

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
January 25, 2012
340 West Hanover Avenue, Morris Twp.

Members Present:

Robert Armstrong, Citizen Rep./Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee
Jeff Bashe, Citizen Rep./United Way N.N.J. Success by Six
Marcia Brands, Citizen Rep.
Linda Csengeto, Citizen Rep./M. C. Office of Temporary Assistance
Cynthia Degazon, Citizen Rep.
Nancy Delaney, Citizen Rep.
Charles LaRussa, Citizen Rep.
Elizabeth Manley, Caring Partners/Youth Services Advisory Committee
Kathy McKeithen, Citizen Rep.
Ken Oexle, Citizen Rep.
Tom Pappas, Citizen Rep./Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans
Rebekka Zydel, Child & Family Resources

Also Attending:

Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Elizabeth McGovern, DCF/DYFS
Pat Mocariski, MCDHS
Frank Pinto, MCDHS
Luis Tamayo, DHS
Sabine VonAulock, MCCD

- I. Call to Order** – The January 25 meeting of the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Ken Oexle, Chair.
- II. Welcome and Introductions** – Everyone was welcomed and introductions were made.
- III. Nominating Committee Report** – Nancy Delaney
The Nominating Committee proposes Ken Oexle as Chair and Tom Pappas as Vice Chair. The slate was presented previously at the November meeting. Ms. Delaney asked if there were any other nominations. There were no other nominations made. A motion was made by Nancy Delaney for Ken Oexle to be Chair and Tom Pappas to be Vice Chair for 2012. The motion was seconded by Jeff Bashe. All were in favor with no abstentions and no opposition.
- IV. Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made to approve the November 15, 2011 minutes by Tom Pappas and seconded by Nancy Delaney. All were in favor with three abstentions and no opposition.

V. County of Morris Department of Human Services - Frank Pinto

The annual Non Profit Conference will be held on April 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please save the date. The conference will be held at the Meadow Wood Manor in Randolph, NJ. The title of the conference is “Telling Your Non Profit’s Story”. Bill Graham from Graham Corporate Communications will be the key note speaker. This conference is sponsored by TD Bank. Preregistration will be required and further information will be mailed out shortly. There is limited capacity so once you receive the notice be sure to register quickly.

Morris View Healthcare Center is under a lot of fiscal pressures and Mr. Pinto has spent much of his time on the administration and managerial issues at Morris View. There is much concern over three percent proposed Medicaid cuts. The Medicaid cuts are not final but could mean of loss of \$900,000 in revenues. Morris View has a 280 bed capacity and currently has occupancy of 257. Due to higher than normal deaths the bed capacity is down.

Premier Health Care is the company that is the manager of the Morris View facility. It is proposed that Premier Health Care continue to manage Morris View for two more years. There is a need to figure out if Morris View should be sold although it would be preferable if that wouldn’t happen. In some other counties such as Cumberland they sold their county nursing home. They received about \$14 million for their facility. They sold the building and the land and a private company is operating the nursing home. On the other hand, Middlesex County opened up another nursing home. The recent Medicaid cuts have hurt a lot. Morris County’s situation is better than many counties since many services at the nursing home have been outsourced saving a lot of money. Morris View is working on their new website. For further information please see MorrisView.com. They have recently opened a subacute unit that is for rehab with private rooms for those that have had hip and knee replacements. This could be an alternative for going to Morristown Memorial Hospital Atlantic Rehabilitation Institute (RIM).

There is a Freeholders meeting tonight and there will be an interim election for the replacement of Alex DeCroce. Mr. DeCroce, Republican State Assembly leader, died recently at the state house.

VI. County of Morris Planning and Development, Division of Community Development – Sabine VonAulock

- o The Community Block Grant was slashed about one third.
- o The Emergency Solutions Grant was almost doubled to \$177,429. They received six applications for the Grant and the Program Review Committee will hear presentations from all six applicants.
- o The Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act is driving the Emergency Solutions Grant changes. They came out with new rules after the applications came in. The rules are retroactive to before the applications came in, however, are comparable to the new HEARTH Act with emphasis on transitioning folks to permanent housing. There is a positive focus

on coordination and becoming more efficient. They will be looking to the Continuum of Care (CoC) for guidance.

