

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2011

- I. **Call to Order** – The April meeting of the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) was called to order to at 5:45 p.m.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions** – Everyone was welcomed and introductions were made.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – There was a motion to approve the March 23, 2011 minutes. The motion was approved with no opposition and two abstentions.

IV. **County of Morris Department of Human Services – Mary Jo Buchanan, Laurie Becker**

Ms. Buchanan was at the Freeholder’s meeting this morning. The Freeholders stated that there will be level funding for 2012. The Annual Not-For-Profit Conference is tomorrow. There is currently a wait list. The conference is from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Meadow Wood Manor in Randolph, New Jersey.

V. **County of Morris Planning and Development, Division of Community Development –**

Ms. Carter stated that Community Development received official draft funding levels for three programs:

- 1. Community Development Block Grant is funded at a 16% reduction.
- 2. Home Investment Partnership is funded at a 12% reduction.
- 3. Emergency Solutions Grant is funded with an increase of 35%. This increase is influenced by the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act and is directed at homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services.

The Committee requested a second application round if the award exceeded \$120,000; a request for amended applications has been distributed with a deadline for submissions set for Friday, May 6.

The Freeholders will vote on all three Program recommendations at their meeting on June 8.

New Jersey Department of Human Services – Luis Tamayo

Commissioner Velez spoke at the Assembly meeting on April 7 and talked about various reductions and cuts in the budget.

There was discussion about the cuts for the Division of Blind and Hearing Impaired. There is a lot of concern over the cut of one third of their teachers.

The Division feels they can still provide adequate coverage and will have more cost effective utilization of their resources.

At the Senate hearing on May 2 there will be discussion about the cuts to New Jersey Family Care. There are about 5,000 adults in New Jersey that are on Medicaid that also have another income. Often this other income makes their income above the Medicaid threshold. These folks need further help. This is part of the Federal Reform for 2012.

At the State Human Services Council meeting three things were discussed:

1. Childcare Vouchers and Dedicated Vouchers. There was a meeting with the Division of Family Development (DFD) and their Director, Jeanette Paige-Hawkins, on April 15 to work on the final details. The HSAC has expressed their position of wishing to maintain their ability to make recommendations to DFD.
2. Valerie Hart spoke on the Global Waiver. They are trying to collapse several waivers into one. There is a lot of money involved and a lot of details to work out. There may be a \$300 million cut to Medicaid services. This Global Waiver can be used to give out money to some areas that were cut.
3. There was \$125,000 throughout the state pulled from detox beds. There were many who thought the system was inefficient. This funding is no longer being pulled from detox beds since many people in the community did not like the idea.

The Committee discussed item number 1 on Childcare Vouchers and Dedicated Vouchers and voted to send a letter in support of the Dedicated Voucher concept. Rebekka Zydell will draft a letter from the HSAC to DFD in support of both of the Dedicated Voucher System and maintaining the HSAC's involvement.

Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) – Wendy Zoccola

There is a self directed family support waiver. DDD is looking at a waiver that allows reimbursement to the families with disabled loved ones to help them care for their loved ones in their home. This will give families more flexibility.

DDD is looking at addressing 2011 graduates to see what they are going to do. It looks like there will be money available to help those graduating. They are also looking at 2012 and helping parents learn what options are available to them.

There is a long waiting process for residential supportive housing. They do not maintain a list. There is, however, a waiting list for the waiver program. They are hoping in 2012 to be able to help house more individuals than last year. Last year they were able to house 128 disabled individuals.

VI. N. J. Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) – Christina Pelka

- Commissioner Blake testified before the Assembly Budget Hearing on DCF's FY 2012 proposed budget.
- Commissioner Blake is scheduled to testify before the Senate Budget and Appropriates Committee on DCF's Fiscal Year 2012 proposed budget on May 11.
- On April 12 the Commissioner Blake participated in a meeting about Human Trafficking with representatives of: the New Jersey Trafficking Task Force, Polaris Project, End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes USA (EPCAT USA), Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of New Jersey, and Junior Leagues of New Jersey.
- On April 15 a notice of availability of funds was posted on the DCF Website: Summer Intensive Life Skills Camp. This Request for Funding Proposal (RFP) is being announced again for the funding of one program. The RFP funding totals \$90,000 and is being made available to colleges, universities and non-profits. See www.nj.gov/dcf/notices if you are interested in this announcement.
- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Governor Christie issued a proclamation to recognize April 2011 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in New Jersey.
- The County Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) office is going through quality review to see how the office is doing. They are interviewing families, children, schools and providers. This is the first time this is being done in our county and will be the baseline. Next year it will be done again to see how things have improved.
- Statistics for DYFS March Referrals:
 - Morris East - 110 new referrals
 - Morris West - 140 new referrals
 - Total 250 new referrals

VII. Staff Report – Shelia Carter

Ms. Carter was at the State HSAC meeting held on Friday, April 8, 2011.

