

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
August 27, 2013
Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital, Parsippany

The August 27 meeting of the Human Services Advisory Council was called to order by Ms. Rebekka Zydel, Chair at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Robert Armstrong, Citizen Rep., Liaison MSW HIV/AIDS Advisory (arrived at 5:55 p.m.)
Jeff Bashe, Citizen Rep./United Way of NNJ
Marcia Brands, Citizen Rep./Liaison Legislative Committee
Chris Carey, Citizen Rep.
Linda Csengeto, OTA Rep./CEAS/CoC Rep.
Cynthia DeGazon, Citizen Rep.
Xiomara Guevara, Morris County Organization of Hispanic Affairs
Mary Jane Melo, Citizen Rep.
Ken Oexle, Citizen Rep./Liaison Planning Committee
Tom Pappas, Citizen Rep./Liaison Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans
Michelle Roers, United Way of NNJ (arrived at 5:50 p.m.)
David Walker, Citizen Rep.
Rebekka Zydel, Child & Family Resources

Also Attending:

David Johnston, Division of Child Protection and Permanency
Janet Monroe, CEO, Greystone Psychiatric Hospital (arrived 5:45 p.m./departed at 6:45 p.m.)
Sabine VonAulock, M.C. Office of Community Development (departed at 7:00 p.m.)

Staff in Attendance:

Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Pat Mocarski, MCDHS

Welcome and Introductions – Ms. Rebekka Zydel, Chair

All were welcomed and introductions were made. Ms. Zydel stated that the Planning Subcommittee met earlier to discuss how to make subcommittee reports more meaningful. They came up with the following two ideas.

1. Ms. Carter will work on a template for committee chairs and others to use. A portion of the template will include an area for action items.
2. Guest Presentations – find out from presenters what action, if any, the presenter would like the HSAC to take.

Guest Presentation and Tour: Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital (GPPH) – Janet Monroe, CEO

Ms. Janet Monroe and Ms. Marcia Brands welcomed the board to Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital. They distributed booklets on the facility. Ms. Monroe talked about the facility. The original Greystone was opened in 1870s. In 1876 it was described by the newspapers as the largest of its type and size in the world. Through the years many changes occurred. Due to its aging physical condition the residential buildings and office

space were replaced with a new building that will continue to serve the Northern Region of New Jersey. The groundbreaking for the new building began in November 2005. The building was ready for patients in 2008. GPPH now serves approximately 500 patients.

The mission at GPPH is to collaborate with patients, their significant others, providers and other stakeholders to promote a culture of wellness and recovery. They provide patient centered treatment based on individual strengths, needs, abilities, and preferences. They foster every patient's potential in preparation for the earliest return to the community of their choice.

Ms. Monroe and Ms. Brands took the board members on a tour of the facility. Ms. Monroe talked about the various therapy programs and classes. She stated that Greystone was the first hospital to have equine therapy. The hospital currently has 560 patients. About 60-80% of the patients have co-occurring disorders. The hospital is state funded. The patients ages range from 18 – 80. Those under 18 go to a different facility. Each county has a facility for younger folks. The hospital has about 1,270 full time staff and 100 part time staff. The tour concluded about 6:20 p.m.

Ms. Monroe stated that GPPH will be hosting an open house for recovery month. Ms. Monroe stated that about 40% of the patients are discharged in 90 days. If the patient is not ready they may stay longer. The goal is to stabilize folks and get them back into the community with supports. There are many agencies that coordinate services with the hospital. The judge comes to the hospital twice a week and has commitment court on site.

Ms. Zydel thanked Ms. Monroe and Ms. Brands for the use of the facility for the meeting and for the informative presentation and tour.

Approval of June 25, 2013 Minutes –

The motion to approve the June 25 minutes was made by Ken Oexle and seconded by Mary Jane Melo. All were in favor with one abstention and no opposition.

County of Morris Planning and Development/Division of Community Development – Sabine VonAulock

Ms. VonAulock thanked the board for the opportunity to work with them. This will be my last meeting since I am retiring August 30. Community Development is transferring to the Department of Human Services. They will continue to do the same work but will be under a different umbrella. Ms. Carter thanked Ms. VonAulock on the committee's behalf for all her hard work and dedication.

