

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

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

Terry Belske	Christopher Burkhart
Rose Marie Kill	Jill Cerullo
Claudia Salomon	Jessica Mondino
Maria Augustowicz	Beth Jacobson
Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro	David Johnson
Juli Harpell-Elam	Kimberly Johnson
Neville Newton	David Johnston
Susan O'Donnell	Kathy Leonard
Linda Wolk	Frank Pinto
Jim Saylor	Laura Siemonsma-Bertelli
Tina Bibbo	

Guests: Heidi Brotzman, Carolee Marano, Carmela Slivinski

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of member Jill Cerullo, seconded by member Chris Burkhart, the committee approved the minutes of the February 21, 2013 regular meeting.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Carolee Marano and Carmela Slivinski from DAWN Center for Independent Living presented about their organization. It is a community based organization that provides services to people of all ages and disabilities. They have 11 centers servicing all of New Jersey. They advocate, promote inclusion, and equal opportunity. Their youth program serves primarily ages 14 and up, they promote recreation and socialization. Recently DAWN has embarked on a life skills program. Currently there is only one program in Morris County but they hope to have it rolled out in Sussex and Warren soon. This program is funded by United Way. The program is facilitated by a certified teacher of the handicapped. There are currently 6 students in the program and there is a waiting list for the summer. The program provides functional education, it is inspired by the "Skills to pay the Bills" program. The four components of the Program are Skills at home; Skills in the community; Skills for employment; and Skills for self expression.

### **STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS**

#### **Juvenile Justice Commission**

Five (5) Juveniles: Four (4) Committed, One (1) Community Programs, One (1) Returned with Probation, One (1) Returned with Charges, One (1) Pending referral.

#### **Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P)**

Dave Johnston reported that Morris DCP&P had a total of 230 referrals, Morris East 96; 73 Child Protective Services (CPS), 23 Child Welfare Services (CWS). Morris West 134; 109 CPS, 25 CWS. Mt. Olive had the most referrals with 30, followed by Morristown with 25, Dover with 24, Parsippany with 16 and Roxbury with 14.

Dave Johnston also reported that DCP&P would be changing their investigation protocol as of April 1. There will now be a four tier finding system. They will be able to view previous referrals for a family when going out. This way if there had been an unsubstantiated claim before there will be record of that the next time they are called out.

### **Department of Children and Families (DCF)**

Dave Johnston reported that the Office of Adolescent Services will be presenting about their strategic plan. There will be four different areas each looking for work groups.

### **Youth Services Coordinator Report**

Jessica Mondino reported that the Electronic Monitoring subcommittee met on March 1, 2013. A tentative policy and procedure was developed. The next meeting will be with the larger committee. 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. Liz Manley from The Children's System of Care will be attending our April meeting to answer any questions. Liz also said that they (from CSOC) are willing to come out to as many events or meetings as they can to answer questions, they just ask that there is a significant amount of people so they can reach as many people as possible.

### **Aging In/Out Task Force**

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

Kim Johnson reported that the group discussed the responsibilities of the planning committee as well as the time line for the JJC Plan and Application. The committee also discussed setting up site visits in the spring/summer. Jessica 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. Whoever is interested in volunteering was to email Ms. Mondino before the next YSAC meeting.

Next Meeting: Monday April 8, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

### **Systems Review**

Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro reported,  
The January 2013 minutes were reviewed and approved.

### **Community Reports:**

**Care Management Organization** –CMO’s current census is 197. They had 200 cases at the end of January.

**Youth Case Management** –

**Sussex** – Sussex County YCM received 16 referrals: 7 from Mobile Response, 4 from Needs Assessments, 3 community, 1 CCIS, and 1 re-referral. They opened 12, closed 10, and had 4 decline services. They ended the month with 100 cases.

**Morris** – Morris County YCM started with 115, and received 25 new referrals during the month (4 CCIS, 1 CMO Default, 3 Community, 3 DCP&P, 8 Mobile, and 3 Needs Assessment). They ended the month YCM transitioned 11 families and worked with 140 families throughout the month of January, 2013.

**CCIS** – No report.

**Mobile Response & Stabilization Services** – Mobile Response received 69 calls which resulted in 63 dispatches. Of those dispatches, 52 were in Morris and 11 were in Sussex. MRSS transitioned 57 and had 76 families in stabilization at the end of the month. There were 8 school referrals, 5 of which were from Morris, 3 of which were from Sussex

Morris County service gaps were groups for children/adolescents to deal with anxiety and depression; more services for children with autism; more affordable PHP and IOP programs; and more outpatient programs that offer sliding scale.

Sussex County service gaps were PHP/IOP in Sussex County; anger management groups that provide transportation; social skills groups for children with autism; and social skills groups that accept Medicaid and offer transportation.

Jeena Williams asked how MRSS was managing the influx of DDD youth. Both Mobile and DCP&P are finding service gaps for DD kids referred to them. Mobile is working on getting more training for their staff to better allow them to work with this new population.

**Family Support Organization** – FSO received 13 referrals, provided 15.25 support group hours, and has 91 active families. There were 19 warmline contacts, 396.75 hours of peer support, 33 youth in the Youth Partnership and 40 people attending support groups.

