

Human Services Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2011
340 West Hanover Avenue, Morris Twp.

Members Present:

Jeff Bashe, Citizen Rep./UWNJ Success by Six
Marcia Brands, Citizen Representative
Linda Csengeto, CEAS/COC/OTA
David Hollowell, Citizen Rep./Workforce Invest. Board
Kathy McKeithen, Citizen Rep.
Mary Jane Melo, Citizen Rep.
Debby Miller, Citizen Rep.
Ken Oexle, Citizen Rep.
Tom Pappas, Citizen Rep./Aging, Disabilities & Vets.

Also Attending:

Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Pat MocarSKI, MCDHS
Christine Pelka Rivera, DCF/DYFS

- I. Call to Order** – The September meeting of the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Ken Oexle, Chair.
- II. Welcome and Introductions** – Everyone was welcomed and introductions were made.
- III. Approval of Minutes** – A motion to approve the August 24 minutes was made. The motion was approved with two abstentions.
- IV. County of Morris Planning and Development, Division of Community Development – No Report**
- V. New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJ DHS) – No Report**
- VI. New Jersey Department of Children and Families – Christine Pelka Rivera**
Susan Jones has been hired as the new Manager of the Morris East Office.

In August 2011 referrals were as follows:

- Morris East - 78 (55 Abuse/Neglect - 23 Child Welfare)
 - Morris West - 118 (92 Abuse/Neglect – 26 Child Welfare)
- Total New Referrals 196

VII. Staff Report – Shelia Carter

The State HSAC meeting will be held tomorrow. The Childcare Dedicated Voucher System will be discussed. The status of the Continuum of Care (COC) application process was given. The application is due at the end of the month.

**VIII. Subcommittee Reports –
CEAS – Linda Csengeto**

There was discussion about Hospitality Link closing at the end of September. Hospitality Link is a room in St. Peter’s Episcopal Church where the homeless and working poor of Morris County are offered a variety of services and links to county agencies and other organizations. It is a place where clients are offered shelter during the day as well as coffee, snacks and bathrooms to use. The reasons cited for closure were no money for staff or location. Several churches that were supporting the Hospitality Link can no longer provide the funding. This closing is a significant loss to the system of care, i.e. it will impact outreach of the Mental Health Association of Morris County (MHAMC).

Another location could not be located for the program, i.e. sufficient bathrooms for 60 individuals per day. Dr. Elizabeth Hall, President, Homeless Solutions has tried to find another location for the program. Some discussion ensued about using Our Place at the First Baptist Church in Morristown as a possible alternative. If they were able to obtain funding, perhaps the services at Our Place could be enhanced. It is uncertain whether Our Place could accommodate the additional people but definitely should be considered.

Project Homeless Connect will be held on December 8, 2011. The idea behind the day is to connect the homeless or at-risk of homelessness to services that could facilitate the assistance needed from those becoming homeless, or provide shelter, or get them on the road to housing. The day is about finding out who is out there and their needs and directing them to a participating agency so they can get the help they need.

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has vouchers available for veterans. Call 908 647-0180 x6654 or 6642.

**Program Review – Kathy McKeithen
2012 Funding Recommendations**

Prior to deliberations, Shelia Carter, Human Services Coordinator, asked members to state any conflicts of interest for the record. Ken Oexle, Chair, reviewed the conflict of interest policy with the committee. Members with conflicts, listed below, left the meeting room at 6:00 p.m.:

Jeff Bashe
Ken Oexle

On September 1, 2011 the Funding Review subcommittee met to review the 2012 Grant-in-Aid (GIA) funding applications. The GIA funding recommendations

were then read. A motion was made to accept the recommendations as presented. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions. Mr. Bashe and Mr. Oexle returned to the room at 6:05 p.m.

Prior to deliberations regarding Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) funding, Mr. Oexle asked members to state any conflicts of interest for the record. There were no members in conflict. CAP funding recommendations were then read. A motion was made to accept the funding recommendations as presented. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions.

Prior to deliberations regarding Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) funding, Ms. Oexle asked members to state any conflicts of interest for the record. One member in conflict, listed below, left the meeting room at 6:10 p.m.:
Linda Csengeto

On September 2, 2011 the subcommittee met to review the 2012 SSH funding applications. SSH funding recommendations were then read. A motion was made to accept the funding recommendations as presented. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions.

