

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YSAC)
Morris County Human Services Building, 340 West Hanover Avenue, Ground Floor
Conference Room, Morristown, New Jersey
February 21, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Juli Harpell-Elam at 2:33 PM. Members present:

Terry Belske	Tina Bibbo
Rose Marie Kill	Christopher Burkhart
Maria Augustowicz	Jessica Mondino
Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro	Sandra Gogerty
Lila Bernstein	Beth Jacobson
Michelle Borden	David Johnson
Juli Harpell-Elam	Kimberly Johnson
Sylvia Lippe	David Johnston
Neville Newton	Kathy Leonard
Linda Seeley	Hank Lyon
Jaime Simon	Frank Pinto
Linda Wolk	Laura Siemonsma-Bertelli
Jim Saylor	Jeena Williams

Guests: Tara Legates, Lisa Vilano, Nicole Poland

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Rose Marie Kill, seconded by member Linda Seely, the committee approved the minutes of the January 17, 2013 regular meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Nicole Poland from Gateway Northwest spoke about their Healthy Families program. The program is free and voluntary for all parents of children from prenatal to 3 years old. The program helps parents with things such as developmental screenings, early intervention, school preparedness and health insurance as well as doing home visits. Parents can enroll in the program as soon as they find out they are pregnant. The program will also work with alternate caregivers such as grandparents aunts and uncles. For any referrals contact Nicole Poland. (Flyer Attached)

ACTION ITEMS

2013 YSAC Co-Chair Vote

Nominated parties were asked to exit the room for voting and discussion. Member David Johnson presented the 2013 YSAC Co-Chair nomination. Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro was nominated to a 2013 term as Co-Chair.

After discussion, on motion by member David Johnson, the committee approved the 2013 YSAC Co-Chair position. (25-Aye; 0-Nay; 0-Abstain)

STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS

Juvenile Justice Commission

Six (6) Juveniles: Four (4) Committed, Two (2) Community Programs, One (1) recalled, One (1) will be released.

Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P)

Jeena Williams reported that Morris DCP&P had a total of 266 referrals, Morris East 127; 98 Child Protective Services (CPS), 29 Child Welfare Services (CWS). Morris West 139; 116 CPS, 23 CWS. Morristown had the most referrals with 30, followed by Mt. Olive with 27 and Dover with 24.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Jeena Williams reported that everyone was working on getting accustomed to the Transition of the to Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). Ms. Williams also spoke about the need to educate staff regarding this change, what to expect and how to handle these cases. There is a need to identify resources outside of Perform Care and share with one another. Ms. Williams suggested asking a Children's System of Care (CSoC) representative to attend a YSAC meeting to answer some questions.

Michelle Borden, New Bridge Services, brought up issues facing her agency as well as other free standing agencies. How will the changes at CSoC affect agencies that are licensed but not contracted with the state? Jessica Mondino will work on getting a representative to attend an upcoming meeting to address these issues.

Youth Services Coordinator report

Jessica Mondino reported that the Electronic Monitoring subcommittee met on January 25 and began trouble shooting ideas for different ways to operate the program by looking at other counties programs. The next meeting is on March 1. Ms. Mondino also reminded the committee that the Missing and Exploited Children's Fund is available to use. If anyone has any ideas please let Jessica know. The Grant In Aid subgrant packages have been sent out. The JJC funded subgrant packages will go out once the award letter has been received from the state.

Aging In/Out Task Fore

Beth Jacobson reported that the committee did not meet this month. The next meeting will be April 16 2013 at 10am at the DCP&P office in Morris Plains.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning

The subcommittee met on Tuesday February 11, 2013

Jessica Mondino reported that the Statewide CIACC Conveners meeting was held on Friday, January 17, 2013 Liz Manley, Jeff Guenzel and Commissioner Allison Blake attended this meeting. They discussed the changes that were being made within CSoC as well as discussed Perform Care issues. They informed the group that all Perform Care workers would be going through a retraining course.

