

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YSAC)
Morris County Human Services Building, 340 West Hanover Avenue, Ground Floor
Conference Room, Morristown, New Jersey
April 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chair person Linda Seeley at 2:35 PM. Members present:

Terri Belske	Jaime Simon
Rose Marie Kill	Abdul Staten
Claudia Salomon	Linda Wolk
Elizabeth Manley	Jim Saylor
Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro	Tina Bibbo
Lila Bernstein	Beth Jacobson
Michelle Borden	Dave Johnson
Diana Cirillo	Dave Johnston
Sylvia Lippe	Kathleen Leonard
Steven Neblett	Frank Pinto
Susan O'Donnell	Laura Siemonsma-Bertelli
Linda Seeley	

Also in attendance:

Laura Budinick, New Alliance Academy
Elaine Steward, Morris County Prosecutor's Office
Tara LeGates, Morris County Juvenile Facilities

Staff in attendance:

Rachelle Farese

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Terri Belske, seconded by member Steve Neblett, the committee approved the minutes of March 15, 2012 regular meeting with two (2) abstentions.

HSAC Needs Assessment

Ms. Farese presented the HSAC Needs Assessment guidelines. The group discussed the questions presented by the Department of Children and Families. Results are attached.

ACTION ITEMS

2013 GIA-Youth Services and JJC Funding Priorities

Rachelle Farese presented 2013 GIA-Youth Services and JJC Funding Priorities. After brief discussion, the committee approved the funding priorities (22-in favor; 0-opposed; 1-abstained).

STATE REPORTS

Juvenile Justice Commission

Jim Saylor reported that there are currently six (6) Morris County youth in the custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) and there is one (1) youth pending placement with the JJC.

Division of Youth and Family Services

Dave Johnston reported that Morris East received 104 child abuse and neglect investigation and thirty one (31) child welfare assessments. Morris West received 115 child abuse and neglect investigations and thirty eight (38) child welfare assessments. The top three (3) municipalities included Morristown & Mt. Olive (27), Parsippany (23) and Dover (22).

Department of Children and Families

Dave Johnston reported that there is an RFP on the DCF Website for Sexual Assault, Abuse and Rape Care (SAARC) for Morris County in the amount of \$44, 337. Mr. Johnston also reported that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The State of New Jersey received a federal grant in the amount of \$9.4 million for home visitation services.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Subcommittee

Rachelle Farese gave the CIACC update. Main discussion involved the Education Partnership initiative. This initiative is still in progress. If McKinney-Vento reaches out to Morris County, it will be for support and information about the County's Partnership. The Medicaid Waiver has not been approved. Once approved, there will be an update as to the effects it will have on DCBHS. Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) adolescent services integration into DCBHS is expected to happen on January 1, 2013. Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) services will begin transitioning to DCBHS on July 1, 2012. The first services to transition will be residential services. Family Support Services will transition on January 1, 2013. All families are to call DDD with any questions regarding intake. Several CIACCs have asked that a representative from PerformCare attend their local meetings. This is not a possibility, however, when they are able, PerformCare will send someone to the statewide CIACC Convener meeting to address any issues or concerns. A copy of this report is included in the packet.

Ms. Farese gave the System Review update which can be found below. The group reviewed and approved the 2013 Funding Priority Summaries for Grant in Aid Youth Services and Juvenile Justice Funding. Ms. Farese informed the group that Morris County had received an e-mail version of the fully executed award letters from the JJC. The 2012 JJC Subgrants will be signed by the Freeholders on April 25th. All contracts will be in JAMS by the afternoon.

The next meeting of the planning subcommittee will be held on Monday, April 9, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

System Review Committee

Subcommittee met on March 26, 2012.

Group reviewed the February 2012 notes. There was one revision to the Morris Probation report. It should read "...303 youth on probation supervision..." Subcommittee members introduced themselves.

Care Management Organization – Liz Manley reported that the current CMO census was at 198 and they are fully staffed. The number of views on ResourceNet continues to increase each month.