County of Morris Department of Human Services – No Report

New Jersey Department of Human Services – No Report

**New Jersey Department of Children and Families –
Division of Child Protection and Permanency – Dave Johnston**
Statistics

Morris West Local Office

Child Welfare Reports: 27
Child Abuse Investigations: 80
Total Referrals: 107

Morris East Local Office

Child Welfare Reports: 23
Child Abuse Investigations: 62
Total Referrals: 85

Top Three Municipalities

Dover: 20
Mt. Olive: 18
Morristown/Randolph: 14

DCP&P Updates

- Request for Information (RFI) for Medical Services for children under DCP&P (DYFS) supervision. Go to the following website for the full RFI - http://www.state.nj.us/dcf/providers/notices/RFI_MedicalServices.pdf
- Reminder that DCP&P does not automatically close cases when youth turn 18. see link below for YouTube video on this topic – <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnX60ITnPk>
- The Morris West Local Office Manager, Suzanne Alvino, left the office for a promotion the end of July. Interviews are being conducted for a new Manager. Panel includes community representation.
- With current research by such groups as the Polaris Project, <http://www.polarisproject.org/> identifying human trafficking as a growing problem, DCP&P has increased the awareness of this issue through training of its staff. Of note, is the increase in trafficking in cities/areas where the Super Bowl is held. Since NJ will host this event in early 2014, it is important for child welfare staff to be educated about it.

Ms. Guevara asked if there is information on this Polaris Project in Spanish. Mr. Johnston will find out whether or not Polaris Project materials are available in Spanish. Mr. Johnston stated that trafficking is the buying and selling of people. Homeland Security is involved in this project. Trailers will not be allowed to park near the Super Bowl. Trailers parked near the Super Bowl will be inspected.

- For the past several years, DCF has placed an increased emphasis on preventing child sexual abuse. To that end, they have been working closely with Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey (PCA NJ) to raise awareness of this issue through the Enough Abuse campaign and the New Jersey Partnership to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse.

Recently, PCA NJ released its Sexual Abuse Safe-Child Standards, developed with extensive input from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),

youth-serving organizations and attorneys. The Department of Children and Families has endorsed these important Safe-Child Standards, and will begin to incorporate them into our grant-making process and existing contracts with service providers in the renewal period beginning July 2014. We believe these standards represent best practices and are aspirational for any organization serving children and youth. Therefore, they will not become an addition to the licensing regulations, but rather will be incorporated into contracts going forward.

DCF will be distributing a survey to all of their existing contracted service providers this week, asking for their feedback and input regarding the implementation of these standards. They will be looking to determine whether technical assistance, sample documents or training will be needed for this process. As you know, many of our community partners already ascribe to best practices and will not require technical assistance to incorporate these standards into their daily work with our children and youth. See <http://preventchildabuse.nj.org/programs/child-sexual-abuse-prevention/> for additional information.

Staff Report – Ms. Becker – No Report

Staff Report – Ms. Carter

Thanks to all that assisted with the annual agency site monitorings. This year there were additional monitorings since HUD programs were included as well. Ms. Carter is in the process of writing up the monitoring reports.

The Program Review Committee meetings will be held on Sept. 9 and Sept. 12. On Sept. 9 Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) and Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) applications will be reviewed. On Sept. 12 Grant-In-Aid (GIA) applications will be reviewed. If anyone is in conflict they will be excused from the entire funding stream.

**Subcommittee Reports –
CEAS/COC – Linda Csengeto**

Sabine Von Aulock, Community Development, reported that regarding the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), the emphasis will be now on rapid re-housing per HUD standards. Grantees will be encouraged to use all monies that have not been spent from 2011 and 2012 on rapid re-housing. There was discussion on the role of preventative services. It was discussed that prevention services are difficult to measure, whereas rapid re-housing is easier to measure outcomes.

There was discussion that all clients are not ready to be rapidly re-housed and the need for a good assessment tool (which is being developed).

There was a continued discussion on the Performance Standards/Measures for CoC (i.e. Length of Homelessness, Recidivism, Reduction in overall homelessness, Decrease in number who become homeless, Increase in income,

Successful placement in permanent housing and stability (12 months or longer) in housing.

There was discussion on possibly tiering standards for different groups to accurately measure successful placement in permanent housing, i.e. singles and families, transitional housing and Safe Have clients who have different needs (who might need longer shelter placements). It was discussed that with Transitional Housing Programs, more clients leave with employment income.

There was discussion that Performance Standards must be set for the community (even though all programs in the community don't receive HUD funding). It was again stressed that HMIS data entry needs to be accurate.

There was discussion on what percentage of clients exiting programs should have employment income vs. mainstream benefits. It is currently 20 percent and there was discussion on raising this to 35 percent.

