

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2011

- I. Call to Order** – The August meeting of the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Ken Oexle, HSAC Chair.
- II. Welcome and Introductions** – Everyone was welcomed and introductions were made.
- III. Approval of Minutes** – Ms. Carter stated there were some changes made to the attendance sheet after it was sent out. Copies of the July 27, 2011 minutes with revised attendance sheet were made available. A motion to approve the minutes with changes to the attendance sheet was approved with no opposition and two abstentions.
- IV. County of Morris Department of Human Services – No Report**
- V. County of Morris Planning and Development, Division of Community Development – Sabine VonAulock**

Thanks to the Program Review Committee for their hard work. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has sent direction to use the amount from the 2010 funding award for the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG). However, it is possible that this year's award may be 30% more. The committee approved \$90,000 for the first scenario for the ESG awards. If they get additional funding they approved a second scenario for the ESG awards.

There have been more calls for help recently and many people aren't able to get assistance and are facing homelessness. Many people are unable to keep their housing. The Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-Housing Program is out of money; however, the Office of Temporary Assistance (OTA) still has limited funding. Many folks are still going to OTA for help. There are more people in need and yet many people don't meet the eligibility requirements. They make too much to be eligible for assistance but yet are not able to survive on what they make.
- VI. New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJ DHS) – Luis Tamayo**

The Global Medicaid Waiver has still not been submitted. The Federal Government will not rule on this until October. There was legislation to Close Vineland Developmental Center; however, a task force has been assigned to reconsider its closure. The Task Force will comprehensively review all seven state developmental centers. If they decide not to close Vineland, there will still be one developmental center closed.

There are some states that have no Developmental Centers. In New Jersey there are seven Developmental Centers. In hospital care, there is a proposed change in the ratio of workers to clients. Currently there is a 1 worker to 12 patient ratio; however, with the proposed change there will be a 1 to 15 ratio. Also proposed is a change in the reimbursement rate from \$15.40 per hour to \$14.50 per hour for partial care.

Next week there will be a Directors meeting with Commissioner Velez. Commissioner Blake will not be there. There will be some discussion on the budget, the Childcare Dedicated Voucher System and Involuntary Outpatient Commitment Law. On Sept. 9 the State Human Services Advisory Council will meet and the agenda will be similar to the Director's Agenda.

VII. N.J. Department of Children and Families (DCF) – Elizabeth McGovern

Jean Marimon, DYFS Director, is stepping down on September 1. She will become Area Director for Essex County. The DYFS Acting Director will be Kara Wood.

Locally there will be a change in staff. Betty Berzin, Manager of the Morris East Office, has accepted another position. Ms. McGovern has interviewed sixteen people for the position as Manager of the Morris East Office. Ms. McGovern hopes to make the job offer for the position by mid September and have the new Manager in the Morris East Office shortly thereafter.

In July 2011 referrals were as follows:

Morris East LO	-	88
Morris West LO	-	112
Total New Referrals		200

VIII. Staff Report – Shelia Carter

Eight agencies (11 programs) were monitored during the month of July; ten agencies (15 programs) were monitored during the month of August; with the last agency visited yesterday during the earthquake.

- The HSAC Program Review Committee will meet Thursday, September 1 and Friday September 2 to review 2012 funding applications and develop funding recommendations.
- Funding recommendations will be presented at the general committee meeting on Wednesday, September 21.

IX. Subcommittee Reports

Program Review – Kathy McKeithen

Notice of Intent for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CoC Homeless Funding

The Program Review Subcommittee heard six agencies give overviews of proposals to provide services for homeless individuals and families with mental

illness, persons with HIV/AIDS, veterans, victims of domestic violence and modest income residents in need of childcare, emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing.

The Program Review Subcommittee recommends that currently funded programs move forward in submitting renewal applications. The Subcommittee also recommends the two new agencies submit applications for permanent housing projects. The new agencies applying for funding are Community Hope and Eric Johnson House (NJAS).

There was a motion to approve the Program Review Subcommittee's recommendations for the HUD funding proposals. The motion was approved with one abstention and no opposition.

Planning Subcommittee – Shelia Carter

The Childcare Dedicated Voucher plan was submitted to the State and approved, then sent to Morris County Risk Management for their review. Risk Management requested that certain language changes be incorporated into the document. The Program Review Committee will meet to make these changes.

CEAS/CoC/Data Collection Subcommittee – Shelia Carter

Group focus has been on data quality and systemic trends that the committee feels are important to track for planning purposes.

CEAS/CoC/Continuum of Care Subcommittee – Shelia Carter

The focus has been on updating the status of the following five priority areas listed in the 2010 Exhibit 1 strategic planning objective for preparation of submission of the 2011 Continuum of Care application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development:

- 1) The creation of new permanent housing beds for homeless persons;
- 2) How the system has increased the percentage of participants remaining in CoC funded permanent housing projects for at least six months to 77 percent or more;
- 3) How the county has increased the percentage of participants in CoC funded transitional housing that moved into permanent housing to 65 percent or more;
- 4) Increase percentage of participants in all CoC funded projects that are employed at Program exit to 20 percent or more; and
- 5) Decrease the number of homeless households with children.

**X. Advisory Committee Reports –
Youth Services Advisory Committee (YSAC) – No Report**

Workforce Investment Board (WIB) – Read into Record

- The Workforce Investment Board (WIB), under a grant from the N.J. Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD), as written an On-

the-Job Training (OJT) training manual for statewide use. The manual details procedures for marketing On-the-Job Training, developing training curricula, determining employer reimbursement, tracking trainee progress and monitoring program results. On September 15, WIB Director Jack Patten will conduct an On-the-Job Training workshop and review of the manual at the Garden State Employment and Training Conference.

