

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
August 26, 2014
340 West Hanover Avenue, Morris Twp.

The August 26, 2014 meeting of the Human Services Advisory Council was called to order by Ms. Debi Merz, Chair at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Jeff Bashe, Citizen Rep. Liaison United Way N.N.J., Success by Six
Marcia Brands, Citizen Rep., Liaison Legislative Subcommittee
Cynthia Degazon, Citizen Rep.
Debi Merz, Citizen Rep.
Tom Pappas, Citizen Rep., Liaison Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans
Tom Pepe, Citizen Rep.
Michelle Roers, Citizen Rep., United Way of NNJ

Also Attending:

Suyen Segura, Zufall Health Center

Staff in Attendance:

Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Pat Mocariski, MCDHS

Welcome and Introductions – Ms. Debi Merz, Chair

All were welcomed and introductions were made.

Approval of June Minutes

The motion to approve the July 22 minutes was made by Mr. Jeff Bashe and seconded by Mr. Tom Pepe. All were in favor with no opposition and three abstentions. The motion carried.

New Jersey Department of Human Services - No Report

**New Jersey Department of Children & Families –
Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) – Dave Johnson**

DCP&P Data for July

Morris East Local Office

Child Protective Services Investigations – 68
Child Welfare Assessments – 24
Total - 92

Morris West Local Office

Child Protective Services Investigations – 81

Child Welfare Assessments – 26

Total – 107

County Totals – 199

Department of Children and Families

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is seeking information from private or public not-for-profit or for-profit organizations to provide Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS) for New Jersey's youth and their families through the Children's System of Care (CSOC). IRTS provides intensive clinical care and supervision to children and youth who require 24/7 care in a safe, sheltered, supervised environment with constant line-of-sight supervision, medication management, and a concentrated individualized treatment protocol. Services are to be provided to youth with a wide range of serious emotional and behavioral challenges.

This Request for Information (RFI) is seeking information to maximize the utilization of IRTS services through a transparent and contracted clinical model paired with a rate structure consistent with national best practices.

This RFI is asking interested organizations for information about the availability and type of IRTS beds they have access to in order to assist DCF with program planning. All responses to this RFI are due by 12:00 p.m. on or before August 27, 2014. Responses shall be accepted on a rolling basis. Responses may provide a basis for DCF to develop a final Request for Proposals (RFP) for IRTS. The Department is seeking brief and concise answers to each of the questions listed below. Applicants shall not contact the Department directly, in person, or by telephone, concerning this RFI.

Applicants may request information and/or assistance from DCFASKRFP@dcf.state.nj.us. For further information go to <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/>

Request for Proposals for County Councils for Young Children (CCYC)

Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge (20 Counties)

Initial funding of up to \$75,000 per county available

Mandatory Bidders conference: August 25, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Place: The Professional Center at DCF

30 Van Dyke Avenue, Auditorium #1

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Proposals due September 18, 2014

Services to be funded:

The grantee agency for this initiative will provide administrative oversight, local coordination and ongoing support to facilitate the development, planning and operation of the CCYC, including the organizational structure of a Steering Committee, and other committees or workgroups that may be needed to support the work of the CCYC. The

lead agency for the CCYC will appoint a project coordinator(s) to work collaboratively with local stakeholders—parents, families and community organizations—and will oversee the day-to-day work of the CCYC.

The deadline to email questions is August 25, 2014. Email questions and/or ask assistance from DCFASKRFP@dcf.state.nj.us. For further information go to <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/>

Mr. Bashe asked if it would be a problem if no provider in Morris County fills this role or applies for this. The deadline is coming up quickly and if they don't get any applicants in they may reach out to local agencies. Often it is the County Child Care Resource & Referral Agency that applies for this. It is uncertain whether Morris County's Resource and Referral Agency is applying for this. Further discussion ensued. The group expressed an interest in having a presentation on this initiative.

Staff Report – Laurie Becker

Mr. Frank Pinto, Director, Department of Human Services, will be retiring from the county at the end of August. The new Director has not yet been named.

Staff Report – Shelia Carter

The Program Review Committee has been active throughout the summer months with onsite monitoring visits. Special thanks to Mr. Tom Pepe for his participation in numerous monitoring this year. The Program Review Committee will meet September 4th and 5th to review 2015 funding applications and put together funding recommendations. The Committee will present these recommendations to the board for its approval at the September 23 meeting.

Subcommittee Reports –

Program Review – Tom Pepe

Hope House AIDS Center Subgrant Modification

Hope House asked for a subgrant modification. They are not requesting an increase or decrease in funding but merely a shifting around of funds. They want to decrease money in individual counseling sessions and increase funding in various other programs where needed. Mr. Tom Pappas made a motion to approve the modification. Mr. Jeff Bashe seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions.