It was discussed that further discussion is needed in all areas. A meeting will be held on August 13 to further discuss this issue with those agencies entering data into HMIS and those receiving the funding in attendance.

Ms. Csengeto stated that they are continuing discussion on the CEAS/CoC performance standards. There is concern over the rapid re-housing issue as it relates to the ability to get folks permanently housed due to the lack of permanent housing. They are exploring all options. There are limits to the total resources allocated for prevention.

Ms. Brands stated that maybe the board needs a clearer understanding in order to be able to advocate for these things. Perhaps they could match the continuum with funding resources. The person should be followed from the hospital to the community. It would be helpful to know what the continuum is and how we define homelessness and how we respond.

Ms. Carter stated that they are working on collecting data and standards and moving in the direction of addressing some of these issues. Ms. Roers stated that some of these things are going into the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness. They hope to have something by the end of the year for the board to review. Ms. Carter said the consultant is putting together a draft now. There is a need to have a more efficient way to do things. Ms. Roers stated that she believe the CEAS/CoC Executive Committee is working on some of these things.

Perhaps the HSAC can oversee these things or another advisory board may need to be created. Maybe agencies can pool their funding for things that are needed in the community. Mr. Pinto has been working on some of these issues and is trying to come up with a proposal for the community. Further discussion ensued.

Ms. Zydel suggested that that perhaps a flow chart for the new Continuum of Care should be created. She stated that this would create a better visual of which providers are providing the same services. It should parallel the agencies with the various services. It should include housing, shelters, and supportive services. A motion was made by Jeff Bashe and seconded by Tom Pappas that a flow chart of the new continuum of care be created. All were in favor with no abstentions and no opposition. Motion was carried.

**Planning Subcommittee – Ken Oexle
Childcare Update – report provided by Rebekka Zydel –**

There is no waiting list for child care subsidies. The Morris County Child Care Resource and Referral agency reports serving all eligible applicants and receives approximately 18 new applications a week.

Effective 9/1/13, eight nine (89) dedicated voucher openings are anticipated as children age out of programs. The 30 day clock is ticking.

Ms. Roers passed out a letter to Commissioner Velez from the Somerset County HSAC Chair regarding “e-child care” system. The letter talks about the considerable cost savings to the State. Somerset County HSAC asked the Commissioner to consider a request to increase the current state rate for programs that currently accept vouchers, be they “dedicated” to the previously contracted CBC centers, or “private for profit” centers. Since the vouchers cover only about 65% of the cost for childcare some centers are charging the families additional money. Ms. Roers suggested the board might like to send out a similar letter from Morris County. Ms. Zydel suggested using this letter as a template and changing the information to Morris County. Some discussion ensued. Mr. Bashe offered to redo this letter tailoring it to Morris County and bring before the board for their approval at the next meeting.

**Program Review Committee – Cynthia Degazon
Notice of Intent –**

The committee met last week, reviewed and ranked the Notices of Intent for the agencies that applied. Those rated in the Tier 1 are more likely to be funded whereas those in the Tier 2 will be funded if HUD has remaining funds.

If there are funding cuts, the board may want to consider reducing agency allocations differently and not evenly. However, there is still a lot we don’t know until the SuperNOFA is published. These programs are in line with funding priorities. The committees recommendation is to fund Tier 1 and if any money is left to fund Tier 2.

If the funding is reduced from 6% - 12% the committee suggests reducing each agency rated in Tier 1 by that amount. If funding is reduced Tier 1 will be funded but the new agency rated in Tier 2 may not be funded. A motion was made by

David Walker to fund Tier 1 and Tier 2 only if there is additional money. The motion was seconded by David Johnston. All were in favor with no opposition and one abstention. The motion carried.

Legislative - No Report

Nominating ByLaws – No Report

Advisory Committee Reports –

Morris, Sussex, Warren (MSW) HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee – Robert Armstrong

The Morris-Sussex-Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee met on August 8 to finalize recommendations for resource allocation for FY'2014 Ryan White Part A funding for the tri-county region. Percent allocation recommendations for core and support service categories along with justifications were presented to the Comprehensive Planning Committee of the Newark EMA HIV Health Services Planning Council on August 9 and were accepted as presented. New information that factored into the recommendations included a 10% decrease in funding for FY'2013 and anticipated changes from the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

On August 7 the MSW HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee presented a case study of an HIV+ client to the Cross Systems Review Committee. The presentation was a part of an outreach strategy of the Early Identification and Retention Collaborative (EIRC) that the MSW HIV Committee had created in response to a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) mandate for Ryan White funding. At the Cross Systems meeting the MSW EIRC sought to create better inter-agency communication and cooperation in identifying undiagnosed HIV individuals and getting them into care. The overarching EIRC strategy is to strengthen the cooperation between HIV prevention and testing and HIV care and treatment.

