

**MORRIS COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADVISORY
BOARD – JULY 12, 2012**

Members Present:

Gregg Benson, Citizen Representative
Karen Cutaneo, Citizen Representative
Peggy Himsl, Citizen Representative
Lauren Hirtes, Citizen Representative
Charles LaRussa, Consumer (arrived late at 5:25 p.m.)
Fran Libasci, Citizen Representative
Marcy McMann, Citizen Representative
Mary Jane Melo, Citizen Representative
LaJuan Tucker, MCPO (departed early at 6:35 p.m.)
Barbara Ward, Citizen Representative

Also Attending:

Eileen Alexander, NJDMHAS
Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Valerie Fox, Consumer
Beth Jacobson, MCDHS
Steve Nebesni, MCDHS
Patricia Mocarski, MCDHS
Frank Pinto, MCDHS

I. Call to Order and Approval of June 14, 2012 minutes –

Ms. Barbara Ward, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m. There was a motion to approve the June 14, 2012 minutes made by Marcy McMann and seconded by Fran Libasci. All were in favor with no abstentions and no opposition.

II. Welcome and Introductions –

Ms. Ward welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

III. Chair Report – None

IV. Subcommittee Reports:

Funding – Ms. Becker

Ms. Becker reported that the Division received 2013 funding applications; most were renewals with a handful of new applications. On August 15 the Funding Subcommittee will review the applications received for Grant-in-Aid and Chapter 51. Lunch will be provided. Six people have already signed up for this meeting and that is the maximum number allowed. There are fourteen board members and up to 50% are allowed to attend subcommittee meetings. The funding applications that were received will be sent out to the subcommittee for review prior to the meeting.

Planning – DMHAS Contract Review Update - Ms. Becker

The Program Review Subcommittee met and reviewed the 2013 Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) contract renewals. Specific questions to providers came out of this meeting. The Program Review Subcommittee will meet with providers on July 18. At this meeting the provider leaders are invited to answer questions and clarify information. A MHSAB letter to DMHAS will be submitted with the subcommittee's recommendations.

Legislative/Advocacy – Public Forum

Mr. LaRussa attended the annual Consumer and Family Forum on June 12, 2012. There were approximately 160 in attendance. This was a great turnout and higher attendance than usual. Ms. Becker believes the good turnout was partially due to the Forum being publicized on the County website. Through the website more people were aware of the Forum. Ms. Becker received quite a few phone calls from people who saw the Forum information on the website and wanted to know more about it. Denville was a great location and having it there helped draw attendees. Ms. Becker thanked everyone for their support for this event.

Ms. Becker stated that one of the major items consumers brought up at the Forum was the lack of transportation in this County. There was a decrease in bus lines and this has made it more difficult to find transportation. Many folks stated that there is also a need for more medication assisted treatment especially for those on Medicaid. There was a lot of discussion by consumers about the stigma that is still present. A lot of discussion ensued on the concerns and problems of consumers. It was a terrific evening and all enjoyed.

Mr. Benson asked if Zufall Clinic can help with medication assistance. Ms. Alexander stated that she believes Saint Clare's is working with Zufall on this. Mr. Benson stated that it's a struggle getting treatment for clients with multiple issues. Mr. Benson stated that Vivitrol was initially approved by the FDA for those with alcohol dependency but is now also approved for those with opiate dependency. This is another avenue for those needing assistance.

Ms. Becker hopes that the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA) and DMHAS are talking together about medications and addiction. She stated there was a recent meeting in Morris County of the State's Task Force on Heroin and Other Opiates Among Youth/Young Adults and to her knowledge local stakeholders had little information about this initiative. Mr. Benson and Mr. Nebesni attended the meeting. They reported that some family members were in attendance who lost loved ones due to addictions. Law enforcement from other counties attended and spoke about what trends they are seeing in recent times among the young people. Ms. Barbara Ward suggested that the law enforcement participants could come to a board meeting and give a presentation. Ms. Tucker stated that the Prosecutor's office would be interested in attending these meetings and does not believe they were invited. Ms. Becker will call Mr. John Hulick, Executive Director of GCADA, to find out more about this Task Force and how to get involved

County Alliance Steering Committee (CASS) – Steve Nebesni

The CASS met on May 14. There is one new member and two guests that have been attending recent meetings. The subcommittee reviewed and approved several Program Modification Requests. Mr. Nebesni and Ms. Jacobson attended another session of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) training. At the training they went over evaluations, data, and analyzing data. The next CASS meeting will be the 2013 Alliance Funding Review in mid-August.