Commissioner Velez reported on the Involuntary Outpatient Commitment Law.

- The bill passed, the law was signed.
- There's 2 million dollars in this year's budget.
- No additional dollars to implement as needed.
- Recognized still sitting out there as a problem for counties (not enough to fund screening centers).
- Commissioner Velez plan is to go back to the bill sponsors for next steps.

The Department of Children and Families was fully funded for the upcoming year; however, there is not cost of living increase.

There was discussion on the Future Differential Response Program. Six counties piloted this program. This is where there is a centralized number for Division of

Youth and Family Service (DYFS) calls. By using a centralized call system this could decrease the amount of calls that DYFS gets by diverting some of the calls which are inappropriate. Thus far with the pilot program there really hasn't been a reduction in call volume. Thus the expansion of Future Differential Response Programs is currently on hold. Programs already in effect are thoroughly being evaluated.

The Department of Children and Families needs assessment is looking at local needs for at-risk children and families. Seven counties participated in the first round of the needs assessment and five counties participated in the second round. Morris County is part of the third round. The third round of this assessment will probably take place in 2012.

**VIII. Subcommittee Reports –
CEAS/COC – No Report**

Program Review – Kathy McKeithen

The Committee reviewed Funding Priorities Summaries for general Grant-in-Aid, Social Services for the Homeless and Child Abuse Prevention and believe they are the same. The 2012 Funding Priorities will not change.

El Primer Paso submitted a subgrant modification request. Some of the wording was not consistent with the units of service. This program is for training and support services for in-home childcare providers. The funding amount is the same. The change is only for the descriptive service units being purchased. This is a quality enhancement program. The subcommittee is in favor of approving this request. There was a motion made for the HSAC to approve El Primer Paso's subgrant modification request. The motion was approved with no opposition and no abstentions.

IX. Advisory Committee Reports

Youth Services Advisory Committee (YSAC) –

Ms. Becker was at the YSAC meeting. The Youth Advocacy Program in Sparta is adding outpatient services for children/families on Medicaid.

Workforce Investment Board (WIB) –

Ms. Buchanan stated that there will be a WIB open meeting on May 26 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Training Academy.

Mental Health Substance Abuse Advisory Board – Charles LaRussa

The 17th Annual Public Mental Health Forum the “Many Faces of Recovery – Self Help and Beyond” is set for June 2, 2011 at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center in Whippany, New Jersey, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For further information please contact Laurie Becker at (973) 285-6852.

At the last MHSAAB Meeting Deborah McKinley from Daytop gave a presentation on services available at Daytop-New Jersey. Daytop-New Jersey’s mission is to deliver a comprehensive substance abuse co-occurring treatment and education program to male and female adolescents. The program is multi-disciplinary in nature. Special emphasis is placed on treating those adolescents without adequate financial resources and/or in need of an alternative to incarceration. For further information on Daytop see their website at www.daytopnj.org or call 1-888-4DAYTOP. Their information and referral line is open 24 hours a day.

The next MHSAAB Meeting will be held on May 12 at 5:15 at 30 Schuyler Place, 3rd Floor, Morristown.

The Municipal Alliance Coordinator, Steve Nebesni, talked about a new social engine for college students that highlights fun activities that students can have on and off campus without the use of drugs or alcohol. There are 17 Alliances that will be participating in the Parents Who Host Lose the Most countywide campaign, which will kick off at the 2011 Police Expo at the Rockaway Mall on May 14, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In May the Freeholders will be giving a Proclamation for The Parents Who Host Lose Most. The Prosecutor’s office is also involved in this. Sylvia Lippe, Family Service of Morris County, will make a presentation on the Morris County Intoxicated Driver Resource Center at the May 12 MHSAAB Meeting.

Ms. Becker stated that detox funding will remain within the counties and will not be centralized in the state. However; the overall pot from the counties will be reduced. There will be approximately a \$13,000 - \$14,000 reduction. The MHSAAB will have some tough decisions to make regarding funding.

