

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
340 West Hanover Avenue, Morristown
August 23, 2016
MINUTES

Call to Order: The meeting opened at 5:02 p.m. by Mr. Kenneth Oexle. Chair.

Members Present:

Kenneth Oexle, Chair, Citizen Representative
Thomas Pepe, Vice Chair, Citizen Representative
Linda Csengeto, OTA Liaison
Mary Jane Melo, Citizen Representative
Michelle Roers, United Way of Northern New Jersey
Rebecca Sherrod, Child & Family Resources

Also Attending:

Wendy Zoccola, NJDHS, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Staff in Attendance:

Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Jennifer Carpinteri, MCDHS
Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Pat Mocarski, MCDHS
Maria Rosario, MCDHS

Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions were made.

Approval of July 26, 2016 Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes was made by Linda Csengeto and seconded by Mary Jane Melo. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions.

County of Morris Department of Human Services – Ms. Jennifer Carpinteri

There is a potential opportunity developing for nine county-owned houses on Ruth Davis Drive in Parsippany since the current relationship may not continue. The county is looking for an opportunity to keep to their mission.

Letters were sent to providers on August 6 Requesting Conceptual Letters of Interest (RCLI) to enhance the local human services continuum of care in the residential treatment or supportive housing arena for the houses on Ruth Davis Drive in Parsippany. Priority will be given to concept letters that show how the use of the homes will fill service gaps, build capacity to access services, and contribute to the therapeutic, non-stigmatizing environment. Target populations to be served are individuals in Morris County who are in need of supportive housing or residential treatment within the current human services continuum of care.

These houses are homes to about 40 people. They are residential supportive housing. No one living there will be displaced. Ms. Carter will email the RCLI for further information. The RCLI letters are due the first week in September. There will be an information meeting on this Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at Morris View.

At the Freeholder's meeting in July the Freeholders voted to go forward to pursue a lease of Morris View to a private operator. They are using a consultant that has been involved in other transitions. Morris County is committed to ensure the operator that takes over will provide the highest level of care. Morris County Improvement Authority is helping find the best fit.

The first step is to do a request for qualifications. Then an RFP will be issued. There will be an aggressive timeline. They want to maintain minimal interruption for staff and residents. The hope is that the RFP will be out at the end of Sept. They would like to the process complete and an operator chosen by the end of the year. Believe the transition would happen in April. As part of the process any of the current Morris View staff members will get an opportunity to interview and be considered for employment. Current staff may be hired by the new company but they will no longer be county employees.

By pursuing a lease agreement the county can still oversee Morris View. No residents will be displaced. Through a leasing arrangement there is a lot of savings. Benefits for workers will no longer be paid which will be a huge savings. The hope is that by 2018 the county may see some savings to the nursing home. If that happens the hope is that the Freeholders will put some more money into the CoC.

New Jersey Department of Human Services – Ms. Wendy Zoccola

Announced her retirement in November. The hope is that someone will be moving into her position. She is not sure if the new person will be attending these meetings since they will cover Morris/Sussex/Warren County.

New Jersey Department of Children and Families – Division of Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) – Mr. David Johnston (report emailed)

Morris East

Child Welfare Assessments – 23
Child Abuse Investigations – 49
Total for MELO – 72

Morris West

Child Welfare Assessments – 20
Child Abuse Investigations – 57
Total Reports – 77

County Totals

Child Welfare Assessments – 43
Child Abuse Investigations – 106
Total Reports – 149

Information was given on several Requests for Proposals (RFPs). For further information on RFPs please go to <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices>.

Staff Reports – Ms. Becker

Within the Mental Health System there is a big transition occurring with the new fee-for-service. Providers were given a choice of starting in January 2017 or July 2017. Most providers opted to wait until July 2017 to start. Only one provider has agreed to start in January 2017. Some agencies may be in jeopardy with these changes. There is concern they may go out of business. Within the MHASAB they are looking ahead at agencies funded to be sure the services funded aren't Medicaid eligible. There have been a lot of questions and updates from providers.

