

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
340 West Hanover Avenue, Morristown
February 28, 2017 Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting opened at 5:00 p.m. by Mr. Ken Oexle.

Members Present:

Robert Armstrong, HIV/AIDS Advisory
Kenneth Oexle, Chair, Citizen Representative
Linda Csengeto, OTA Liaison
David Hollowell, Workforce Development Board Liaison
Joanne McEniry, HIV/Aids Advisory Liaison
Mary Jane Melo, Citizen Representative
Debi Merz, Citizen Representative
Tom Pappas, Citizen Representative
Tom Pepe, Vice Chair, Citizen Representative
Debi Merz, Citizen Representative
Ken Oexle, Citizen Representative
Rebecca Sherrod, Child & Family Resources

Also Attending:

Kristen Carew, Dawn Center for Independent Living
Dave Johnston, NJDCF, Division of Child Protection and Permanency
Luis Tamayo, New Jersey Department of Human Services

Staff in Attendance:

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

Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions were made.

Approval of January 24, 2017 Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Tom Pepe and seconded by Mr. Dave Johnston. All were in favor with no opposition and one abstention.

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

There was a meeting Friday with Commissioner Connolly. Last month, there was a meeting with Commissioner Blake and Ms. Liz Manley. The DCP&P on line data portal is great! Their website is very comprehensive.

There is nothing new to report for Morris View. I am hoping the RFP is released soon. There is another Department undertaking, the Unified Funding Initiative. Mr. Oexle will talk about this later. There is a Heroin and Addictions Initiative as well. This morning was the Heroin Forum and about 150 were in attendance. There have been 11 deaths already this year alone. Last year there were 644 deaths and 122 lives saved. Mr. Johnston stated he believes some municipality's police are not allowed to give the Narcan anecdote. If so, Ms. Carpinteri needs to follow-up on this.

The Sheriff is working with Human Services to develop an outreach program. They are converting an old bread truck into a Vehicle of Hope. They plan to use this vehicle to outreach in the field with plain clothed police and providers to try to connect folks to services. They are making great strides.

New Jersey Department of Human Services – Mr. Luis Tamayo

Governor Christie supports reducing the number of New Jerseyans addicted to heroin and opioid-based prescription medication. There may be more funding for beds, however, unsure where the money will come from. The Governor also announced nearly 900 additional treatment beds would be added for people addicted to drugs and alcohol and those suffering from mental illness. There is concern over this since a certain number of hospital beds are tied to hospital needs (attached to patients). In addition, uncertain of what will happen to those on Medicaid – hope to hear more on this in the near future.

Ms. Carpinteri said that from what she understands, although they have been talking about new money, she does not foresee it as really as being more money but a shifting of money. She heard that 18-20 year olds will be funded through the Children’s System of Care. There was a question raised about the Community Care Waiver. Mr. Tamayo stated that it has been extended since 2013. Question raised if it will affect the budget. He does not expect that it will since in past years it has not.

At the upcoming Friday meeting with the Human Services Directors, Fee for Service is on the Agenda. Send any questions to Ms. Carpinteri so she may bring them to the meeting. However, not sure how much time there will be for questions.

The State’s Human Services Advisory Council meeting focused mainly on childcare reform updates. New requirements place heavy emphasis on quality of care. The State is working hands on with local agencies to ensure integrity of services for enrolled children.

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

Morris East Local Office

Child Welfare Assessments – 26
Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations – 72
Total – 98

Morris West Local Office

Child Welfare Assessments – 38
Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations – 79
Total – 117

For DCC&P the Morris County Qualitative Review is happening during the week of March 20. The conference for the Morris County Qualitative Review will be held on March 24 at the PTSA, let Mr. Johnston or Ms. Carter know if you want to attend. There are federal reviewers and outside reviewers involved. The look at where improvement is needed and at where there are strengths.

They are continuing to try to recruit foster parents. Information was sent out earlier on this. For information on being a foster parent, call 1-877-NJFOSTER.

The Morris-Sussex-Passaic Area has convened a Mental Health Work group and has met five times so far. The next meeting will be in April. The purpose of this group is to insure the quality of the assessments DCP&P contracts for and that child welfare is crafting the best possible referrals for these amendments. They talked about what locally is being done. There is an upcoming listening session. See flier for further information. For information on the listening session and current RFPs, see the DCF website at <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/>.

Staff Report – Ms. Becker – No Report

Ms. Carter –

Community Development is in their funding review process. The Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) is part of that process and is geared toward those with low and moderate income. The goal of ESG is to help eliminate homelessness.