Mr. LaRussa stated that it is very upsetting and embarrassing that there is no emergency women's shelter in Morris County. Ms. Becker stated that this need has been identified at the Cross System's meetings as a high priority gap in the county. Ms. Becker is gathering some information on this and wants to find out further information on Homeless Solutions and their services. She will soon be meeting with Dr. Betsy Hall. Ms. Becker also stated that this was part of the Cross System's discussion at a recent meeting with special concerns for the homeless during the cold weather. Ms. Carter asked Ms. Becker to keep the HSAC informed of what is happening in regard to this and the Cross System's meetings. Ms. Becker stated that the Office of Temporary Assistance does help with paying for motel nights for some homeless folks to get them off the streets. Ms. Carter said that in the past the county provided funding for the expansion of Homeless Solutions in order that they could provide more rooms and more beds for the homeless.

VII. New Jersey Department of Human Services – Luis Tamayo

The Global Medicaid Waiver is still not approved. The State had many requests to explain this Global Medicaid Waiver process. They combined the State Human Services Director's and State Human Services Advisory Council meetings into one and met on December 16. At this meeting Valerie Harr gave a presentation on the new waiver process. Mr. Tamayo stated that there continue to be specialized meetings throughout the state to explain this process. There remains urgency to get this waiver approved since it will present \$300 million in savings. The hope is to have this approved by February 22 before the Governor announces the new budget. The Governor has proposed 10% tax cuts in the next three years. It is uncertain the impact this will make; however, it will save the government about \$330 million.

On February 3 the State Human Services Advisory Council will meet. Ms. Carter will be attending. Currently the changes in child day care reimbursement policy rules are a problem. Hopefully this will be addressed with Commissioner Velez at this meeting. Ms. Zydel stated there are quite a few concerns regarding these policy changes. The policy change requires 80 percent attendance in two weeks. Prior it was 80 percent attendance in a month. There is concern that many agencies may now lose even more funding since the agency won't get reimbursement if the child doesn't fulfill the new 80% attendance requirement every two weeks. Ms. Zydel stated that perhaps the HSAC should do a letter of recommendation regarding concerns about this.

VIII. New Jersey Department of Children and Families (NJDCF)– Elizabeth McGovern

NJDCF out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for counseling services for over \$400,000 that were previously provided by Saint Clare's. They received a lot good proposals. They selected New Bridge Services from Pompton Lakes to be the provider. The contract is being written now. They hope to have this service up and running by March 1. They are picking up some of the leases that Saint Clare's had prior, using some existing locations and trying to bring on some of their staff. They were very

pleased with the transition as Saint Clare's worked closely with the families to be sure they were linked to other providers. They also did some individual vendor agreements with the folks that needed to continue their services.

They put out an RFP for a Family Success Center. Gateway Northwest and Child Maternal Child Health Network in Morristown got the contract and is waiting for the contract to be set up. It will be similar to a drop in Center.

In November 2012 referrals were as follows:

- o Morris East - 101
- o Morris West - 140
- Total New Referrals 241

In December 2012 referrals were as follows:

- o Morris East - 119
- o Morris West - 157
- Total New Referrals 276

Statewide the number of referrals has been increasing and it is worrisome. There are a lot of Child Protective Service calls as well as Child Welfare Assessments. Perhaps it is due to the economy. There are many families struggling which causes added stress and increased problems.

IX. Staff Report – Shelia Carter

Orientation Packets for the Advisory Council members were distributed and reviewed.

The importance of this Advisory Committee in regard to our funding process was expressed. The packets distributed included information on funding, by-laws, fact sheet, profile form, conflict of interest statement, organization charts, and meeting dates. The HSAC is the primary advisory committee to the Department of Human Services in a broad sense. It is vital that we figure out the needs in our community. The advisory boards are viewed as advisors and each person has an important role.

The Morris County Point in Time Count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless is taking place today. Survey results will be tabulated.

X. Subcommittee Reports – CEAS – Ms. Csengeto

There was discussion at the last meeting about the future direction of the CEAS/COC Committee. There was discussion on the need to focus on the changes coming with the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act.

There was also a discussion on those reporting from different committees – that they should only report relevant information for this planning body or highlights and the rest of the information could be reported in the minutes.