V. Staff Reports –

Mental Health Administrator – Laurie Becker

Saint Clare's submitted a request to make a Program Modification in the 2012 Co-Occurring Disorders subgrant. The change involves increasing intensive outpatient session and decreasing individual and group outpatient sessions to reflect service utilization. MHSAAAB members had questions about this request and further discussion ensued. Ms. Becker suggested addressing this request at the upcoming Saint Clare's site visit. If the MHSAAAB site visit team will bring back its recommendation on the modification request at the September MHSAAAB meeting for reconsideration. As Mr. Pinto recommended, if necessary, a Saint Clare's representative will be asked to attend the September meeting to address any additional questions/concerns. Ms. Becker suggested tabling this modification request until the September meeting, the timeframe when modifications are usually considered. Mr. Pinto suggested having the agency come and speak at the next meeting to explain.

Ms. Becker stated that Andover Sub-Acute wants to come and give a presentation to the board. Ms. Becker asked the board if they were interested in such a presentation as the Andover representative said Andover is admitting a number of individuals from Hagedorn. Ms. Alexander said Andover is considering the development of a specialized unit and looking for funding from the state to care for medically frail individuals with mental health needs. Ms. McMann suggested getting some further statistics and a diagnostic profile of those Morris County residents Andover has served. Once those statistics are available the board could then decide if they wish to have them make a presentation.

Municipal Alliance Coordinator – Steve Nebesni

The 2013 Alliance Applications went out and are due back by August 3. On Sept. 13 there will be an Anti-Bullying Program from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The event is free for school personnel, parents and law enforcement officials. Included will be a continental breakfast. The Program will be held at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy located at 500 West Hanover Avenue in Parsippany. Due to limited seating pre-registration is required. Anyone interested can register at www.morrishumanservices.org or call 973-285-6860.

On August 16 there will be training for the Alliances similar to the CADCA training that Ms. Jacobson and Mr. Nebesni recently attended. The Alliance personnel are

being given the condensed version of this training. The training will be held several days in July and August.

Addictions Services Administrator – Beth Jacobson

Site visits are being conducted. Ms. Jacobson passed around a schedule for members to sign up for visits. Ms. Jacobson also handed out the Executive Summary of the Medicaid Comprehensive Waiver Behavioral Health Stakeholder Steering Committee Report dated June 15, 2012. This committee was convened by the NJDHS and DMHAS to gain stakeholder input on the design and implementation of the Administrative Service Organization (ASO)/Managed Behavioral Health Organization (MBHO) proposed in the Waiver.

Ms. Jacobson and Mr. Nebesni will be attending a Unification Planning meeting on July 13 to discuss the planning process for the needs assessment the Alliances will be doing and to discuss the County/GCADA/DMHAS planning processes and the efforts to develop a truly supportive and unified process.

Ms Jacobson presented a Subgrant Program Modification Request from Hope House for Chapter 51 Adolescent Services. Hope House is requesting the conversion of dollars allotted for psychiatric evaluation and follow up to dollars for urine drug screening and synthetic urine drug screening. The units for psychiatric services haven't been utilized as expected due to a couple of reasons, including resistance from clients and families because of the attached stigma, and the fact that some clients already have existing providers for psychiatric services. Discussion ensued regarding this request and the concern from Board members that these services will not be fully available to clients if clinically indicated. Mr. Benson suggested finding out more information. He also suggested keeping a portion of these funds to be utilized as needed for wrap around services. Since there were a number of questions and concerns regarding this request, it was decided to set up a meeting with Hope House staff to discuss the modification request and get more information and clarification. The subgrant modification request can be resubmitted to the full committee in September.

Mr. Pinto suggested setting up a formal policy regarding subgrant modifications, which may include the provider being required to come before the Board or subcommittee of the Board. Ms. Barbara Ward suggested that the Planning Subcommittee put together a policy regarding subgrant modification requests. Ms. Hirtes made a motion that program modifications be reviewed by the Planning Subcommittee. Mr. Benson seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions.