Subcommittee Reports –

Program Review – Emergency Solutions Recommendations

Closed Session –

Mr. Oexle asked if anyone was in conflict with the Emergency Solutions Grant. Ms. Csengeto and Ms. Carew left the room. Motion was made to begin the closed session of the meeting.

The board closed the open portion of the meeting pursuant to P.L. 1975 Ch.231 of the Open Public Meetings Act at 5:30 p.m.

Return to the Meeting

The meeting reopened at 5:40 p.m. Ms. Csengeto and Ms. Carew came back into the room.

Actions Resulting from Closed Session

Ms. Debi Merz made a motion for the HSAC to approve **all Emergency Solution's funding recommendations as agreed upon in closed session. This funding is used for Emergency Shelter, Prevention and Rapid-Rehousing. Mr. Pepe seconded the motion. All were in favor with one abstention and no opposition. Motion was carried.

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

- There is no waiting list for childcare subsidies. All eligible applicants are being served and they receive approximately 30 new applications a week.
- They do not have any openings at any dedicated voucher centers.
- The following centers are centers that 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 Learner 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.

Workforce Development Board (WDB) – Mr. David Hollowell

WDB staff participated in the NJEEDS Forum at the John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. The forum marked the public launch of New Jersey's P20W State Longitudinal Data System. The education to earnings data system (NJEEDS) provides centralized longitudinal data that links information on student educational achievement and employment from three partner agencies: NJ Department of Education, Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, and the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The system will produce timely and accurate information to help policymakers, the public, educators and workforce program managers make informed decisions. Data sources include K-12 NJ SMART enrollment and completion data, higher education SURE enrollment and completion data, and labor case and wage data.

Morris, Sussex, Warren, HIV Advisory – Joanne McEniry

The Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/Advisory Committee met last on Tuesday, February 21, 2017. Members received a presentation from the Sussex County Department of Health regarding services provided.

- As a way of engaging consumers, the development of a Consumer Advisory Board is underway. The Board held their first meeting on January 31, focusing on self-advocacy. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 28.
 - Barriers to care - Access to oral health care, transportation and insurance difficulties were discussed.
 - Consumers living with HIV/AIDS shared their personal experiences.
- Members from the Ryan White Grantee's office in Newark, which funds oral health & transportation, were present at the meeting. They suggested that a conference call be scheduled among funded Ryan White providers in the Morris, Sussex, and Warren region to these discuss barriers.
- The advisory committee will hold their next lunch and learn event on the topic of stress Tuesday, March 21 from 12:30 -2:30 pm.
- The next Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/Advisory meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 21 at 11:00 am at Hope House.

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

- Ms. Becker reported that there was a meeting focused on the impact of the State's transition to Fee for Service cost reimbursement. The meeting was with Assemblyman Bucco and Senator Bucco with County Representative, consumers and provider leaders. It was a good and productive meeting. The hope is that the Bucco's will advocate statewide for the need to have fiscal safeguards in place during the Fee for Service Transition. It looks like Fee for Service is moving forward per the State's timeframe.
- Ms. Becker stated that the staff is working on a new project for 2017. It is the Unified Funding Plan. This year the focus will be on Grant-in-Aid. The Advisory Leadership Group will look at funding priorities. If one board cannot fund a program, perhaps another board

can. With all the cuts and changes, it would be helpful to work together and look at applications on a case-by-case basis. There will be more information on this at the next meeting.

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

- The Council on Aging is currently distributing our 2017 Needs Assessment survey. They have been distributed throughout the County of Morris through nutrition sites, providers, and MAPS. The purpose of this survey is to gauge which services are critical for the needs of Morris County residents.
- These results will be used for our planning purposes for the 2017 Area Plan Contract.
- Ms. Cruse will be participating in the New Jersey State Planning on Aging Stakeholder Meeting on March 1, 2017, as an advocate and partner in the Aging Service Network as the State develops their 2017-2021 State Area Plan. This plan is usually done in a 4 year block and will direct the State's efforts for the next four years and the following are considered priority areas of discussion:
 - Access and outreach-A trusted visible, accessible and responsive Aging Network.
 - Empowerment and self-determination- through person center planning where choices are respected.
 - Full service network- Streamline and improve capacity to maximize services and support independence.
 - Elder justice and elder rights- through the coordination of protective and legal services. Individuals are respected and valued.
 - Effective and responsive management- Use of quality measures and outcome data to promote sustainability.
- In addition, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging are heavily advocating for replacement for the Affordable Care Act, to insure that older adults, caregivers and people with disabilities will continue to receive care in their communities.

The following are some questions to the legislators are:

- What does proposal do to ensure that pre-Medicare population ages 54-64 can access affordable and adequate healthcare insurance to protect their health now and save Medicaid and Medicare long term services expenditures later?
- Is there restore funding to Aging and Disability Resource centers to ensure consumers can find needed State and local and private resources for long term services and supports?
- Will caregivers be supported by this proposal?
- What are the implications for the long-term solvency of Medicare?