Ms. Mondino also gave the Systems Review updates which can be found below. The group discussed ways to make better use of the system review meetings.

Ms. Mondino informed the group that the 2012-2014 County Comprehensive Youth Services Plan and 2013 Application revisions have been sent back to the JJC. At this point the County is waiting for the award letters from the JJC in order to execute 2013 subgrants with agencies.

Ms. Mondino announced that the subcommittee needs a new chair. The chair's responsibilities include running the meeting, ensuring the subcommittee stays on task and reporting out at the YSAC meeting. Ms. Mondino will send an e-mail to the subcommittee members to see if anyone is interested in volunteering.

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 11, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Systems Review

The November 2012 minutes were reviewed and approved.

Community Reports:

Care Management Organization – CMO's current census is 198. They closed 8 and had 8 new referrals.

Youth Case Management –

Sussex – Sussex County YCM started October with 95, and received 14 referrals: 10 from Needs Assessments, 1 community, 1 transfer. They opened 7, closed 7, and had 0 decline services. They ended the month with 102.

Morris – Morris County YCM received 17 new referrals during the month (2-14 Day Plans, 1-Community, 5-Parent, 0-School, 4-Needs Assessments, 1-DCP&P and 3-MRSS). They ended the month with 122 cases. YCM transitioned 7 families. YCM worked with 112 families throughout the month of December 2012

CCIS – In the 4th quarter of 2012 CCIS had 240 admissions, 221 discharges and 72 readmissions.

Mobile Response & Stabilization Services – Mobile Response received 40 calls which resulted in 35 dispatches. Of those dispatches, 24 were in Morris and 11 were in Sussex. MRSS closed 48 and had 70 families in stabilization at the end of the month. There were 9 school referrals, 6 of which were from Morris, 3 of which were from Sussex

Morris County service gaps were more substance abuse programs that accept Medicaid, resources for autistic children that accept Medicaid, groups for children on the spectrum, child psychiatrists with more availability.

Sussex County service gaps were more child psychiatrists, anger management groups that accept Medicaid and have transportation, art/play therapy groups that accept Medicaid and have transportation, IOP/PHP that accepts Medicaid and offers transportation, social skills groups for children on the spectrum that take Medicaid.

Family Support Organization – No report

Division of Child Protection & Permanency – Morris East had 82 referrals - 62 CPS and 20 CWS; Morris West had 138 referrals - 116 CPS and 22 CWS, for a total of 220 in Morris County.

Dover had the most referrals with 26, followed by Mt. Olive with 18, Jefferson with 17 and Morristown with 18.

Sussex County had 94 referrals – 70 CPS and 24 CWS.

Division of Developmental Disabilities – No report.

Children’s System of Care – A CIACC meeting was held on January 17, 2013. Liz Manley, Jeff Guenzel and Commissioner Allison Blake attended this meeting. They discussed the changes that were being made with in CSoC as well as discussed Perform Care issues. They informed the group that all Perform Care workers would be going through a retraining course.

CSA – No report.

Morris County Youth Shelter –There are 5 youth in the Youth Shelter at the current time, 4 male and 1 female. There are 2 from Morris County 2 from Sussex County and 1 from Warren County.

Morris Juvenile Detention Center –There are 6 youth in the Detention Center, 4 male 2 female; 3-Morris, 2-Sussex, 0-Hunterdon, 1-Warren).

Sussex County Home Detention Program – There is currently 1 youth (1-Female) in the Home Detention Program. 2 on detainer.

Probation –

Sussex – There is a current census of 55, 41 of which are deferred.

Morris – There is a current census of 245, 50% of which are deferred and 50% on formal supervision

JJC – No report.

System Struggles – Struggles with DDD were brought up, and it was discussed that parents should be encouraged to get involved with FSO. The types of DDD cases being referred to CMO are more long term issues and more 18-21 years old. The committee will email Liz Manley with our concerns on this topic.