Planning Child Care – Voucher System Update (August) - Kevin Collins

There is no waiting list for child care subsidies. They are serving all eligible applicants and receive approximately 30 new applications a week.

There is currently one unutilized dedicated voucher at Parsippany Child Day Care, one utilized dedicated voucher at Madison Day Care; the 30 day clock is still in effect for these centers.

Dedicated vouchers that were open at Dover Child Care, Ada Budrick and Jefferson Child Care last month have been filled.

Twenty open slots are anticipated by the end of the month as children age out of programs.

Youth Homelessness – Ms. Becker

The Aging-Out Task Force is working on Youth Homelessness. At the September meeting there will be have representation from Rutgers Youth Advisory Board. They will look at the data collected by various agencies and will focus on 7 – 24 year olds. This is a challenging age group and often difficult to find resources. There is a broader focus on youth needed services in regard to co-occurring, addictions and homelessness. They are trying to find more resources for this age group. Their goal is to bring the adult and children system together.

Advisory Committee Reports

Workforce Investment Board (WIB) – David Hollowell

On August 4, the WIB received a notice of obligation from the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development for \$113,000 in Workforce Learning Link funds for Program Year 2014 (7/14-6/15). The funds are used to provide Adult Basic Education, English-as-a Second Language and computer basics instruction to adult learners at Learning Links in the Randolph, Newton and Phillipsburg One-Stop Career Centers.

The WIB has modified its contract with youth service provider NewBridge Services to include funding for participant lunch and performance incentives. The modifications are designed to increase participation and retention in Workforce Investment Act funded youth programs.

WIB Director Jack Patten was recently elected First Vice President of the Garden State Employment and Training Association (GSETA) and ETS Director Donna Buchanan was elected Secretary. Both will serve two year terms. Jack previously served as GSETA President from 2007 to 2008 and agreed to return as an officer to assist in meeting the challenges posed by retirements of many senior GSETA contributors.

The mission of the Association is “to provide leadership, and promote quality and excellence for the advancement of New Jersey’s workforce development system and its customers and professionals.”

Morris, Sussex, Warren (MSW) HIV Advisory – No Report

Mental Health Substance Abuse Advisory Board – Ms. Becker

There was no August meeting. The next meeting will be on Sept. 11, 2014 at 30 Schuyler Place, 5:15 p.m. Red Room. All are welcome.

Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans (ACADV) – No Report

Youth Services Advisory Council – Pat MocarSKI

There was no August meeting. The next meeting will be on Sept. 18 at 2:30 p.m. at 340 W. Hanover Ave., Morristown.

Partnership Announcements –

Ms. Michelle Roers stated that there are many changes in leadership recently in the social services area. Ms. Roers stated that Mark Kramer is leaving Rose House, Eileen Jankunis is leaving Head Start and Laura Marx is leaving 211 and going to United Way of NNJ. Dover Child Care Center also has a new Executive Director.

The United Way is updating the ALICE report. Alice is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. The reality is that 1.1 million New Jersey Households are unable to afford to afford Life's basic necessities. There will be a huge media release and information will be broadcast on CNN and NBC. This report will include other states and will be on a more national scale. It focuses on those that are struggling and helps raise awareness.

Old Business - None

New Business – Ms. Becker

The Morris County Department of Human Services, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office and Morris County Prevention is Key is pulling together an Opiate Awareness Task Force. Heroin and opiates have become a growing public safety and health crisis creating devastating effects on the region, the state and the nation. These narcotics are ubiquitous in every community and usage is on the rise. The first meeting took place and there were over 50 people in attendance. It was a very diverse group and a good cross section. There is a lot of energy and interest in this. The group wants to get more agencies involved. They are working on planning an event and trying to figure out who would be the appropriate audience. Further discussion ensued about this and the possible next steps to be taken.

Ms. Becker mentioned the information that was emailed from Capella University – it is for your information. It is voluntary research study if anyone wishes to participate. Topic is "Collective Orientation on a Volunteer Public Advisory Board Team: A Multiple Regression Analysis of Motivation Factors". See the flier distributed for further information or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YD9XN7W>.

Public Comment

Ms. Segura from Zufall Clinic stated that she is the new Patient Navigator and works with seniors. It was suggested she might want to attend the Aging, Disabilities & Veterans Advisory Board. This would be a good venue for her to distribute this information.

Adjournment –

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jeff Bashe and seconded by Tom Pepe at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Mocarski
Program Development Aide