Office of Temporary Assistance (OTA) Subgrant Modification

OTA requested a Subgrant Modification for SSH-1103. The modification is not an increase in funding but merely a shifting around of funds. There was a motion to approve the Subgrant Modification as read. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions. Ms. Csengeto returned to the room at 6:15 p.m.

Planning Subcommittee – Childcare Dedicated Voucher Process – Ken Oexle

The recommendations for modifications on the proposed Childcare Dedicated Voucher Process were received from the State. Although the State approved the original proposal, they would like the public to be informed that they must sign the Standard Language Document and Disbarment Clause once the voucher becomes available. Morris County Risk Management also requested that certain changes be incorporated into the document.

The subcommittee will be meeting to integrate these changes. Implementation of the Dedicated Voucher Process will be rolling out for the majority of childcare agencies towards the end of the year.

IX. Advisory Committee Reports –

Youth Services Advisory Committee (YSAC) – Laurie Becker

The YSAC met last week. The 2012 State Community Partnership funding recommendations were approved as well as GIA funding recommendations.

Workforce Investment Board (WIB) – David Hollowell

The WIB received a notice of obligation from the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development for \$250,000 for Disaster Employment.

Due to the destruction caused by Hurricane Irene and the subsequent flooding associated with the massive amounts of rain experienced throughout the state, many New Jersey businesses and workers have been negatively affected. As a result, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development applied to the U.S. Department of Labor for a Disaster National Emergency Grant. In order to begin serving dislocated workers and in anticipation of National Emergency Grant (NEG) funds, Labor and Workforce Development is providing Workforce Investment Board (WIB) areas with Mini-National Emergency grants immediately to provide dedicated funds to seed expected NEG efforts.

A key initial purpose of NEG Disaster Grant is to create temporary jobs (Disaster Relief Employment) to assist in clean-up and restoration efforts as a result of the disaster. These temporary jobs also include working on projects that provide food, clothing, shelter and other humanitarian assistance for disaster victims. The work may be done through public and private agencies and organizations engaged in such projects. The Project may include workforce development activities (excluding training) that are available under Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

The WIB, through the Newark Alliance and the State Sector Energy Partnership Grant, has received access to \$500,000 for on-the-job training (OJT) in green jobs. Eligible jobs include:

- Jobs in businesses that produce goods or provide services that benefit the environment or conserve natural resources.
- Jobs in which workers' duties involve making their establishment's production processes more environmentally friendly or use fewer natural resources.

A review of the WIB OJT contracts for the last 18 months indicates that approximately 15% of the contracts are in eligible green occupations. Interested energy sector businesses should contact Jack Patten at the WIB at 973 829-8400 x232.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Advisory Board – Laurie Becker

On September 8 meeting the GIA, Chapter 51 and Municipal Alliance Funding recommendations will be presented to the MHSAAAB for their approval. The letters of intent are prepared and will be sent out as soon as the funding awards are received.

Morris County was very involved in helping folks that needed assistance and/or temporary shelter due to Hurricane Irene. The Mennen Arena was set up as a temporary shelter for folks that were forced to evacuate their homes in Atlantic County. There were 400 Atlantic County residents brought to the Mennen Arena for shelter. Some of the residents with medical needs were transported to Morris View and others to local Hospitals. The Red Cross was initially hosting this shelter; however, as it turned out Morris County workers provided a tremendous amount of service, assistance and support.

Initially it was a challenge to quickly get supplies for these folks. The County Administrator, John Bonanni, went to Walmart to get basic supplies (food and water). Frank Pinto, Morris County Department of Human Services, assisted with MAPS transportation arrangements and getting hot food transported to the shelter from the High School. Scott DeGiralomo, Director, Law & Public Safety, arranged for obtaining more cots. Morristown Memorial Hospital provided diapers and formula. Many folks pitched in to help. The Youth Shelter provided clothing for several shelter guests. Crisis counselors were on the scene as well as staff from the Office of Temporary Assistance. Many volunteers pitched in to help. By Monday all of the Atlantic County residents were transported back to Atlantic County.