When people think of the Act they assume it is for young families, single individuals, or low - income people without insurance. However, it has a broad range that covers persons with disabilities and the aging network. The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging is a strong network that has been writing to and going to senate, legislators, congress to make sure whatever Act is in place that will not take away services but enhance coverage.

- Flyers for the VITA tax programs that NORWESCAP/RSVP is offering are available.

- NORWESCAP is also partnering with Jewish Family Service to outreach to assist seniors applying for SNAP (Food Stamp Program.) It is an outreach because seniors do not want to come into the office for the application process.
- Atlantic Health Services Special Children's Services is holding a Disability Forum on April 2, at the Morris Museum
- Zufall provides medical and dental van that will make visits to sites to screen clients with a minimum of 10 clients. The dental exam, cleaning and x-rays has a charge of \$20.00.

YSAC – Ms. Nacie Arnold

- Family Intervention Services (FIS) offers programs in the community and at their location for art therapy and trauma. Anyone can refer.

Three RFP's currently on the DCF Website <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/#2> :

- Mentoring services
- Youth advisory networks
- Academic and Career Exploration to Success Programs
- Family Preservation Services
- Emergency Stabilization and assessment services for 12 and under

Youth Services Coordinator report:

- Increased substance use/abuse treatment beds in the state will now include 18 & 19 year olds and reflect and expansion of services.
- Behavioral Health home models are being explored through the CMO's to include:
 - Nutrition and exercise
 - Wellness coaches, LPN's, and Nurse Practitioner's will be added to the child/family team.
- Zero Suicide Initiative:
 - To be conducted in out-of-home treatment facilities through the Care Management Organization (CMO) child/family team process. (All suicidal statements to be treated like a cardiac arrest.)

Nacie Arnold, Human Services reported on:

- Promising Path to Success Update:
 - Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA) trainings currently being offered in Morris County to funded providers.
 - Six Trainings already held in the community since January 2017 - 158 professionals have been trained.
 - More trainings are being scheduled.
 - Contact Nacie Arnold for interest in trainings.

Partnership Announcements – Continuum of Care – Ms. Carter

The second statewide forum addressing best practice toward Ending Homelessness, sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Human Services, was held February 22, 2017 at the Trenton Museum. Emphasis of the forum centered on Coordinated Assessment. Both Mr. Bashe, CoC Executive Committee Chair I attended. The third forum is scheduled March 28. The theme is state services to support housing.

The CoC funding application is expected. More to come later.

Old Business – None

New Business –

Mr. Oexle stated that due to recent activity and changes by the Department of Human Services, Fee for Service contracts are affecting a lot of funding. The United Way is cutting back their funding services. We do not know what will happen, but we believe some of these changes will affect provider agencies.

The Freeholders provide about \$4 million in grants to provider agencies. We will have to work together to make the most of our funding and meet the needs of the community. Ms. Carpinteri stated that we need to look at the Continuum of Care and our funding priorities and talk to one another. The goal is to look at what we are struggling with and what providers are struggling with. We need to try to coordinate services and programs and help the programs that are in jeopardy by shifting money around. The goal is to look at where systems are crossing and see if funds are being used in the best way. We need to get all the advisory boards talking and sharing information.

Ms. McEniry stated that it is great we are trying to make the best use of the money we have. Mr. Oexle suggested the funding priority sheets should be circulated. The Advisory Board leadership is working together to see what needs to be done in Morris County. Mr. Oexle said he does not know what the outcome will be but it will take time until we know what the fallout will be. All are trying to be proactive. Ms. Carpinteri stated that Morris County is strong and has a collaborative spirit and will continue to provide wonderful care.

Ms. Carpinteri shared an email from her counterparts that some counties are starting to feel ramifications and service reductions due to immigrant fear of deportation. Some families are taking their children out of school and asking for termination of benefits.

Mr. Tamayo said the New York Times did an analysis on the first month of bail reform. There were 2,000 cases where bail was set. Many folks are not being imprisoned. Mr. Johnson said that six youth were sent to Jamesburg. One or two are coming back that have served the maximum time. There is no supervision required; the youth are under 18 and have no place to go. They need to have their needs met and their number is on the rise. There is concern about the unintended consequences of this Reform. Need to look at data from others. Bail Reform may cause some additional problems such as the large number coming out of jail and trying to get services.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Adjourn –

There was a motion made by Tom Pepe and seconded by Ms. Deb Merz to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia MocarSKI
Program Development Aid