

**MINUTES**  
**MORRIS COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YSAC)**  
**Morris County Human Services Building, 340 West Hanover Avenue, Ground Floor**  
**Conference Room, Morristown, New Jersey**  
**February 18, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Maria Augustowicz at 2:35pm. Members present:

Claudia Salomon  
Maria Augustowicz  
Lila Bernstein  
Cindy Cuenca  
Beth Jacobson  
Jessica Mondino

Dave Johnson  
Kim Johnson  
Dave Johnston  
Diana Fonseca  
Laura Siemonsma-Bertelli  
Samantha Denegri

Guests: Stephanie Iacopelli, Jim Mahoney, Adela Hernandez, Jane DiFabio, Shobha Mirchandani, Tara Prezioso, Jane Cannon

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of member Dave Johnson, seconded by member Lila Bernstein, the committee approved the minutes of the January 21, 2016 meeting.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Jane DiFabio from High Focus presented about their Adolescent program. High Focus serves teens between the ages of 13 and 17, who are suffering from psychiatric, substance abuse or co-occurring disorders.

- Population that they serve are youth who are severely depressed, suffer from suicidal ideations, and/or engage in self-harming behaviors
- Offer two different levels of psychiatric care, Partial Care and Intensive Outpatient (IOP).
- Patients are either referred down from hospitalization or referred to a higher level of care from an outpatient therapist. Many referrals come from Summit Oaks and St. Clare's Hospital.
- High Focus accepts private insurance but not Medicaid.
- At intake, a Level of care assessment is completed which consists of a comprehensive bio-psychosocial assessment.
- **Partial Care** - When an adolescent is stepping down from hospitalization he or she typically goes to the partial care day program for about 2-4 weeks. This program is 5 days a week, 6 hours per day. In addition to group therapy and individual therapy, a daily DBT skills group is offered, along with psycho-education groups, state approved tutoring. The goal is to develop accurate diagnosis, get symptoms stabilized and improve functioning to a point where they can return to an education setting in the community. Transportation is provided to and from High Focus Centers.
- **IOP program** - 3-5 days a week, 3 hours per day, after school for 6-8 weeks. The goal is to connect to an outpatient therapist in the community after discharge. Transportation is provided one way to the program.
- Co-occurring IOP is offered 2-5 days per week, for 3 hours per day, for adolescent with both a substance abuse and psychiatric disorder.

- **Substance abuse** program is completely separate from the adolescent program, and is run by separate staff at different times during the day, for youth presenting with a primary substance abuse diagnosis.
- Three separate tracks, for adolescents at any phase of use.
  - Early – PEAK program – Promoting Education, Awareness and Knowledge – Six week education program for teens who have begun experimenting with alcohol and other drugs. Includes family program once a week.
  - Moderate – RISE Program – Risk Intervention and Substance Education - low level IOP offered two (2) days a week and includes a family program once a week.
  - Severe – PATH IOP – Providing Addiction Treatment and Hope - 3-4 days per week. Higher intensity program which is more therapeutic and less educational. Also includes family program once a week.
  - Urine screening at all levels of the program.
  - Will refer to higher level of care if needed.
- Now have a detox and treatment program in Quakertown PA through Pyramid Healthcare.

Shobha Mirchandani from Daytop spoke about their substance abuse and Co-occurring treatment services, including IOP and OP for adolescents and adults.

- Offer similar services High Focus, including groups and individual counseling. Services are up to three days a week from 4-7 for adolescents and 6-9 for adults.
- Offer round trip transportation and dinner for youth coming to the programs.
- Daytop receives a grant from Morris County to provide OP and IOP to adolescents and young adults.
- All Daytop staff is receiving training in trauma-informed care.
- Daytop also offers inpatient residential treatment at their facility in Mendham.
- Family groups are held once a week at their Hunterdon site.
- Working to build on behavioral health piece
- Provide Detox services on an individual basis, and sometimes they refer out for detox.
- Daytop employs an in house psychiatrist and offers co-occurring services.
- Referrals can be made directly to Daytop, don't need to go through Perform Care.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

There were no action items.

## **STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS**

### **Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC)**

No report

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

Dave Johnston reported that Morris DCP&P had a total of 236 referrals: Morris East 94: 70 Child Protective Services (CPS), 24 Child Welfare Services (CWS).  
Morris West 142; 115 CPS, 27 CWS.

The Division has put together practice priorities for 2016, which they will address and focus on in the coming year. These can be found on the DCF website under DCP&P.

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

No report

### **Youth Services Coordinator Report**

Jessica Mondino reported that the county received the fully executed 2016 award letter back from the attorney general's office. The next step is having the subgrants fully executed by the freeholders, after which subgrant packages will be mailed out to the agencies.

Ms. Mondino also reported that the 2017 Application and Plan will come out in April 2016, to be submitted to the State by September.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15. It will be held at Human Services, 30 Schuyler Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, at 10 a.m.

### **Juvenile Detention Center/Youth Shelter**

The JDC currently has eight (8) residents: six (6) male and two (2) female. Four (4) are from Sussex and four (4) are from Warren.

The Shelter had 13 residents for the month: seven (7) Morris, one (1) Hunterdon, four (4) Warren and one (1) Bergen. Currently they have nine (9) residents: five (5) male, one (1) female, three (3) are from Morris, two (2) from Warren and one (1) Hunterdon.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Planning**

The subcommittee met on February 8, 2016.

The committee updated the 2016 Provider and Parent/Youth surveys. They will be sent out to the full YSAC in the near future.

Next Meeting: March 14 at 10 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

### **Systems Review**

The subcommittee did not meet in February.

Next Meeting: April 25, 2016 at CMO in Mt Arlington.

### **Legislative and DMC**

The subcommittee did not meet in February.

The next meeting will be May 5, 2016 at 11:00am at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

### **Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program**

The subcommittee did not meet in February.

Jessica Mondino did report that she has received one referral for the program this month.

Next Meeting: March 10 at 11:30am at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

### **Education Partnership**

There was a training held on February 10, 2016.

Next Meeting: March 24, 2016 at 1:30pm at the Morris County Department of Human Services, Morristown.

### **Juvenile Review Committee (JRC)**

The committee met on February 11.

The committee is going to be working on a handbook about the JRC explaining each agency and the services they offer to youth.

The next meeting will be February 25, 2016 at 9:30am at 30 Schuyler Place.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business at this time.

### **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Dave Johnston from DCP&P announced that the manager of the Morris West Office left so they currently have a covering local office manager. The Division is interviewing for a new local office manager in the Passaic and Morris West office.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at the time.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 2:30 PM at 340 West Hanover Avenue.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At approximately 3:11pm, Member David Haggerty 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 Community and Behavioral Health Services.*