- The WIB, in conjunction with the N.J. Department of Labor and Workforce Development, is pleased to announce that Burning Glass, a powerful job and talent matching engine, is now available to all New Jersey residents. The Burning Glass product uses spider technology to search and aggregate job postings from numerous job boards and organizational and corporate websites. It matches the skills of jobseekers with individuals who have gotten jobs with similar job histories, profiles and transferable skills. It looks at technical and non-technical skills, degrees, certifications, work experience, career objectives, languages, past employers and gaps and provides sample interview questions for targeted occupations. Employers can search based on a job description, using specific criteria or skills, or with a model resume. Burning Glass is available at Jobs4Jersey.org.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Advisory Board – Laurie Becker

There was no meeting in July; however, the Funding Review Subcommittee met yesterday and reviewed all Grant-In-Aid and Chapter 51 funding applications. Recommendations will be presented to the full MHSAAAB Committee at the September 8 meeting.

Council on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans – No Report

Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Committee – No Report

United Way of Northern New Jersey Success by Six – Michelle Roers

The United Way of Northern New Jersey is working in Wharton on a program called the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The Dolly Parton Foundation delivers a book a month to households with young children. The United Way is helping to kick off this program in Wharton and will soon extend the program to Mine Hill. Children from birth to preschool are provided free books – one mailed monthly to each child. The mission of this program is to assist children in developing their vocabulary, school readiness, and love of learning and reading.

The United Way of Northern New Jersey is also trying to engage and educate parents on anti-bullying. Responding to the tragic suicide of a young Rutgers student, New Jersey has an Anti-Bullying Act of 2011 which mandates stricter policies for Garden State School Districts. As of September 1, these new anti-bullying laws are in effect. There is a need to hustle with implementation of the new requirements. There are many workshops being offered and experts to speak on anti-bullying. The workshops are being offered to preschool educators and parents. Workshops are scheduled on 9/21 and 9/22. Registration information for

these workshops went out through the preschools. The United Way is working with the schools to help them offer more workshops and to prepare for the new tougher legislation and policy which is in effect.

Jeff Bashe is on the United Way Success by Six capacity building team. This team is trying to help smaller childcare centers stay in business. Some of these smaller centers are at-risk of closing. The United Way Success by Six worked with Madison Childcare Center to team them up with Family Service of Morris County. They are trying to pair up other smaller centers with larger centers in order to help the smaller centers succeed.

XI. Old Business – None

XII. New Business – Michelle Roers, United Way of Northern New Jersey

There was an Affordable Housing video shown and a presentation given. The video was put together by the Housing Alliance of Morris County. The Housing Alliance advocates for growth of affordable housing opportunities. They are working to spread the message that Morris County needs housing for all. They are showcasing that affordable housing is both attractive and affordable. The Housing Alliance is increasing public knowledge of the housing crisis and influencing public policy. They are trying to dispel myths often associated with affordable housing. Brochures were passed out and examples are listed below of some of the myths vs. facts regarding Affordable Housing:

- Myth - Affordable Housing will bring down the property values.
- Fact – Studies have shown that adding affordable housing to existing neighborhoods has no impact on the resale value of homes.
- Myth – Residents living in affordable housing don't contribute to the community.
- Fact – When individuals spend less on their housing, they are able to spend in the community. In fact, for every dollar spent on affordable housing, at least \$10 is returned in new business, job creation, tax contributions, access to higher education, and increased independence.

For further information on the Housing Alliance call Michelle Roers at 973 993-1160, x116.

Michelle and other agency representatives went to the Bidders Conference related to Family Success Centers. There are \$200,000 grants available each for Morris, Sussex, Hunterdon and Cape May Counties for the start up of these Centers. The Department of Children and Families currently funds a statewide network of 37 Family Support Centers as “one-stop” shops that provide wrap-around resources and supports for families before they find themselves in crisis. Family Success Centers offer primary and secondary child abuse prevention services to families and bring together concerned community residents, leaders, and community

agencies to address the problems that threaten the safety and stability of families and the community. There is no cost to access these services. The centers are a stand alone facility to help each community.

XIII. Public Comment – None

XIV. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Mocarski
Program Development Aide

ATTENDANCE
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL – August 24, 2011

Members Present:

Csengeto, Linda
Delaney, Nancy
Laureys, Cecilia
Manley, Elizabeth
McKeithen, Kathy
Oexle, Kenneth
Roers, Michelle
Walker, David

Affiliation:

CEAS/COC Representative/OTA
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Caring Partners/YSAC
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
United Way of Northern NJ
Morristown Neighborhood House

Members Absent:

Armstrong, Robert
Bashe, Jeffrey
Brands, Marcia
Guevara, Xiomara
Hollowell, David
Melo, Mary Jane
Merz, Debi
Miller, Debby
Pappas, Thomas
Tietjen, Susan
LaRussa, Charles
Wilson, Ruth
Zydel, Rebekka

Affiliation:

Citizen Representative/Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV
Citizen Representative/UWNJ Success by Six
Citizen Representative
Hispanic Affairs
Citizen Representative/WIB
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative/Aging, Disabilities & Vets.
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative/MHSAAB
Commerce Bank
Child & Family Resources

State DCF – Present

McGovern, Elizabeth

Affiliation:

DCF/DYFS

State DHS - Present

Tamayo, Luis

Affiliation:

State Department of Human Services

MCDHS - Present

Becker, Laurie
Carter, Shelia
Fetzer-Mocarski, Patricia
Pinto, Frank

Affiliation:

MC Department of Human Services
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MC Department of Human Services