

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



From: Thompson, Herlinda
Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2015 12:18 PM
To: _DSS - S401 - Richland; _DSS - S4005 - Eastover
Subject: ALL-STAFF MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015 @ 10:00 am

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Good Afternoon Rich-Land Family:

First of all, we would like to thank each of you for making our First Annual Rich-Land Thanksgiving Drop-In AWESOME! Now, on to the next great event. Our final All-Staff meeting is Wednesday, December 16, 2015 @ 10:00 am. We want to make this program just as special the last one!

We will have a program much like the last one, so if you are interested in participating in the program, please let me know as soon as possible.

Also, lunch will be catered by Golden Corral and the cost is as follows:

Program Coordinators	\$20.00
Supervisors	\$15.00
Staff	\$10.00

The menu will consist of:

Fried Chicken
Ham
Turkey
Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes
Corn
Mac & Cheese
Corn Bread Stuffing
Rolls
Apple Cobbler
Sweet Tea

We would like to have all monies paid no later than **Wednesday, December 9, 2015** by COB. You may give your money to Ms. Alysha Jackson or Ms. Sonja Harris. If you have questions or concerns, please e-mail Sonja.Harris@dss.sc.gov or Alysha.Jackson@dss.sc.gov.

Thanking you in advance for your continued support and understanding. As always, let's make this another AWESOME event!

Herlinda B. Thompson
Herlinda B. Thompson
Administrative Assistant, II
Rich-land County DSS

From: Thompson, Herlinda
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2015 1:56 PM
To: _DSS - S401 - Richland; _DSS - S4005 - Eastover
Subject: PLANNING MEETING, DECEMBER 9, 2015@10:30 am

Importance: High

Good Afternoon Rich-Land Family:

COME ONE...COME ALL!!!!

We are in the process of developing a program for our All-Staff Meeting which will be held on December 16, 2015 @10:00 am. In an effort to further plan, there will be a meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 10:30 am (in the Director's Board Room) for anyone who would like to participate on the program. There's an enormous amount of talent throughout the agency and we welcome you to again showcase it!

Remember, this is our last All-Staff Meeting of the year, so we want to end the year with a big bang! We look forward to meeting with you as we strive for excellence!

Herlinda B. Thompson
Herlinda B. Thompson
Administrative Assistant, II
Rich-land County DSS
"Excellence Lives Here"
(803) 714-7598

From: Thompson, Herlinda
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 12:32 PM
To: _DSS - S401 - Richland; _DSS - S4005 - Eastover
Subject: PAYMENT EXTENDED/ALL-STAFF LUNCHEON, DECEMBER 16, 2015 @ 10:00 am

Importance: High

Good Afternoon Rich-Land Family:

GOOD NEWS...

We have extended the time to pay for the luncheon! All monies are now due **Tuesday, December 15, 2015** by COB. You may give your money to Ms. Alysha Jackson or Ms. Sonja Harris. If you have questions or concerns, please e-mail Sonja.Harris@dss.sc.gov or Alysha.Jackson@dss.sc.gov.

Thanking you in advance for your continued support and understanding. As always, let's make this another AWESOME event!

Herlinda B. Thompson
Herlinda B. Thompson
Administrative Assistant, II
Rich-land County DSS
"Excellence Lives Here"
(803) 714-7598

From: Thompson, Herlinda
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2015 1:41 PM
To: _DSS - S401 - Richland <S401-Richland@dss.sc.gov>; _DSS - S4005 - Eastover <S4005-Eastover@dss.sc.gov>
Subject: RE: ALL-STAFF MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015 @ 10:00 am
Importance: High

Good Afternoon Rich-Land Family:

JUST A QUICK REMINDER:

All monies are due **Wednesday, December 9, 2015** by COB. You may give your money to Ms. Alysha Jackson or Ms. Sonja Harris. If you have questions or concerns, please e-mail Sonja.Harris@dss.sc.gov or Alysha.Jackson@dss.sc.gov.

Thanking you in advance for your continued support and understanding. As always, let's make this another AWESOME event!

Herlinda B. Thompson
Herlinda B. Thompson
Administrative Assistant, II
Rich-land County DSS
"Excellence Lives Here"
(803) 714-7598

From: Thompson, Herlinda
Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2015 12:18 PM

To: _DSS - S401 - Richland <S401-Richland@dss.sc.gov>; _DSS - S4005 - Eastover <S4005-Eastover@dss.sc.gov>

Subject: ALL-STAFF MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015 @ 10:00 am

Importance: High

Good Afternoon Rich-Land Family:

First of all, we would like to thank each of you for making our First Annual Rich-Land Thanksgiving Drop-In AWESOME! Now, on to the next great event. Our final All-Staff meeting is Wednesday, December 16, 2015 @ 10:00 am. We want to make this program just as special the last one!

We will have a program much like the last one, so if you are interested in participating in the program, please let me know as soon as possible.

Also, lunch will be catered by Golden Corral and the cost is as follows:

Program Coordinators	\$20.00
Supervisors	\$15.00
Staff	\$10.00

The menu will consist of:

Fried Chicken
Ham
Turkey
Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes
Corn
Mac & Cheese
Corn Bread Stuffing
Rolls
Apple Cobbler
Sweet Tea

We would like to have all monies paid no later than **Wednesday, December 9, 2015** by COB. You may give your money to Ms. Alysha Jackson or Ms. Sonja Harris. If you have questions or concerns, please e-mail Sonja.Harris@dss.sc.gov or Alysha.Jackson@dss.sc.gov.

Thanking you in advance for your continued support and understanding. As always, let's make this another AWESOME event!

Herlinda B. Thompson
Herlinda B. Thompson
Administrative Assistant, II
Rich-land County DSS
"Excellence Lives Here"
(803) 714-7598