Planning Subcommittee – Childcare Dedicated Voucher Process - Rebekka Zydel

The Childcare Dedicated Voucher Process has been rolling out for the majority of childcare agencies in January, 2012. The State of New Jersey has eliminated direct contracts with childcare agencies and moved to an all voucher system. These Childcare Dedicated Vouchers are designed to pay for childcare services for families that meet State eligibility requirements. Once the childcare center has an unfilled slot for one of these dedicated vouchers for sixty days the dedicated voucher is available for reallocation. The Human Services Advisory Council established a system for childcare agencies to get on a waiting list for these vouchers as vacancies occur. A Request for Funding Application (RFA) was issued on December 9 for agencies that were interested in getting on the waiting list for the Childcare Dedicated Vouchers. The HSAC received forty applications in response to this RFA. As of January 1 there were 114 unused vouchers and by January 9 there were still 52 unused vouchers. It seems the number of unused vouchers is decreasing. Mr. Bashe suggested that the location of certain centers may make it difficult to fill their slots.

XI. Advisory Committee Reports

Youth Services Advisory Committee (YSAC) – Liz Manley

- New members were welcomed.
- The State Reported that there are currently 8 juveniles are currently in the custody of Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC).
- The Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) reported that the Request for Proposals information is available on the Department of Children and Families (DCF) website:
 - NJ Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect 2012 Skill Building Conference.
 - Psychiatric Community Home Services.
 - Unified Care Management Organizations in Bergen, Hudson, Passaic and Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem.
 - Summer Intensive Life Skills Camp.
- The Planning Subcommittee reported that they reviewed the By-Laws. They also reported that 2012 Award Letters from the JJC should be received by the County by the week. The Division of Child Behavioral Health Services (DCBHS) is focusing on the implementation of Medicaid Waiver for youth in July 2012. Their next meeting is scheduled for Monday February 6, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Human Services.
- At the Systems Review Subcommittee meeting all systems partners reported statistics. Their next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at Caring Partners in Mt. Arlington.
- The Legislative subcommittee discussed and created a slate for YSAC 2012 chair and co-chair. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at Morris County Department of Human Services (MCDHS) in Morristown.
- The Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program met on December 9, 2011. The group reviewed 2011 Survey Results. Overall the program rated very good or excellent in all categories. One recommendation by a parent was to include the Firesetter prevention classes in the high schools. The next meeting is scheduled for

Thursday March 8, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services in Morristown.

- The Disproportionate Minority Concerns subcommittee did not meet and the next meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services in Morristown.
- The Education Partnership subcommittee met and discussed the surveys from the December cross training. The cross training speaker was Dr. Beirne from the Department of Children and Families and the surveys were overwhelmingly positive. The group also discussed the next cross training scheduled for February 8, 2012 and will focus on youth and adolescent suicide. Ms. Mary Veines from NewBridge Services, Inc. will be the presenter. The group also discussed possible presenters for the April and October trainings. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services in Morristown.
- The Family Advisory subcommittee did not meet and the group is in the process of re-organizing.
- The next YSAC Meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. at Morris County Human Services Building at 340 West Hanover Avenue, Ground Floor Conference Room.

Workforce Investment Board (WIB) – report provided by Jack Patten and read by Ken Oexle

The WIB is a member of the North Jersey Partners, a consortium of six northern New Jersey WIBs whose goal is to optimize the regional labor market. The partners will apply for a U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Innovations grant to develop innovative solutions for workforce development challenges. The Partner's will propose waiving Workforce Investment Act program eligibility documentation for 16-24 year old youth. This waiver should increase participation in youth programs by approximately 25%.

Industry Advisory Councils

The NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development, in partnership with NJ WIBs, have established seven "Talent Networks".

The WIB is active in the Advanced Manufacturing, Bio Life Pharmaceutical and Healthcare networks and maintains an advisory role in the Financial Services and Transportation networks.

The goals of the networks are:

- To bridge any gaps between industry employer needs and the education and training of current and future employees,
- To increase awareness about occupations, and
- To provide better networking opportunities for individuals interested in working in the industry and employers who want to hire new employees.

The WIB expects the networks to develop state-of-the-art curricula for that will expand the range and quality of training and subsequent employment for One-Stop Career customers.

Mental Health Substance Abuse Advisory Board (MHSAAB) – Laurie Becker

Saint Clare’s psychiatric screening center has submitted a waiver request to NJ Division of Mental Health and Addictions Services to use telepsychiatry instead of face to face assessments for involuntary hospital commitment. The MHSAAB is charged with providing a letter of recommendation on this request to the State. In order for the MHSAAB to get a better understanding of how telepsychiatry works and what is involved a presentation was made at the February meeting by the company that would be providing this service.