There has been a lot of advocacy to the state to raise the rates and delay the start date. There have been some rate adjustments but the state is sticking to their original time frames. The board wants to be sure that services can still be provided. Mr. Pepe said there was an excellent article in the Daily Record explaining the fee-for-service. It was written in an easy to understand format. Ms. Becker will email the article to the board. It is very important for advisories to look at all issues since these changes will be affecting boards and providers. Further discussion ensued.

Ms. Carter

The Social Services for the Homeless Contract has been submitted and is under review by the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. All agency monitoring's have been completed. The 2017 HSAC funding review meeting will be held 10:00 a.m. Sept. 14 and Sept. 15. Funding recommendations developed by the review committee will go before the full board, for approval, Sept. 27th. It will be necessary to have a quorum in at this meeting in order that a vote can take place. Mr. Pepe asked if there were any problems with any of the agency monitoring. Ms. Carter stated that all seems to be going pretty well.

At this time, the dedicated voucher system is still in place. Mr. Oexle stated there was an article in the paper regarding educational development. The article stated how hard it is for low income families to afford day care since it is so expensive.

Planning – Child Care Report – Rebecca Sherrod (written report submitted)

Child & Family Resources received additional applications for families getting ready for after school care.

- There is no waiting list for child care subsidies. All eligible applicants are being served and they receive approximately 30 new applications a week. The number of applications received weekly does increase in the summer. (May –August)
- There are no openings at any dedicated voucher centers.

- The following centers have Dedicated Voucher Spots throughout Morris County:

Dover Child Care – 50 North Morris Street, Dover NJ 973-366-0277

Early Years – 52 Cooper Road, Denville NJ 973-328-4011

El Primer Paso – 29 Segur Street, Dover NJ 973-361-0880

Flanders Valley Country Day – 6 Bartley Chester Rd, Flanders NJ 973-252-9696

F.M. Kirby Center – 54 East Street, Madison NJ 973-377-4945

Jefferson Child Care– Nolan’s Point Road, Lake Hopatcong NJ 973-663-2704

Kindercare Learning Center – 181 Howard Blvd Suite N, Mt. Arlington, NJ 973-601-9440

Little Learner Academy – 30 Old Budd Lake Road, Budd Lake NJ 973-691-9430

Little Leaner Academy – 89 Route 46 East, Denville, NJ 973-625-2800

Little Learner Academy – 25 Green Pond Road, Suite 2, Rockaway NJ 973-983-0600

Mt. Olive Child Care – 150 Wolfe Road, Budd Lake NJ 973-426-1525

Neighborhood House – 12 Flagler Street, Morristown NJ 973-538-1229

Parsippany Child Day Care – 300 Baldwin Road, Parsippany NJ 973-334-7286

Roxbury Day Care – 25 Righter Road, Succasunna NJ 973-584-3030

Salvation Army – 95 Spring Street, Morristown NJ 973-539-0543

The Magic Garden – 113 Fern Avenue, Wharton NJ 973-361-4167

These centers hold 350 dedicated voucher spots cumulatively.

Advisory Committee Reports –

Workforce Development Board – Mr. David Hollowell (written report submitted)

A WIOA Youth Transition Program has been developed by Morris County Vocational School District in consultation with Employment and Training Services (ETS). The purpose of the pilot program is to assist WIOA sponsored youth in the selection of a career path in a high demand occupational field based on interest and ability. The goal is for youth to take ownership of their future and embrace an enriching educational opportunity leading to a sustainable career. The program begins August 29, 2016 and classes are held at MCVSD.

The WDB and ETS provided workforce development services to HR managers at Alcoa and assisted with the selection of a job candidate assessment tool. Alcoa selected the TABE test which is used to determine high school proficiency in mathematics and language. Alcoa staff attended a train-the-trainer session taught by Dorothy Snider, Workforce Learning Link Instructor at the Randolph One Stop. A recruitment event will be held at the Randolph One Stop in August and Alcoa will administer the assessment as a component of the hiring process. Alcoa anticipates hiring fifty individuals for positions in manufacturing at their Dover location in 2016.

Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/Advisory – Ms. Joanne McEniry (written report submitted)

The Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/Advisory Committee met last on Tuesday, August 16, 2016

Priority setting recommendations from the Comprehensive Planning Committee were presented. “Local AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance” category was removed from ranking as it is consistently not a service funded by the Newark EMA due to other available resources. In addition, “Legal Services” was removed from ranking as it is no longer a service category; however it was replaced with “Other Professional Services” which includes legal services. “Housing” and “Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance” (HIPCS) each moved up in ranking.

The committee will present the following lunch and learns:

- October: at New Jersey AIDS Services, HIV and Aging
- January: at Zufall Health Center, Financial Assistance Programs
- March: at Hope House, Coping and Life Skills
- April: at Human Services, Social Security
- August: at Family Health Center, Medical Update – New Research

The meeting location rotates between New Jersey AIDS Services, Zufall Health and Hope House.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 20 at Hope House.

Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory Board (MHASAB) – Ms. Becker (written report submitted)

- The Countywide Prevention Forum will be held on the evening of Wed., Nov. 2, at the Meadow Wood Manor. They are hoping to include a panel discussion and talk about heroin and current drug trends. Details to follow once confirmed.
- Board members reviewed DMHAS contracts for Community Hope, New Bridge and Saint Clare’s. Board made recommendations to DMHAS on these proposals.
- Some Municipal Alliances are using stickers on disposable cups, pizza boxes, etc. to help promote the Good Samaritan Law. The Good Samaritan Law protects the caller and grants them immunity in the event of an overdose.
- On Oct. 6 there will be a Statewide Knock-Out Opiates day which is spearheaded by the Partnership for a Drug-Free NJ. Volunteers (including Alliance members) in Morris County and around the state will be visiting local prescribers and distributing door hangers to bring awareness to the opiate abuse epidemic in the state.

- The Partnership for A Drug-Free NJ is hosting trainings in September and a webinar next week for the volunteers for Opiate Knock-Out Day. If you are interested in participating please visit the Partnership's website <http://www.drugfreenj.org/knockoutvolunteers/> and register as a volunteer so additional details can be sent to you.

Advisory Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans (ACADV) – Ms. Mario Rosario

The Planning/Program Review subcommittee met on August 18, 2016 to discuss and review the renewal applications for 2017 Older Americans Act and the new applications for Grant-In-Aid and Grant-In-Aid Senior Support Funding. The subcommittee's recommendations will be presented to the Advisory Council on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans on September 8, 2016 for final recommendations and approvals.

The Morris Area Paratransit System (MAPS) will be holding a Public Hearing on Friday, September 23, 2016 to discuss the 2017 application for the Senior Citizens and Disabled Residents Transportation Assistance Program funded through Casino Revenue Funds.

The Morris Area Paratransit System (MAPS) has made application to NJ Transit for four ADA compliant vehicles as well as \$500,000 in operating expenses to assist in providing transportation to senior citizens and/or people with disabilities in Morris County through Federal Transit Administration Grant 5310.

Youth Services Advisory Committee – No Report (no meeting)

Youth Homelessness – No Report

Partnership Announcements – None

Old Business –

Ms. Roers stated that there has been discussion between El Primer Paso and the YMCA. Although things are progressing a little slowly they are working on a partnership. Head Starts grants are due tomorrow. They put in an application to get \$1.5 million annually for five years. Early Head Start will hear results of their application in February. NORWESCAP also put in for an expansion grant.

New Business –

Ms. Csengeto stated that Hope House submitted a subgrant modification for the AIDS Center program. There were hoping to develop outreach to the jail, however, things are not going well. As a result they want to reduce to number of people for that program to 30. They will move \$2,836 to coping skills which will increase the number of people they can serve from 12 to 18. The total budget is the same they are just moving money

around. Mr. Tom Pepe made a motion to approve Hope House's request for a subgrant modification to move some money around (\$2,836) but to keep the same total. Ms. Melo seconded the motion. All were in favor with one abstention and no opposition. The modification was approved and motion carried.

Adjournment –

Motion made by Tom Pepe at 5:50 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia MocarSKI
Program Development Aide