There are issues with bilingual providers, a lot of issues with meet and greets and programs for non English speaking residents. These programs can not get bilingual staff to accommodate these residents.

There was discussion about the recent brevity of the system review meetings. Some solutions to making the meeting more effective were discussed, including bringing specific cases and issues to discuss. Prior to each meeting there will be an email sent out requesting challenges be brought to the meeting. Having open discussions and brainstorming sessions based around specific cases will be the most useful function of this meeting. We will also focus on feed back to bring to DCF, as well as discuss the changes coming with UCM and DDD.

The changes to the DSM 5 were brought up. Tara Legates mentioned a training that she attended on the new DSM. It is given by PESI/CSI.

System Successes – The Shelter and DCP&P had a success with a Spanish speaking only child, CMO increased his services and the shelter was able to maintain him. The shelter could have denied him but he was given a chance and is doing well.

Aging Out/Aging In Task Force – Beth Jacobson reported that the committee met on January 15, there was a presentation from the Office of Adolescent Services. (PowerPoint included). The next meeting will be on April 16 at the DCP&P office. There will be a case review from the CMO. The committee is also looking into a presentation on adult supportive housing.

New Business and Announcements – Lou Schwartz’s article on “Fine Tuning Mental Health After Newtown” was discussed.

*Next Meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2013 at Caring Partners in Mount Arlington at 9:30 am.

Legislative

The subcommittee met on Tuesday January 8, 2013

No new updates on tracked legislation.

Next Meeting: Tuesday April 9, 2013 at 10 AM at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program

The subcommittee met on February 7, 2013

There are currently three (3) youth pending evaluation and five (5) youth pending education. 5 youth completed an education session in January.

The committee discussed the need for more law enforcement involvement and awareness of program

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Disproportionate Minority Contact

The subcommittee met on February 5, 2013

The committee discussed the need for more law enforcement involvement on the committee. We also discussed the importance of keeping open communication between law enforcement and the community. Chris Burkhart discussed the correlation between DMC and the new electronic monitoring program. The committee decided on Dave Johnson as its new chair.

Next Meeting: April 2, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Education Partnership

The subcommittee met Thursday January 10, 2013.

A training was held on February 13, 2013 8:30-12:30 At the Police and Fire Academy. The topic was Anxiety in Children. Dr. Jessica Platt from New Bridge presented on this topic. There was a great turn out of almost 100 people.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at the DCP&P office.

Family Advisory Committee

The group is in the process of re-organizing.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

There were no community reports at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business at the time.

NEW BUSINESS

Lila Bernstein announced there will be a Child Placement Advisory council review on March 12. Ms. Bernstein will distribute this information to Jessica Mondino and Ms. Mondino will forward to the committee.

Chair person Juli Harpell-Elam asked for suggestions from the committee on speakers for the upcoming meetings. Among the suggestions were UCM, SPAN, ARC, DAWN, and a representative from CSOC.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Tina Bibbo announced that Morris County School of Technology will be hosting 3 community programs; on 3/19 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying, 4/10 Students with Special Needs and College, and 4/18 Substance Abuse. (Flyers Attached)

Maria Augustowicz announced that the Education Partnership training will take place on April 24, 2013 at the Public Safety Training Academy. It will focus on the changes within the Children's System of Care.

Frank Pinto reminded the committee of the Morris County Human Services website. Non Profit organizations can post their events on the site. (morrishumanservices.org.)

Chris Burkhart brought up the fact that there has been talk in the courts about the possibility of the Morris County Juvenile Detention Center closing because of the regionalizing of detention centers through out the state. However, Human Services Director Frank Pinto as well as Freeholder Hank Lyon were able to address this issue and assure the committee that the closing of the JDC was not in the plans for the county.

Beth Jacobson announced that the Natural High skating event will be held on March 21 from 6-8pm at Mennen Arena. (Flyer Attached)

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2013 at 2:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 3:25pm, Member Sylvia Lippe moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Mondino
Youth Services Coordinator

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