

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
340 West Hanover Avenue, Morristown
April 25, 2017 Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting opened at 5:10 p.m. by Mr. Ken Oexle.

Members Present:

Robert Armstrong, HIV/AIDS Advisory
Linda Csengeto, OTA Liaison
David Hollowell, Workforce Development Board Liaison
Joanne McEniry, Citizen Representative
Mary Jane Melo, Citizen Representative
Kenneth Oexle, Chair, Citizen Representative

Also Attending:

Betty Sayner, NJDHS, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Staff in Attendance:

Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Pat Mocarski, MCDHS

Welcome and Introductions

Ms. McEniry called the meeting to order. All were welcomed and introductions made.

Approval of March 28, 2017 Minutes

The motion to approve the March 28 minutes was made by Ms. Mary Jane Melo and seconded by Ms. Linda Csengeto. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions. Motion carried.

Public Comment – None.

County of Morris Department of Human Services – Report submitted by Ms. Carpinteri (read by Ms. Becker)

- Morris View RFP process to find a lessee to operate the nursing home – RFP responses were due on April 19 and there were eight qualified responses received. The evaluation committee will now review and conduct their due diligence. This process will take about a month.
- The VA Clinic will be moving to the second floor of Morris View in the summer of 2017.
- The County Veteran Service Office will also be moving to Morris View in the summer of 2017.

New Jersey Department of Human Services – Luis Tamayo written report (attached)

New Jersey Developmental Disabilities (DDD) – Ms. Betty Sayner

Overview:

DDD provides public funding for services and supports that assist NJ adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities age 21 and older to live as independently as possible. Services and supports are available in the community from independent providers, and in five state-run developmental centers. DDD is transitioning from a contract-based model of service delivery to a Medicaid-based, Fee-for-Service model. The Fee-for-Service model, successfully utilized in

most states, allows for increased flexibility, increased choice and an expansion of services. Once the new system is fully implemented, adults will be determined eligible for either the SUPPORTS PROGRAM or the COMMUNITY CARE WAIVER PROGRAM.

DDD Staff: 5,700+ (FT, PT, TES/Temporary Employment Services)

DDD Budget: +\$1.8 billion (state and federal funds)

Updates:

On 3/31/17, Assistant Commissioner Elizabeth Shea reported to DDD that: “As announced today by the NJ Department of Human Services, the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the Division’s Community Care Waiver (CCW) renewal. This approval, which we have been working toward since 2013, means that we can now move forward with full implementation of the Division’s transition to a Fee-for-Service system.”

On 4/10/17, DDD released a final call for Completion of the mandatory NJ CAT, as well as a Fee-for-Service Timeline. Every individual who currently receives or is eligible to receive Division-funded services must have a completed NJ CAT (NJ Comprehensive Assessment Tool). The results of the NJ CAT establish an individual’s tier; each tier has a corresponding budget; and the budget is used to fund needed services. Therefore, without a completed NJ CAT, an individual will not have a tier or budget – and therefore will not be able to access services in the new Fee-for-Service system. The Projected Timeline for the Shift to Fee-for-Service expects full implementation by June 30, 2019 and is available at:

http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/Projected_Fee-for-Service_Timeline.pdf

The DRAFT CCW Policies and Procedures Manual is also currently available at:

http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/community_care_waiver_policy_manual.pdf

On 4/26/17, DDD will host a Let’s Get to Work! event. In April 2012, Gov. Christie proclaimed New Jersey an Employment First State, meaning that competitive employment in the general workforce is the first and preferred post-education outcome for everyone in New Jersey. In recognition of the 5th Anniversary of the Employment First Initiative, DDD is hosting this event at the Division’s central office in Hamilton from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.. This is an opportunity for individuals with intellectual / developmental disabilities and their families to sign up for a one-on-one guidance session (45 minutes) with an employment expert to assist them with their employment goals. Let’s Get to Work! is open to individuals who are currently receiving DDD services and to individuals who are not yet 21 and/or not currently receiving DDD services.

Morris County recent Group Home openings:

GH2322 - The Rose House (Knoll Road, Parsippany)

Licensed for 4 on 2/1/17 (2 individuals have moved in)

GH2175 - Advancing Opportunities (McKinley Street, Lincoln Park)

Licensed for 4 on 3/7/17

New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) – Division of Child Protection and Permanency – Mr. Dave Johnston

Morris East Local Office -

Child Welfare Assessments - 42

Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations – 80

Total - 122

Morris West Local Office -

Child Welfare Assessments -	38
Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations -	87
Total -	125

Ms. Carter stated there was information sent on two Requests for Proposals (RFPs). One was for Child Advocacy Development Grants with a Mandatory Bidder’s Conference on April 13 at 10:00 a.m. Bids are due May 9, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

Second RFP for Intensive Services for Youth with Intellectual//Developmental Disabilities in Northern or Central Region with a Mandatory Bidder’s Conference on April 4 at 10:00 a.m. Bids are due on May 23, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

See the website for further information on DCF go to <http://www.nj.gov/DCF/>.