Youth Case Management – Stephanie Villota reported that YCM began the month with 171 youth; they received twenty four (24) new referrals (4-CCIS, 4-14 Day Plan, 4-Community, 5-Mobile

Response, 5-Needs Assessment, 1-CMO Step Down, 1-Perform Care). Eight (8) families refused services, seventeen (17) youth were terminated and YCM ended the month with 146 families. YCM is still short staffed and looking for a bi-lingual (Spanish) clinician.

CCIS – No report.

Mobile Response & Stabilization Services – Jennifer Oatley reported that Mobile Response received sixty eight (68) calls which resulted in fifty eight (58) dispatches. Of those dispatches, thirty five (35) were for Morris. MRSS transitioned fifty nine (59) youth and had 149 in stabilization at the end of the month. MRSS received five (5) school referrals from Morris County. Gaps reported included resources for youth on the autism spectrum, art therapy for youth fourteen (14) to seventeen (17) years old, longer term in home therapy and play therapy.

Family Support Organization – Madeline Lozowski reported that the FSO received fifteen (15) new referrals and twenty one (21) Warmline contacts. There are ninety seven (97) active CMO families receiving peer support and 186 hours of peer support was provided to these families. There are thirteen (13) youth in the Youth Partnership.

Division of Youth and Family Services –David Johnston reported that Morris East received eighty four (84) referrals (63-CAN & 21-CWA), Morris West received 129 referrals (105-CAN & 24-CWA). The top three (3) municipalities in Morris County were Dover (25), Mt. Olive (15) and Parsippany (14). Sussex received 120 referrals (95-CAN & 25-CWA). In the next two (2) weeks the cases for the Morris Quality Review will be identified.

Division of Developmental Disability – Wendy Zoccola reported that they are still taking the intake calls at DDD and meeting with DYFS regarding shared cases. The Division has been meeting internally to make sure all adolescent files are up to date to ensure a smoother transition to DCBHS.

Division of Child Behavioral Health Services –Rachelle Farese reported that CIACC will be meeting on Friday, March 30, 2012 and there will be an updated report at the next Systems Review meeting. Ms. Farese also informed the group that Morris and Sussex counties are in the process of completing the HSAC Needs Assessment. Ms. Farese requested that the group meet after next month's meeting to answer the focus group questions provided by DCF.

CSA – No report.

Morris County Youth Shelter – Tara LeGates reported that there were currently two (2) juveniles in the Shelter (1-Hunterdon, 1-Warren). Through the month of January, the Youth Shelter provided services to twelve (12) youth (5-female, 7-male; 5-Morris, 2-Hunterdon,2-Sussex, 3-Warren).

Morris Juvenile Detention Center – Jessica Filosa reported that through the month of February there were ten (10) juveniles in the Juvenile Detention Center. Of those youth eight (8) were sent home and two (2) were remanded to the youth shelter. The average length of stay was fifteen (15) days, four (4) youth had been in the JDC more than once. There were fifteen (15) youth in the JDC at the time of the meeting (7-Morris, 4-Sussex and 4-Warren).

Probation –Mark Ripatrazzone reported that there are currently 295 youth on probation supervision. 48% are deferred and 52% are on regular probation. Judge Wright will be out for 1-2 weeks. Tracey Skop reported that Intake added eight seven (87) cases and disposed of one hundred (100). There are currently 110 cases pending.

JJC – Jim Saylor reported that there are currently six (6) Morris County youth in the custody of the JJC. One (1) youth has been recalled and one (1) youth is pending placement at the NJ Training School. Total JJC numbers are low. Some fields programs are closing and some are consolidating. Mr. Saylor will keep the committee informed of the changes.

System Struggles – Liz Manley reported that the Sussex Mental Health Board received data that indicated the number of referrals to screenings has increased but the CMO numbers have decreased. Dave Johnston reported that Daytop has opened their new outpatient services for those youth who are aging out of the juvenile system; however, right now they are only accepting those youth with private insurance. There has also been a trend where Daytop is not accepting resistant youth into their program. DYFS will be meeting with them to address this concern.

