

MINUTES
MORRIS COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YSAC)
Morris County Human Services Building, 340 West Hanover Avenue, Ground Floor
Conference Room, Morristown, New Jersey
May 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chair person Linda Seeley at 2:35 PM. Members present:

Terri Belske	Danielle Wysocki
Claudia Salomon	Tina Bibbo
Kimberley Snow	Beth Jacobson
Liz Manley	David Johnson
Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro	David Johnston
Lila Bernstein	Kathleen Leonard
Diana Cirillo	Kim Johnson
Linda Seeley	Laura Siemonsma-Bertelli
Jaime Simon	Jeena Williams
Linda Wolk	

Also in attendance:

Lisa Villano, Saint Clare's Behavioral Health Department

Staff in attendance:

Rachelle Farese

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of member Terri Belske, seconded by member Linda Wolk, the committee approved the minutes of April 19, 2012 regular meeting.

PRESENTATION

Gateway Northwest Maternal Health Network

Maureen Ghali

The regionally located offices for Maternal Health Networks started with six (6). Due to consolidation, there are only three (3). They are part of the Perinatal Addiction Prevention Project through which every hospital must affiliate with one MCHN. They do not mandate; however they do ask the hospitals to screen pregnant women for drugs, alcohol etc. to increase early intervention. They are also a referral and information center for these women.

The MCHN also does presentations at community and professional groups about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). These presentations speak of the implications of FASD and also addiction effects on the family. About 19% of children born are substance exposed. Alcohol is 73% of that statistic. Alcohol creates the worst neurological effects on unborn youth because it attacks brain tissues and it can affect mental, physical and emotional behaviors. FASD is a descriptive term not a clinical term. What is affected is what is being developed at the time of alcohol consumption. Alcohol is a teratogen. This is a substance that can interfere with the normal development of the fetus. There are six (6) regional FASD diagnosis centers in New Jersey. Two (2) of these centers are located in Newark and their services are free. Many times youth are diagnosed with Oppositional Defiant Disorder when it could be FASD. Diagnosis is important because you cannot

treat something effectively unless you know what you're treating. FASD is 100% preventable; however, the rates have been increasing since the 1990s.

STATE REPORTS

Juvenile Justice Commission

No report.

Division of Youth and Family Services

Dave Johnston reported that Morris East received ninety four (94) referrals and Morris West received 132 referrals. Mr. Johnston also reported that Legislative Assembly Bills No. A2881 and A2448 were approved within the past week. Bill No. A2881 prevented foster and resource parents from homeschooling youth in their care unless they have DYFS approval and Bill No. A2448 requires that DYFS continue the youth's religious upbringing when placing the youth.

Department of Children and Families

Dave Johnston reported that the Adolescent Housing HUB, which was implemented on April 23rd, is for people looking for placement in independent living or transitional living. They can access services through PerformCare; however, PerformCare is not authorizing the placement, they are just a point of access. Elizabeth Manley reported that the HUB had received 156 calls since their opening and twenty one (21) youth have been admitted to placements. Mr. Johnston reported that there were several RFP's on the State website. For more information, go to www.nj.gov/dcf. Mr. Johnston also reported that several counties received grant monies for Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDT) to identify and deal with child abuse. Morris County received \$19,000 through this grant.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Subcommittee

Liz Manley reported that Rachelle Farese informed the group that the CIACC Conveners are meeting on Friday, May 18, 2012. Ms. Farese also gave the Systems Review update which can be found below. The group discussed the 2013 Comprehensive County Youth Services Plan Update which is due in October 2012. The group will continue to meet monthly to work on the plan. The 2012-2014 County Comprehensive Youth Services Plan has been approved and fully executed. All of the subgrants have been signed and sent to providers. Ms. Farese will be making copies that will be available to the public upon request.

The next meeting of the planning subcommittee will be held on Monday, June 11, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

System Review Committee

Group reviewed the March 2012 minutes. The following revisions were necessary:

- Sussex YCM report should read, "4-14 Day Plan..."
- Sussex Detention should read, "...88 Sussex County youth on formal supervision and deferred combined."

Community Reports:

Care Management Organization – Liz Manley reported that the CMO census is currently at 199.

There is one (1) transition pending.

Youth Case Management –Stephannie Villota reported that YCM began the month with 148 youth; they received twenty two (22) new referrals during the month (3-CCIS, 3-PHP, 1-CMO Step Down, 7-DYFS, 3-MRSS, 3-14-Day Plans, 1-Needs Assessment, 1-Community). Four (4) refused services.

They terminated twenty one (21) families and ended the month with 144. YCM worked with 169 families throughout the month of March 2012.

CCIS – No report.

Mobile Response & Stabilization Services – Jennifer Oatley reported that Mobile Response received seventy nine (79) calls which resulted in seventy (70) dispatches. Of those dispatches, forty seven (47) were in Morris. MRSS transitioned fifty three (53) youth and had 166 families in stabilization at the end of the month. MRSS received eleven (11) school referrals in Morris County.

Morris County service gaps included: substance abuse IOP that accepts Medicaid, ADHD specified services, anger management groups, domestic violence counseling for adolescents and parents, trauma specific therapy, and substance abuse treatment that accepts family's private insurance.

Family Support Organization – Rachel Helt reported that the FSO received eleven (11) new referrals and twenty three (23) Warmline contacts. There are eighty five (85) active CMO families receiving peer support and 262 hours of peer support was provided to these families. There are sixteen (16) youth in the youth partnership and 132 people attended support groups in March. There were thirty two and three quarter (32.75) peer support group hours provided.