Staff Report – Ms. Becker

Our staff is working on preparing the RFP for May 31, 2017 for 2018 funding.

Ms. Becker gave an update on Hope 1. The van has gone out in the community seven times and made 238 contacts. They provided coffee, food, etc. They also provided some NARCAN kits. Things are going well. The van will be at various community events. It is exciting to be part of this new program. They have been outreaching to various places. Ms. McEniry asked if the van might want to participate in the AIDS Walk to be held on Sunday, May 7 at the Morristown Green. Ms. Becker will talk to the Sheriff to see if their schedule would allow them to participate in the May 7 event. She is not sure if they are able to participate in weekend events.

Ms. Carter –

The State HSAC Advisory Council met Friday. This is a quarterly meeting driven by NJDHS and NJDCP. There are 21 counties that attend this meeting.

The Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Roxanne Kennedy filling in for Renee Burawski, Chief of Staff, presented on “How the State arrived at FEE FOR SERVICE; how the changeover is working.”

Status of Logisicare contract (New Jersey paid company since 2009, based out of Atlanta-based, to arrange rides to medical appointments for patients enrolled in New Jersey’s Medicaid plans.. It appears the term of the contract runs from 04/01/09 to 05/31/17. An alternative vendor has not been selected.

An update of the State HSAC Regulations was given.

**Subcommittee Reports –
Planning – Child Care – No report**

**Advisory Committee Reports
Workforce Development Board (WDB) – Mr. David Hollowell
ADA Assessment**

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 requires an assessment of One-Stop Career Centers for programmatic and physical accessibility. DAWN Center for Independent Living is using the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Checklist for Existing Facilities* (www.HumanCenteredDesign.org) to assess the extent to which facilities are functional and accessible by individuals with disabilities for the WDB. The *One-Stop Services Accessibility Checklist*, provided by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJLWD), assesses the extent to which the full range of services are available to all One-Stop customers, regardless of disability or cultural background. Employment and Training Services (ETS) is performing this assessment. The WDB is required to provide a report of assessment outcomes to the NJLWD.

Employability Skills Task Force

Jack Patten of the Morris/Sussex/Warren WDB is a founding member of the State Employment and Training Employability Task Force, Chaired by Melanie Willoughby of the New Jersey Business and Industry Association. In 2015, the task force formed in response to employers' need to address a significant gap in the skills employers need versus the skills they see in employees. It brought together seven stakeholder groups to identify positive practices and policy recommendations. As a next step, the task force created working groups to identify and provide resources for employers. Jane Armstrong of the WDB is working with Anbar Sivaraman of the Council of County Colleges and Melanie Willoughby on the Communications Committee.

Out-of-School Youth Programs

The WDB released a Request for Proposal for Year Round Out-Of-School Youth Services under the WIOA of 2014. The purpose of the RFP is to identify providers to operate Out-of-School Youth programs in Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties for youth ages 16 to 24. The due date is May 9, 2017; further information is available on the WDB website, www.mswwdb.org.

Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee Report – Mr. Armstrong

The committee met on April 18 at the Zufall Center in Dover. Hot off the press is the HIV/AIDS Services in Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties brochure. This updated pamphlet will be made available on-line, as a flyer, and in a small poster format.

Ms. Shannon Murphy gave a report on the Morris County Provider Resource Committee (formerly CEAS). An HIV Advisory Committee Newsletter is being published quarterly. The New Jersey AIDS Walk will be on Sunday, May 7, congregating at the Morristown Green. The walk begins at 1:00 p.m. and registration opens at 11:30 a.m. Please join us!

There was a robust discussion from clients regarding greater communication between the county committees/councils, HIV providers and people living with HIV. The HIV agency collaborative CAB is the main focus to be the best forum and platform for the HIV client involvement and advocacy. The HIV Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) met this morning, at the Human Services Building.

According to the New Jersey Department of Health as of December 31, 2015:
Morris County – Prevalence (number of cases): 876 people diagnosed with HIV
Sussex County – Prevalence: 173 people diagnosed with HIV
Warren County – Prevalence: 179 people diagnosed with HIV
Morris-Sussex-Warren Region-Prevalence: 1219 people diagnosed with HIV

Note: there are no agencies that provide HIV services in Sussex or Warren counties. Therefore, Morris County provides HIV services for the tri-county region. This total (1219) is greater than the number of HIV cases in Hunterdon, Somerset, Ocean, Gloucester, Burlington, Cumberland or Cape May counties individually. Note these numbers do not include any information from private providers since they do not have to report this information. New Jersey is in the top ten states for rates of infection. This is an epidemic in our state. Morris, Sussex, Warren area has the highest rate in New Jersey (primarily due to Newark area).