Mr. Armstrong mentioned that the case presentation on an HIV client at the Cross Systems meeting went very well. Agencies agreed to incorporate more HIV questions as a part of their intake. They also expressed an interest in receiving additional training on HIV.

The committee met this morning to debrief discussions for priority setting and resource allocations to the Planning Council in Newark. The Planning Council accepted most the recommendations with one small change. The Planning Council has final say and will vote next month.

Ms. Becker asked how much of the Ryan White money goes to Morris County? Mr. Armstrong stated about 8.4% of the NEMA budget goes to Morris County. Ms. Becker said it would be interesting to know how many residents in Morris County are served. Mr. Armstrong will look into this.

There is a lot of concern that since there is a 6% drop in primary care funding. There is uncertainty on how this cut will effect the Affordable Care Act funding or other funding. Further discussion ensued.

Youth Services Advisory Committee – No Report

Morris/Sussex/Essex Workforce Investment Board (WIB) –David Hollowell

The WIB has applied to the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development for \$100,000 to train unemployed workers for employer-specific jobs in the health care industry. The WIB will target workers who have applied for, but are not eligible for, employment and training services under the Health Pathways Opportunity Grant (HPOG). HPOG participation is limited to public assistance recipients and other low-income trainees, but receives applications from many other health care aspirants. The proposed grant will provide classroom training and on-the-job training to a broader pool of applicants.

The WIB is part of an Australian research project that is exploring linkages and best practices between economic development and workforce development entities in Texas and New Jersey. MSW WIB was chosen for the study because it has relationships with three economic development agencies in three counties with differing demographics. The report will be issued in October 2013.

Mental Health Substance Abuse Advisory Board – Charles LaRussa

There was a letter from Mr. Louis Ferraro, Chairman of NAMI – Concerned Families of Greystone, to the Freeholder Director in regard to Morris County residents in need of long term psychiatric hospitalization who are treated at Meadowview Hospital in Hudson County instead of Greystone Hospital in Morris Plains. The letter to Mr. Ferraro states that the Freeholder-appointed Mental Health Substance Abuse Advisory Board (MHSAAAB) will contact DMHAS to get clarification on this situation. Once there is more clarification on the situation the MHSAAAB will give a more detailed response.

The MHSAAAB will have a work group look further into the situation to get more facts and information from DMHAS. They want to see equal access to community resources. Perhaps these concerns should be forwarded to state leadership. Ms. Becker will get factual information for the Freeholders to consider in their response to Mr. Ferraro.

Trenton – the Christie Administration announced that it received authorization to spend \$209 million of a supplemental Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) from the US Department of Health and Human Services. Administration for Children and Families on services provided to victims of Super Storm Sandy. The funding is allocated to the Department of Human Services (DHS) and shared with the Departments of Health (DOH) and Children and Families (DCF) for eligible expenditures.

The Involuntary Outpatient Commitment Law (IOC) has been partially rolled out. The 2014 state budget passed. There will be \$2 million available for continued roll out of the IOC Program statewide. Morris County does not have this program as of yet. The State plans to develop and make a Request for Funding Proposal (RFP) within the next few months.

There were 156 funding applications received for 2014 county funding. County Grant-In-Aid received 76 in total, including 12 new applications. All Freeholder advisory groups will be reviewing and developing recommendations to the Freeholders on these applications. Subcommittee funding recommendations are targeted to be submitted to the full boards in September.

Council on Aging Disabilities & Veterans –Tom Pappas

The Providers are very concerned about the Peer Grouping funding availability in 2014. The primary purpose of Peer Grouping is to ensure the availability of community based services as alternatives to institutionalization for people 60 years and older and those who are physically or developmentally disabled.

The County’s major focus is managed care and the comprehensive waiver. The Department is facing all types of ratifications for all of the programs that receive Peer Grouping monies. This amounts to \$800,000 for community services and \$3.5 million for the Morris View Nursing Home.

As for 2014 this funding may be lost. The Agencies are advocating around the State reaching out to other Counties to work together and have their voices heard.

Partnership Announcements – None

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Public Comment - None

Adjournment – Ms. Zydel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Mocarski
Program Development Aide