Insight Telepsychiatry, LLC, a Center for Family Guidance (CFG) Network Company, gave a demonstration on how telepsychiatry works and what their company does. Through telepsychiatry, psychiatrists assess emergency department patients remotely via a live video link. To date, about 25 hospitals are participating in the CFG program. Telepsychiatry fills the gap in time when psychiatrists are not available on site at the hospital. The idea of telepsychiatry is to reduce redundancy and get the patient where they need to go for treatment in a quicker time frame. Patients usually see the psychiatrist via a live video link within an hour. They gave a demonstration using a large screen television and the group being able to talk back and forth with the doctor on the television. Through telepsychiatry the patient is able to see and speak with the doctor and the doctor is able to see and speak with the patient.

This is a flexible model and can be tailored to each hospital’s needs. For Saint Clare’s telepsychiatry would be primarily used for off hours, weekends and holidays when there is no on-site psychiatrist available. Through telepsychiatry, the off-site psychiatrist can work with the Emergency Room staff and the screener to make an involuntary commitment.

According to the presenters telepsychiatry it is very cost effective since the hospital won’t need to have a psychiatrist on call at all times. The patient will also be moved from the Emergency Room in a quicker timeframe. MHSAAB members were assured that all communications are confidential and the technology has built in security walls.

After discussion, MHSAAB members asked Ms. Becker to gather information from other Counties that use this technology on benefit and drawbacks and provide a report at the February meeting. The recommendation letter will then be developed for the State.

Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans – No Report

Morris, Sussex Warren, HIV Advisory Committee – Robert Armstrong

The Morris-Sussex-Warren County AIDS Advisory Committee met on January 24, 2012.

The New Jersey AIDS Walk will be held in Morristown on May 6. There will be simultaneous AIDS Walks at six other locations this year in Newark, Camden, Ridgewood, Asbury Park, Atlantic City and New Brunswick.

On February 3 there will be a Community Partnership Breakfast at the Weston Hotel in Morristown on the state of HIV/AIDS services in Morris County coordinated by New Jersey AIDS Services (NJAS) and sponsored by Glaxos/Smith/Kline. There will be a representative from Governor Christie's office and testimonial speakers. Contact NJAS at (973) 285-0006 for further information.

On March 1 there will be a performance of the Vagina Monologues at the Bickford Theater in Morristown, proceeds going to NJAS.

On Saturday, February 4, there will be a dinner theatre performance of Vito and Angela's Wedding to benefit the AIDS Center at Hope House, at St. Matthew's Church in Randolph. Contact Hope House for further information at (973) 361-5555.

Both NJAS and Hope House are active in HIV education programs through their Speaker's Bureaus.

The Newark Eligible Metropolitan Area HIV Health Services Planning Council which focuses on Ryan White, Part A funding for Morris, Sussex, Warren, Union and Essex Counties, is preparing for 2012-2014 Comprehensive Health Plan, incorporating new Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) mandates regarding Early Intervention Services, retention in care and the National AIDS Strategy.

The next meeting of the Morris-Sussex-Warren County AIDS Advisory Committee is scheduled for February 28 at Hope House.

United Way of Northern New Jersey Success by Six – No Report

XII. Old Business

Ms. Carter stated that Jersey Cares would like to give a presentation to advisories. They work with non-profit agencies and would like to get the word out about what they do. They work with organizations that need volunteers. Some discussion ensued and it seems that perhaps CEAS or the Joint PAC subcommittees might be a better venue for them to speak. Ms. Carter asked the group to think about presentations they would find helpful.

XIII. New Business –

Ms. Zydel stated that Child & Family Resources is celebrating their 40 anniversary. The New Jersey Business Women's Association is honoring them at a celebration on

March 21 at the Ukrainian Center in Whippany. Mr. Pinto asked if they would like a resolution from the Freeholders for this special occasion. If so they should get in touch with Mr. Pinto.

Ms. Delaney stated that there are still over 8,000 disabled folks on a waiting list for housing. There are many folks in despair. It seems that many are catching on to her story and how she and a few other families purchased a home for their disabled adult children. This is the process she used to get her disabled son into a group home. Mr. Pinto suggested that Ms. Delaney might work on some type of packet for distribution to tell her story and to help spread the word to those many in despair. Ms. Delaney enjoys meeting and talking to small groups and sharing her story personally.

XIV. Public Comment – None

XV. Adjournment –

Jeff Bashe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. and the motion was seconded by Liz Manley.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Fetzer MocarSKI
Program Development Aide