System Successes – No report.

Aging Out/Aging In Task Force –The next meeting is Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at 10 AM. Rachelle Farese will forward the reminder to the committee. This meeting will address the HSAC Needs Assessment Focus Group questions.

New Business and Announcements – Madeline Lozowski reported that the Newton Office has expanded to the first floor of the building. Outreach will be done on both floors. There will be an open house once the renovations/moving is complete.

Liz Manley reported that the Aging In/Out Resource Guide is complete and will be put onto ResourceNet. The guide is geared towards youth that are fourteen (14) or older. It has activities and information on what they should be working towards as they reach the aging out phase of their life.

The next meeting of the system review subcommittee will be held on Monday, April 23, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at Caring Partners CMO in Mt. Arlington.

Legislative Subcommittee

Subcommittee met on Tuesday, April 10, 2012. The group reviewed the tracked legislation. There was only one update. Senate Bill No. 553, which would have required services be provided for sexually exploited juveniles charged with certain offenses and created an affirmative defense regarding prostitution, was withdrawn from consideration. There was a discussion regarding the process for juvenile record expungement. A youth can only have their record expunged once. After the record is expunged, a formal letter goes to all those involved in the youth's juvenile history notifying them of the expungement. All agencies perform their process. The next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for July 10, 2012 at 10 AM. Ms. Farese will send out an e-mail a week before the meeting that will include the agenda items. The group will decide at that time if they will need to meet.

The next meeting of the legislative subcommittee will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program Subcommittee

Rachelle Farese reported that the subcommittee did not meet in April. There is currently one (1) youth pending evaluation and nine (9) youth pending individual education. There have been four (4) referrals made in 2012.

The next meeting of the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program subcommittee will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Disproportionate Minority Contact Subcommittee

Liz Manley reported that the subcommittee did not meet in April.

The next meeting of the Disproportionate Minority Contact subcommittee will be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Education Partnership Subcommittee

Rachelle Farese reported that the Education Partnership held a cross training on Wednesday, April 18, 2012. The cross training addressed adolescent substance abuse, including warning signs and current trends. The majority of the surveys indicated that the training went well and the topic and presenter were well received.

The next meeting of the Education Partnership subcommittee will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Family Advisory Subcommittee

No report at this time. The next Family Advisory subcommittee meeting date and time is to be determined.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

There are no reports at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business at this time.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**All hand outs will be redistributed via e-mail.*

Lila Bernstein reported that on May 17, 2012, there will be an Aging Out Fair in Essex County. This event was organized by the Essex County Court and Essex County CASA. This fair will be held in the form of seminars for the youth. Ms. Bernstein would like to look into the possibility of bringing the Fair to Morris County.

Abdul Staten informed the group that April 26, 2012 is Denim Day. There will be events on the Green in Morristown from 12 PM to 2 PM. Information was sent out via e-mail prior to the meeting.

Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro had recently attended the open house for the Morris County Family Success Center. She suggested that the director come to speak to the YSAC about the services they offer. Ms. Vaca-Bullaro will forward his contact information to Rachelle Farese.

Terri Belske announced that the Wellness Fair will be held at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy on May 10, 2012. The event will be all day long and have presentations and vendors. This fair is being sponsored by the Mental Health Association and Community Hope.

Beth Jacobson informed the group of the Natural High Comedy Night. It will be held on April 25, 2012 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy. This event is free and open to the parents and youth over 12 years of age.

Terri Belske announced that the Annual Consumer Forum will be held on June 12, 2012 at St. Francis in Denville.

Steve Neblett announced that Morristown Neighborhood House is currently seeking an individual that knows how to play the guitar and would be willing to volunteer to teach guitar lessons at the Neighborhood House.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 2:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:20 PM member Chair Linda Seeley moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachelle Farese
Juvenile Justice Coordinator

Original is signed and kept on file at the office of the Division of Behavioral Health and Youth Services.