VI. Joint PAC Report – Ms. Becker

Nonprofit agency representatives have been attending the Freeholder meetings to provide ongoing education to the Freeholders on the benefits of nonprofits to the local community. Ms. Fox spoke at a recent meeting and did a great job. The Mental Health Association also spoke at a meeting. The Freeholder meetings are generally held the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The second meeting of the month is usually held in Morristown at the Administration Building on Court Street.

VII. State Liaison Reports – Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) – Eileen Alexander

- The Northern Region Strategic planning meeting notes have been compiled from the three work groups and that information has been sent to the participants and the Mental Health Administrators in your county.
- Preliminary awards for the DD-MI Supportive housing RFP have been announced to the awardees, the appeal process had a deadline of today so the review of such appeals and a final decision will be made by 7/20/12. Announcements on the awardees will be made after that date.
- On June 14 all remaining Hagedorn patients were discharged or transferred from Hagedorn. The building is currently being cleaned and furniture is being moved to other hospitals.
- Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital (GPPH) received 90 patients from Hagedorn; 10 patients were transferred to Ann Klein Psychiatric Hospital and approximately 110 patients were discharged to the community.
- The Hagedorn facility will be used to serve homeless vets.
- The Freedom House addictions program on the Hagedorn property will remain open.
- Requests for Letters of Interest (RLI) for Supportive housing and PACT services for Continuing Evaluation Pending Placement (CEPP) consumers being discharged from State Hospitals is on the web site. Letters of Interest were due to Cathy Boland by July 11, 2012.
- Individual Outpatient Commitment (IOC) Request for Funding Proposal (RFP) left \$300,000 remaining in funding; the Division may re-bid the money for this.
- Forensic RFP: only one provider came in for this RFP. Jewish Family Service received funding for 6 beds. DMHAS was requesting services for 25 beds.
- New location for DMHAS, merging both divisions at 222 Warren Street, Trenton, which is the Department of Human Services Building.
- S-Cope is operating now, they provide clinical consultation for the aged population (55 and older) including assessment, treatment, intervention and training. Ronnie Zarbiv is the contact person; the phone number is 855-718-2699.
- Olmstead Update: 173 beds were developed through the Olmstead initiative, 147 are filled, the remaining area as follows, 12 targeted, 14 remaining, and 10 have active referrals, only 4 are waiting for referrals. The goals set for the Olmstead initiative are on target.
- Issue with families concern for discharges to Meadowview Psychiatric and the lack of availability for interim assistance for these patients has been brought to the attention of DMHAS executive staff.
- Review of Saint Clare's Telepsychiatry Waiver Request is still being worked on. Saint Clare's was provided additional information on data and doctor's scheduling. There was concern that many people are seen by doctors from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. These folks are about two thirds of the population seen. However, there is still a long wait overnight to see a doctor. A letter from

DMHAS to Saint Clare's will go out shortly with a copy to the Mental Health Administrator.

Ms. B. Ward suggested that Ms. Alexander give the board more information at the next meeting regarding the number of patients being sent to other hospitals from Hagedorn. There was much discussion and concern about folks from Morris County that were sent to Meadowview. Ms. Alexander believes so far there was only one complaint of one Morris County resident that was sent to Meadowview. Ms. Ward asked that the board be kept informed on the statistics and this situation.

VIII. Old Business – None

IX. New Business – None

X. Open to the Public –

Ms. Fox spoke about interviewing Greg Roberts some time ago on the State's Centralized Admissions Unit for specific to State psychiatric hospital placement. She will forward this article to Ms. Becker.

Ms. Becker suggested that a motion be made to cancel the August meeting. Mr. Benson made a motion to cancel the August meeting and Mr. LaRussa seconded the motion. All were in favor with no abstentions and no opposition. Motion was passed.

Mr. Pinto suggested that the MHSAAAB look on the Morris County Website for information on upcoming events and meetings. This is a great place to find information and is a clearinghouse for non-profit meetings, advisory board information and upcoming events. Please check it out a www.morrishumanservices.org

XI. Adjourned –

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. The next regular meeting will be on September 11.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Mocarski
Program Development Aide