Division of Youth and Family Services – Dave Johnston reported that March is typically the highest month of the year for referrals. Morris East received 135 referrals total (31-CWA and 104-CAN) and Morris West received 153 referrals total (38-CWA and 115-CAN). Mr. Johnston also reported that the Morris Quality Review will take place the week of June 4th. The cases to be reviewed will be identified this week. Mr. Johnston and Jeena Williams will be busy most of the end of May and early April for this process.

Division of Developmental Disability – No report.

Division of Child Behavioral Health Services – Rachele Farese that the group met on March 30, 2012. The CIACC conveners discussed the Education Partnership. McKinney-Vento has not reached out to Morris County yet, but if they do, it will be to get information from them. The group also discussed the DAS/DDD merger with DCBHS. Some services will be moved from DDD to DCBHS by July 1, 2012, but the remainder of services along with DAS services will be transitioned January 1, 2013.

CSA – No report.

Morris County Youth Shelter – Tara LeGates reported that there are seven (7) youth in the Shelter (5-Male and 2-Female; 5-Morris, 1-Hunterdon, 1-Sussex). During the month of March, the Shelter worked with eleven (11) youth (5-Morris, 1-Sussex, 2-Hunterdon and 3-Warren).

Morris Juvenile Detention Center – Tara LeGates reported that there are seventeen (17) youth in the Detention Center (16-Male, 1-Female; 8-Morris, 4-Sussex, 4-Warren, 1-Passaic).

Probation – Mark Ripatrazzone reported that there are currently 293 youth on formal probation. 50% are deferred and 50% are on regular probation.

JJC – No report.

System Struggles – Kristen Thompson stressed the importance of CCIS involvement at this meeting. Recently a youth that had homicidal/suicidal tendencies was denied admission to CCIS from Newton Medical Center Screening. Newton then cleared the youth and sent them to the Morris County Juvenile Detention Center. The Detention Center also reached out to Newton Medical Center because the paperwork did not have much information regarding the situation. Discussion ensued regarding the incident's specifics. Many questions arose.

- What happened between the initial screening and the CCIS denial that allowed the youth to become psychiatrically cleared and no longer in need of CCIS placement?
- Why did Newton clear the youth psychiatrically and place them in the Detention Center without exploring other CCIS options?

Melissa Latronica will reach out to Bill Burns to discuss the issue and invite him to the next Systems meeting to discuss what the process is for these situations.

System Successes – Dave Johnston reported that the youth that has been discussed in previous system struggles has been placed in a spec bed at a treatment home and he has been doing well. The youth still expresses his own concerns about being released into the community and the Division is working with the State examine how the case unfolded.

Aging Out/Aging In Task Force – The Task Force met to participate in the HSAC Needs Assessment Focus Group on April 17, 2012. Liz Manley reported that the Transition Guide for Youth is posted on ResourceNet. This is a provisional version; an updated version will be posted later in the year.

New Business and Announcements – No report

The next meeting of the system review subcommittee will be held on Monday, June 25, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at Caring Partners CMO in Mt. Arlington.

Legislative Subcommittee

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

The next meeting of the legislative subcommittee will be held on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program Subcommittee

Rachelle Farese reported that the subcommittee did not meet in May. There is currently one (1) youth pending evaluation and nine (9) youth pending individual education. There have been four (4) referrals made in 2012.

The next meeting of the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program subcommittee will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Disproportionate Minority Contact Subcommittee

Liz Manley reported that the subcommittee met on May 1, 2012. The subcommittee discussed the 2012 Juvenile Arrest Statistics provided by the JJC. Several questions came out of the review:

1. Does “run” stand for runaways?
2. Is it possible to get a summary sheet for the County?
3. What will the shift in numbers look like with the enactment of the HIB laws?
4. How is the data collected? More specifically, for the joint PD’s that oversee multiple towns, how do they determine the breakdown?

The subcommittee also discussed the status of the STRYDES program. The recent Cultural Competency training went very well. The trainer and topic were received well by all participants. One of the aspects that made it successful was that it was more of a discussion than a lecture. The STRYDES program is currently in transition because they have recently come to the end of the first grant period. Ms. Farese indicated that with the next meeting announcement she will also send out a request for agenda items to ensure the meeting is addressing the concerns of the subcommittee.

The next meeting of the Disproportionate Minority Contact subcommittee will be held on Tuesday, July 3, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Education Partnership Subcommittee

Rachelle Farese reported that the Education Partnership held a cross training on Wednesday, April 18, 2012. The cross training addressed adolescent substance abuse, including warning signs and current trends. The majority of the surveys indicated that the training went well and the topic and presenter were well received.

The next meeting of the Education Partnership subcommittee will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

Family Advisory Subcommittee

No report at this time. The next Family Advisory subcommittee meeting date and time is to be determined.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

There are no reports at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Lila Bernstein reported that on May 17, 2012, there will be an Aging Out Fair in Essex County. This event was organized by the Essex County Court and Essex County CASA. This fair will be held in the form of seminars for the youth. Ms. Bernstein informed the group that this Fair will be brought to Morris County in October 2012.

NEW BUSINESS

David Johnston asked if there was a way to collect any of the numbers that the schools are receiving in applying the HIB law? What are the consequences they are experiencing? There were no answers and it will be addressed at subsequent meetings.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Kim Johnson reported that Morris County Employment and Training Services (ETS) has funding for youth between the ages of 16 and 21 for job training programs. These job training programs also include referrals to out of school programs. It is available in Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties. For other Counties, contact that County's One Stop Career Center for more information.

Terri Belske reported that the Wellness Fair had over 230 people in attendance. The Annual Consumer Forum will be held on June 12, 2012 at St. Francis in Denville.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 21, 2012 at 2:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:15 PM member Chair Linda Seeley moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachelle Farese
Juvenile Justice Coordinator

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