**Division of Child Protection & Permanency** – Morris East had 127 referrals – 98 CPS and 29 CWS; Morris West had 140 referrals - 116 CPS and 24 CWS, for a total of 267 in Morris County. Morristown had the most referrals with 30, followed by Mt. Olive with 27 and Dover with 24.

Sussex County had 113 referrals – 92 CPS and 21 CWS.

**Division of Developmental Disabilities**– No report.

**Children’s System of Care** – Nothing new to report, except that the Unified Care Management Organization will be taking on the YCM function as of April 1, 2013. Updates to follow.

**Morris County Youth Shelter** –There are 6 youth in the Youth Shelter at the current time, 4 male and 2 female. There are 3 from Morris County, 1 from Sussex County, 1 from Hunterdon County and 1 from Warren County.

**Morris Juvenile Detention Center** –There are 11 youth in the Detention Center, 9 male 2 female; 3 from Morris, 4 from Sussex, 1 from Hunterdon and 3 from Warren. The Center served 18 youth during the month of January; 12 were on formal Probation, 3 were CMO cases, 3 were YCM, and 2 were DCP&P. The average length of stay was 11 days, and 9 of the 18 were there more than once. Destination upon release: 10 home; 1 house arrest; 1 Jamesburg; 1 inpatient; 2 Shelter, 2 County jail and 1 other County JDC

**Sussex County Home Detention Program** – There is currently 1 male in the Home Detention Program.

**Probation** –

**Sussex** – There is a current census of 96, 34 of which are deferred.

**Morris** – As of 1/1/13, there were 107 pending cases and 79 cases were added. 126 cases were disposed of: 13 diverted to JCC; 22 diverted to Intake Service Conference and 20 transferred to other counties. Total cases as of 1/31/13 was 93.

As of 2/21/13, there were 254 juveniles on Probation, 55% on Formal and 45% Deferred.

**JJC** – No report.

**Aging Out/Aging In Task Force** – Beth Jacobson reported that the committee met on January 15, there was a presentation from the AOS. (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

**System Struggles** – Jeena Williams asked for input on helping foster families find after school activities for teenagers. She said that a number of families have voiced some concern about taking in teenagers and having to leave them on their own after school. It was pointed out that not only are five day after school activities needed, but transportation to and from must be provided. Laura Woody suggested that perhaps some of these youth could volunteer at elementary school after school programs which would provide both an activity and solve the transportation issues.

Madeleine Lozowski reported that the DDMI Task Force is struggling with a variety of issues ranging from language and terminology to their program models. CSOC is essentially a recovery model, and the DD population is not focused as much on recovery, although it still could be an appropriate model if they concentrate on small steps forward. CSOC is finding the DD population harder to manage than they expected, and some DD providers chose not to re-contract when told of the changes. In addition, a letter was sent out to DD families stating that some services would be discontinued as of March 1<sup>st</sup> due to presumptive eligibility, but CSOC was unaware of this letter, which has caused concern and confusion. DD parents want case managers, and are not happy about the changes.

Another struggle is the transfer of YCM cases on April 1<sup>st</sup>. FSO is not financially prepared to start managing 200 additional cases as of that date since their funding for this will not be available until sometime in June.

**System Successes** – Sussex County YCM had two success stories. One involved a young man with multi-system involvement who had gone to Vision Quest, which he successfully completed. He then joined the military and received an honorable discharge, and now has a great job and is doing well.

The second involved a young woman who had been bounced around through the system and received a multitude of services over a long period of time. She is now in college and living in the dorm. Her mother wrote YCM a thank you and said that “Peter is her hero.”

The CMO had a success story with a DDMI client at Greystone. A placement had been made, but there were no available beds, so, working together with a number of agencies, this young woman will be re-integrated into the community with wrap-around services.

**Case Review:** No cases brought before the group.

**Open Discussion:** No additional discussion.

**New Business and Announcements** – None.

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

### **Legislative**

Dave Johnson reported that the subcommittee did not meet in March.

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

### **Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program**

Jessica Mondino reported that the subcommittee did not meet in March

One (1) youth completed an education session in February.

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

### **Disproportionate Minority Contact**

Dave Johnston reported that the subcommittee did not meet in March

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

### **Education Partnership**

Maria Augustowicz reported that the subcommittee did not meet in March

The next training will be April 24, 2013 at the Public Safety Academy. It will be a resource fair and update on the changes to the Children’s System of Care.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business at the time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business at the time.

**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Heidi Brotzman from Morris County Prevention is Key announced that they were looking for volunteers for their “Pathway to Independence” program. Mentors are needed for 1-2 hours a week. A background check would be done. It is like a big brother/big sister type program.

Juli Harpell-Elam from JBWS announced that JBWS received funding from DCP&P to incorporate fatherhood into their “Batterers” program. The goal of this is to help the attendees understand the impact of violence on their families. The program will work to help re-establish relationships with their children. There is a fee but JBWS will work to help anyone who can not afford the fee. This should be cleared with DCP&P worker if involved. Phone number is 973-539-7801

Dave Johnston from DCP&P said there would be a Deidre’s House training about Sex Offenders on April 19, 2013. The fee is \$40 and CEUs are available. (Flyer attached)

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at the time.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 2:30 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At approximately 3:15pm, Member Dave Johnston 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.*