Discussion ensued. Mr. Armstrong stated that it is important to keep the focus on trying to reduce HIV transmission. They can test the HIV viral load and the amount of HIV in the bloodstream. If the viral load is suppressed (undetectable), it is unlikely the person can give the virus to another person. Unfortunately, HIV testing is not a routine test and a person needs to ask to be tested.

The next meeting of the Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee will be held on May 16, 2017, Ground Floor Conference Room, Human Services Building, followed by a Lunch and Learn, 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., sponsored by the Morris County Department of Human Services, Topic: Social Security and You.

Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory Board – Ms. Mary Jane Melo

- Ms. Jacobson reported that the next Opiate Task Force meeting will be held on May 9 at 5:00 p.m. in the OTA conference room, 340 West Hanover Ave., Morristown. There will be an Opiate Town Hall meeting on May 17 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy, 500 West Hanover Ave., Morristown. This is an opportunity to have your voice heard and be a part of the solution to end opioid abuse in Morris County.
- There will be a Stigma Free celebration on May 10 at Saint Clare's Health from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 25 Pocono Rd., Denville. RSVP to 973-316-1964. Join in as Saint Clare's formally announces their commitment to a countywide initiative to end discrimination and negative attitudes towards mental health conditions and substance abuse disorders.
- There was a presentation by Mr. Lou Schwarcz, Mental Health Association (MHA) of Morris County. He talked about the many services MHA provides to individuals with mental illness. The fee-for-service announcement has affected them greatly. MHA is a small nonprofit agency and will lose a tremendous amount of funding with the fee-for-service transition. In order to ensure their survival, they have decided to merge with a larger agency, Mental Health Association of Essex County. Their new name will be the Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris County. The agency will continue to provide all the current services to the community.
- The 23rd Consumer and Family Forum will be held on Monday, June 12, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Haggerty Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown. The title of the Forum is "Many Faces of Recovery: Celebrate you!" The Forum is a unique opportunity to get a countywide perspective from the individuals we serve regarding our local system of care. Please join us.

Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans – Ms. Maria Rosario

- On April 27, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., at Morristown Town Hall there will be a Free Veterans Legal Clinic and Benefit Expo.
- Ophelia Cruse updated the 2017 Fiscal Year federal budget cuts:
 - State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP): eliminate \$49 million from \$52 million budget.
 - Older Americans Act (OAA) Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP): total elimination.
 - Senior Corps: All 3 programs (Senior Companion, RSVP, and Foster Grandparents) would suffer cuts of 60-80%.
 - Community Services Block Grant: strike \$306 million from \$715 million budget.
 - Community Development Block Grant: roughly a 50% cut.
- May is Older Americans and the theme is “Age Out Loud”.

Youth Services Advisory Committee – Ms. Jessica Mondino

ACTION ITEMS

- The 2018 Juvenile Justice and Grant In Aid Youth Services priority summaries were approved by the committee.

STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS

- Jessica Mondino reported on the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives
 - This initiative is being started in Morris County. The county is in the very beginning stages and Jessica will keep the committee updated throughout the long process.
- Nacie Arnold reported on the Bridging the Gap Network
 - Reviewed where the taskforce had been and where we are moving now.
 - The current focus is going to be youth homelessness.
 - Will be updating the Youth Services Directory and putting it on the human services website when it is ready.
 - United way reported that 211 will be the coordinating central location for any homelessness or issues surrounding this issue.
 - The next meeting will be June 20 at 10:00 a.m. at 30 Schuyler Place, Morristown.
- Nacie Arnold also reported on the Nurtured Heart Approach
 - Nacie has trained a totally of 240 people in the community most recently the Office of Temporary Assistance, Center for Evaluation and Counseling, Family Intervention Services and Neighborhood House are next up to be trained.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lila Bernstein announced the New Jersey Child Placement Advisory Council (NJCPAC) conference, which will be held on April 28 at the Marriott in Bridgewater. Judge Grant will be the keynote speaker.
- Maria Augustowicz from Care Management Organization (CMO) and Christine Farber from Family Support Organization (FSO) talk about an event in Sussex County at the Skylands stadium for Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day on May 4.

- Beth Jacobson announced that the Morris County Stigma Free website went live on April 20. It can be found at the following link <https://morriscountystigmafree.org/>

Partnership Announcements –

Ms. Carter stated that the CoC Executive Committee is preparing for the 2017 Notice of Funding Availability. This involves about \$1.7 million dollars in homeless service funds. A mandatory technical assistance training is scheduled May 10, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in Morristown for agencies interested in applying for this funding.

Old Business –

Ms. Carter said that El Primer Paso will be presenting at the next meeting.

New Business – None

Adjournment –

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting made by Ms. Mary Jane Melo and seconded by Mr. Robert Armstrong. The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia MocarSKI
Program Development Aide