Advisory Council on Aging, Disability and Veterans – Tom Pappas

May is “Older Americans Month”. The theme this year is “Connecting the Community”. Scheduled events include; the Senior and Disabled Art Show, Living Treasures and County College of Morris Celebrates Seniors.

Some people have received a Property Tax Rebate and have been asked to return it for one of two reasons. The first reason is because the person reviewing the paperwork is including social security as income or second, because the person filing is over the income level. If you get a letter you should call to inquire.

There are two scams targeting Veterans. The first scam is an agency pretending to be Veterans Affairs or associated with the Veterans Administration (VA). They will call and ask for personal information. The VA will not call a veteran to ask for personal

information because they already have the information. No personal information should ever be given over the phone. The second scam is an agency requesting donations to make packages to ship to soldiers overseas. This is also a scam.

Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Committee – Robert Armstrong

For the first time ever, five of New Jersey's leading AIDS service organizations have unified their efforts to produce a single state-wide awareness and fundraising event on Sunday, May 1. On this day, in five separate locations (Ridgewood, Asbury Park, Morristown, Pennsauken and Atlantic City), thousands of people will walk in solidarity throughout New Jersey to support HIV/AIDS. Registration opens on the Morristown Green at 11:30 a.m. and Step Off is set for 1:30 p.m. More information can be found on www.newjerseyaidswalk.org/.

A Morris County HIV Advocacy group comprised of people living with HIV/AIDS has postponed their trip to Washington, DC to June 1-3. The policy Department at Hyacinth AIDS Foundation is holding HIV advocacy trainings at Hope House in Dover. The Sisters of Charity are sponsoring the trip. The Morris County group will join delegates from other New Jersey counties to meet with New Jersey Congressmen and Senators, and/or their legislative assistants, including Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, and Senators Frank Lautenberg and Robert Menendez. The purpose includes advocating for funding HIV health services, testing, prevention, education and research.

The Newark Eligible Metropolitan Area (NEMA) HIV Health Services Planning Council, which covers the geographical area of Morris, Sussex, Warren, Union and Essex Counties, is currently revising their Needs Assessment which receives a major overhaul every three years, this being a revision year. The Chairman of the HIV Planning Council, Dr. Robert Johnson, was recently appointed Dean of University of Medicine and Dentistry New Jersey (UMDNJ).

The Morris, Sussex, Warren County HIV/AIDS Advisory Council next meeting is May 17. The location will be announced.

X. Old Business –

Ken Oexle mentioned that there was discussion of changing the meeting time to 5:30 p.m. There was a motion to change the meeting time to 5:30 p.m. instead of 5:45 p.m. Motion was approved with no opposition and no abstentions.

XI. New Business –

Michelle Roers stated that United Way of Northern New Jersey is hosting a Public Officials Forum on May 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The focus of this forum will be on the issues surrounding workforce development and how public entities, corporations, non-profits, and educators can work together to ensure that northern New Jersey residents have the skills to succeed in the 21st century. For further information or to register for this event go to: www.liveunitedmorris.org/newseents/events.

XII. Public Comment – None

XIII. Adjournment –

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Mocarski
Program Development Aide

ATTENDANCE
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL – APRIL 27, 2011

Members Present:

Armstrong, Robert
Bashe, Jeffrey
Csengeto, Linda
LaRussa, Charles
McKeithen, Kathy
Melo, Mary Jane
Merz, Debi
Miller, Debby
Oexle, Kenneth
Roers, Michelle
Zydel, Rebekka

Affiliation:

Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
CEAS/COC Representative/OTA
Mental Health Association
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative/MHSAAB
Citizen Representative
United Cerebral Palsy
Citizen Representative
United Way of Northern NJ
Child & Family Resources

Members Absent:

Brands, Marcia
Delaney, Nancy
Guevara, Xiomara
Hollowell, David
Laureys, Cecilia
Manley, Elizabeth
Pappas, Thomas
Tietjen, Susan
Walker, David
Wilson, Ruth

Affiliation:

Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Hispanic Affairs
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Caring Partners
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative/MHSAAB
Morristown Neighborhood House
Commerce Bank

State DCF – Present

Pelka, Christine
Zoccola, Wendy

Affiliation:

DYFS/DCF
DDD

State DHS – Present

Tamayo, Luis

Affiliation:

State Department of Human Services

MCDHS - Present:

Becker, Laurie
Buchanan, Mary Jo
Carter, Shelia
Fetzer-Mocarski, Patricia

Affiliation:

MC Department of Human Services
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MC Department of Human Services