Call to Order and Approval of April 28, 2015 minutes –
Ms. Deborah Ward, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. Ms. Carol DeGraw made a motion to approve the April minutes. Ms. Mary Jane Melo seconded the motion. All were in favor with no abstentions and no opposition. Motion was carried.

Welcome and Introductions –
Ms. Deb Ward, Vice Chair, welcomed everyone. Introductions were made.

Chair Report –
Ms. Becker stated that Ms. Valerie Fox will be receiving a Proclamation at the May 27 Freeholder Meeting. Ms. Becker is requesting that board members be in attendance to help celebrate this special recognition for Ms. Fox.

Subcommittee Reports –
Funding – Steve Nebesni
Mr. Nebesni asked if anyone was in conflict with Municipal Alliance Funding. No one was in conflict. He distributed the County Alliance/DEDR Fiscal Summary for DCA. The summary showed the proposed amount of funding per town for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016. There are 33 out of 39 municipalities in the county that receive Alliance Funding. Six of the smaller municipalities choose not to participate. The funding to Morris County for FY 2016 is the same as it was in 2015. Kinnelon and Mt. Olive Alliances are once again eligible for
funding for FY 2016. Since there are two additional towns, some towns were reduced in order to fund them.

The Municipal Alliance network is made up of local, grassroots organizations which are comprised mainly of volunteers. This statewide network was established to assess needs, set priorities, develop plans and implement programs which form the foundation of New Jersey’s substance abuse prevention activities. The Alliances are involved in many programs – Parents Who Host Lose Most, advocacy programs, alternative activities, DARE, peer mentoring programs, etc. The Alliances have many community wide initiatives.

Motion was made by Ms. Mary Jane Melo to approve the FY 2016 Alliance Funding in the amount of $473,890. Mr. Chris Chernick seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions. Motion was carried.

Planning – No Report

Legislative/Advocacy – Ms. Becker
The 21st Annual Consumer and Family Forum will be held on June 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in Morristown. All board members are encouraged to attend. The MHSAAB is hosting the event along with the Freeholders, the Department of Human Services and our Community Partners.

County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (CASS) – Mr. Steve Nebesni
The next meeting will be on June 8 (not the original date of June 9). They will work on revising county funding guidelines.

V. State Liaison Reports – Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)
Ms. Eileen Alexander – see attached Mental Health Board Notes
For further information on DMHAS please see their website at www.state.nj.us/humanservices/divisions/dmhas/.
The MESH (Medically Enhanced Supportive Housing) awards will be finalized on May 26, 2015.

VI. Staff Reports
Municipal Alliance Coordinator – Mr. Steve Nebesni
At the last meeting it was announced that the Anonymous People Screening will be on Tuesday, May 19 at the Bow Tie Cinema on Rt. 10 in Succasunna. Please RSVP by calling Steve Nebesni at (973) 625-1998.

“Parents Who Host Lose the Most” Campaign will be running countywide until the end of June. There will be a Proclamation for this campaign given by the Freeholders at the first meeting in June. The purpose of this program is to help bring awareness of the local conditions around underage drinking in our community – to leaders, parents, and youth – and send a direct message that parents who provide alcohol to teenagers do so at a great risk to the community. Statistics show that through combined endeavors, the number of youth using alcohol has declined, but there is further work needs to be done.
There will be free Naloxone training and Naloxone kits given out to Morris County families on May 26 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. It will be held at Bethel Church in Morristown. Naloxone is a life-saving drug that reverses a heroin/opiate overdose when used in time. Please email acwlight@gmail.com to register.

**Addictions Services Administrator – Ms. Beth Jacobson**

Ms. Jacobson reported that Alcohol and Drug Directors’ Association has submitted a request for an extension on the County Comprehensive Plan (CCP), citing the implementation of the Interim Managing Entity (IME) as one of the main reasons. The uncertainty with regard to reimbursement for treatment makes it difficult to truly determine needs and gaps and how to address that through the CCP. In addition, there has been a lot of ambiguity in the documents and guidelines provided by the Division, with very little clarification. The proposed format of the plan is very difficult to understand, and the Association has requested a more user friendly format, especially if this plan is to be shared with community and county stakeholders. Response was requested by May 20.

The DMHAS Quarterly Providers meeting is scheduled for June 11. The agenda includes an IME presentation as well as an IME Bed System Demonstration.

Ms. Jacobson distributed information about the Mental Health Stigma Free campaign. The committee discussed how this campaign could be brought to Morris County. There are two towns in Morris that have implemented the campaign: Jefferson Township and Denville. Bergen County has passed a resolution that the county is a stigma free county. Ms. Jacobson suggested that Municipal Alliances could work to pass resolutions in their individual towns. The MHSAAB is in support of pursuing implementation of this campaign. More information can be found at [www.bergenhealth.org/mental](http://www.bergenhealth.org/mental).

There was discussion about Mental Health First Aid as part of this campaign. Ms. Jacobson is a trainer with Mary Vineis from NewBridge Services for Mental Health First Aid, which also encompasses substance abuse as part of the training.

**Mental Health Administrator – Ms. Laurie Becker**

The 2016 County Request For Applications went out on May 11. There was a lot of discussion on Managed Medicaid. Ms. Becker added a sentence to RFA documents per County Counsel to clarify that County public funding could not support Medicaid reimbursable service units.

In the next few months agency monitorings will be held. Ms. Becker passed around a monitoring schedule for members to sign up to attend. She asked that all members sign up for at least one monitoring.

Ms. Becker asked if Gregg Benson, Cheryl Gardonick, Deborah Ward, Chris Chernick were interested in being reappointed to the board. All stated they are seeking reappointment.
VII. Joint PAC Report – Patrice Picard

There was a presentation by Don Hebert of New Jersey Connect for Recovery. New Jersey Connect for Recovery is a call center for individuals and families coping with addiction to heroin and prescription painkillers. They are looking for volunteers to be peer specialists - family members or friends who have lived through a loved one’s addiction.

The CoC reported on the Project Homeless Connect and the Point in Time. The Point in Time County held in Jan 2015 showed:

- 390 homeless adults and children;
- 34 homeless on the street;
- 194 homeless in the emergency shelter;
- 19 homeless at safe haven;
- 143 homeless in transitional housing; and
- 371 homeless receiving temporary rental assistance.

VIII. Old Business – None

IX. New Business – None

X. Open to the Public

Ms. Fox stated that she was at the Governor Awards and Bergen County got a Stigma Free Award.

Ms. Fox was disappointed she didn’t see anything in the newspaper on the Send Silence Packing event that was held on the Morristown Green. It was a really wonderful event.

In regard to the Connect for Recovery Hotline she inquired as to whether it has been successful. Mr. Gregg Benson stated that it is a good way to reach out to someone and help them get linkages and connections. It has only been in operation for a few months. Ms. Fox discussed the Peer Recovery Warm Line that is already in existence through the Mental Health Association of NJ, and Ms. Jacobson clarified that NJ Connect for Recovery is also run out of the Mental Health Association of NJ.

XI. Adjourn

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. by Carol DeGraw and seconded by Peggy Himsl. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Mocarski
Program Development Aide