There were FEMA volunteers at the shelter; however, they weren't familiar with the services available in this county. There was also a FEMA disaster center opened to assist people further. The FEMA disaster center may be open for about a month.

Ms. Becker was informed that Collinsville Child Care is being taken over by the Greater Morris YMCA. Karen Wasick is retiring from Collinsville Child Care. The YMCA will be acting as a management organization. Mr. Bashe stated that he believes the Teen Tot Program will also be going to Children on the Green and there will be childcare programs at both locations. Karen Wasick will manage the program at the Children on the Green.

Council on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans – Tom Pappas

The New Jersey Department of Human Services has a quick reference guide to recovery from the Hurricane. The guide is available in the Information and Assistance Office.

November 5 is the 17 annual Morris County Craft Fair at the Morris View Health Care Center at 540 West Hanover Ave. in Morris Plains. The fair will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

On November 13 the United Way will be sponsoring the Military March for Families at County College of Morris from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The County College of Morris is located at 214 Center Grove Road in Randolph.

New Jersey Transit has made changes to some of the bus routes in Morris County. The new schedules are available at the Information and Assistance Office. For copies of these schedules call N.J. Ease helpline at 1 800 564-4656.

Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Committee – Shelia Carter

The committee developed funding percentages to present to the Comprehensive Planning Committee of the Newark Eligible Metropolitan Area (NEMA) Council

on September 16 for the next fiscal grant year. The recommendations were approved as follows:

CORE SERVICES: 66.5%

Primary Medical care – Unchanged from 23.5% to 23.5%

Local AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance – Unchanged from 0% to 0%

Early Intervention Services – Increase from 1% to 3%

Mental Health – Decrease from 13% to 12%

OP Substance Abuse – Decrease from 5.75% to 5%

Oral Health – Unchanged from 5% to 5%

Medical Case Management – Decrease from 26.5% to 18%

Medical Nutrition Therapy – Decrease from .25% to 0%

Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing – Unchanged from 0% to 0%

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES: 33.5%

Housing and Related Services – Decrease from 6% to 5%

Medical Transportation – Decrease from 19% to 18%

Case Management – Increase from 0% to 10.5%

Residential Substance Abuse – Unchanged from 0% to 0%

Legal Services – Unchanged from 0% to 0%

Emergency Financial Assistance – Unchanged from 0% to 0%

Food Bank/Home Delivered – Unchanged from 0% to 0%

Outreach Services – Unchanged from 0% to 0%

Respite Care – Unchanged from 0% to 0%

United Way of Northern New Jersey Success by Six – Jeff Bashe

There are some smaller childcare centers that may be at-risk of closing. The United Way's Success by Six capacity building team has been trying to facilitate partnerships and mergers between smaller childcare centers and larger non profits to help the smaller childcare centers succeed.

X. Old Business – None

XI. New Business – None

XII. Public Comment – None

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Mocarski
Program Development Aide

ATTENDANCE
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

Members Present:

Bashe, Jeffrey
Brands, Marcia
Csengeto, Linda
Hollowell, David
McKeithen, Kathy
Melo, Mary Jane
Miller, Debby
Oexle, Kenneth
Pappas, Thomas

Affiliation:

Citizen Representative/UWNJ Success by Six
Citizen Representative
CEAS/COC Representative/OTA
Citizen Representative/WIB
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative/Aging, Disabilities & Vets.

Members Absent:

Armstrong, Robert
Delaney, Nancy
Guevara, Xiomara
Roers, Michelle
Laureys, Cecilia
Manley, Elizabeth
Merz, Debi
Tietjen, Susan
LaRussa, Charles
Walker, David
Wilson, Ruth
Zydel, Rebekka

Affiliation:

Citizen Representative/Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV
Citizen Representative
Hispanic Affairs
United Way of Northern NJ
Citizen Representative
Caring Partners/YSAC
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative
Citizen Representative/MHSAAB
Morristown Neighborhood House
Commerce Bank
Child & Family Resources

State DCF – Present

Pelka Rivera, Christine

Affiliation:

DCF/DYFS

MCDHS - Present

Becker, Laurie
Carter, Shelia
Fetzer-Mocarski, Patricia

Affiliation:

MC Department of Human Services
MC Department of Human Services
MC Department of Human Services