

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
May 28, 2013
340 West Hanover Avenue, Morris Twp.

The May 28 meeting of the Human Services Advisory Council was called to order by Ms. Rebekka Zydell, Chair at 5:35 p.m.

Members Present:

Robert Armstrong, Citizen Rep., Liaison MSW HIV/AIDS Advisory
Marcia Brands, Citizen Rep./Liaison Legislative Committee
Chris Carey, Citizen Rep.
Linda Csengeto, OTA Rep./Liaison CEAS/CoC
Cynthia Degazon, Citizen Rep./Liaison Program Review Committee
Xiomara Guevara, MC Organization of Hispanic Affairs
Charles LaRussa, Citizen Rep./Liaison Nominating Committee & MHTAAB
Mary Jane Melo, Citizen Rep.
Debi Merz, 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 6:00 p.m.)
David Walker, Somerset Home
Rebekka Zydell, Child & Family Resources

Also Attending:

Carlos Caprioli, MC Family Success Center (departed at 6:30 p.m.)
Erika Correa, MC Family Success Center (departed at 6:30 p.m.)
David Johnston, Division of Child Protection and Permanency
Sabine VonAulock, M.C. Office of Community Development

Staff in attendance:

Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Pat Mocariski, MCDHS
Frank Pinto, MCDHS

Welcome and Introduction – Ms. Rebekka Zydell, Vice Chair

All were welcomed and introductions were made.

Guest Presentation –Family Success Center – Mr. Carlos Caprioli and Ms. Erika Correa

The Morris County Family Success Center opened about a year ago and is located at 73 Bassett Highway in Dover. There is a small crew and a few volunteers. The Center provides the following:

- Information about health services for women, children and family members.
- Referrals to public and private social services.
- Information about safe and affordable housing.

- Assistance with job searches and preparation for employment interviews.
- Assistance with interpretation and completion of forms.
- Family activities for parents and children of all ages.

All services at the center are free. Many of their programs are modeled after the programs at the Irvington Family Success Center. There are ten core services that they must have which are mandated by the state. The Center operates differently than most organizations since they have no board. They do have an advisory board that is 80% made up from people in the community using the services offered by the Center. The Center has served 409 families from March to December 2012.

Ms. Becker asked if they work with other agencies to find out what services are needed in the community. Mr. Caprioli stated that they try to work with local agencies. They are currently working on providing a safety net for the community in the event of a disaster. They are trying to multiply their services and expand into the Morristown area. There is a Family Success Center now operating out of the Calvary Church in Morristown. It is a challenge to get the word out to folks. The Center serves all populations and is not exclusive to Spanish speaking families. Some further discussion ensued. Ms. Zydel thanked Mr. Caprioli and Ms. Correa for the informative presentation.

Approval of May 28 Minutes –

The motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Merz and seconded by Ms. Degazon.

County of Morris Department of Human Services – Mr. Frank Pinto

This past Friday, May 24, Morris County's annual Memorial Day services, sponsored by the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders, was held inside the Administration building due to inclement weather. The keynote speaker was Mr. Johansson of Montville, A World War II veteran of the Army Air Force who was captured and held as a German prisoner of war after his B-24 Bomber was shot down over Czechoslovakia in 1944. The Freeholders presented the Morris County Distinguished Military Service Medal to 14 Morris County veterans in recognition of their service to our nation.

The Freeholders recently formed the Morris View Advisory Committee. This committee will be meeting every other month. The first meeting was this past Monday. They went over some different ideas and talked about the vacant space in the nursing home. The new sign is up for Morris View Health Care Center.

The Greystone Central Park Complex (non profit mall) is about half occupied. Saint Clare's has been in the mall since December. They occupy about half the space. Now that Saint Clare's is going to be for profit they will have to work it out. The rest of the space is still under renovation. There will be a Request for Funding Proposal (RFP) for non profits to apply for space in the non profit mall; however, they are behind on the original schedule for completion. Ms. Buchanan is still leading the project. They hope to put out the RFP soon.

County of Morris Planning and Development – Sabine VonAulock

Due to the sequester they are thinking about how things can be done differently. Allocated federal funds will diminish 5% per year for ten years. Federal money is not protected. They started a survey and are looking for new ideas.

New Jersey Department of Human Services – No Report

Division of Developmental Disabilities – No Report

New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) – Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) – Dave Johnston

Mr. Johnston will be attending board meetings more often but will still occasionally alternate with the other staff.

- Morris East – 86 abuse/21 child welfare
- Morris West – 105 abuse/34 child welfare.

MC April Total - 246

Mount Olive has the highest numbers of cases along with Dover and Parsippany.

See www.state.nj.us/dcf/ for further information and RFP/RFQ notices.

Staff Report – Ms. Shelia Carter

The filming of our board meeting that was scheduled to take place today is postponed until the June 25 board meeting.

The Department of Human Services Request for Funding Application (RFA) process is open. All agencies must send in their worksheets in order to get an application. Applications are due June 28. Agencies may also request an RFA package on the county website at www.MorrisHumanServices.org.

Ms. Carter talked about the amounts of funding the RFA process involves. The money available was broken down in the orientation packets which board members received in the beginning of the year.

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

There was discussion regarding the Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) regarding data for the first quarter of 2013. HUD continues to look at data quality and they want to see more clients going from shelters to permanent housing or transitional housing and not to another shelter or homelessness. They stressed the importance of completely completing HMIS and not leaving sections blank.

Point in Time (PIT) data and housing inventory will be reported to HUD at the end of April.

A representative from the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Christine Papasso, LCSW, spoke about the HUD VASH (**Veterans Assistance Supportive Housing**) program. This is Section 8 vouchers for veterans (no vouchers available at this time). There are

many criteria, i.e. Person must be registered with the VA Health Care System, they must be 'Chronically Homeless' – HUD's definition, motivated, etc. They need the following six documents – photo ID; Birth Certificate; S.S. card or application for same; DD214 or SOS; Proof of Income (Award Letter); Proof of any savings (401K). They do background checks and credit checks. They offer case management services.

Planning Committee – Ken Oexle

The Morris County Department of Human Services in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Education, NJ Division of Family Development, Child & Family Resources and the United Way of Northern New Jersey provided training on the Creative Curriculum for Day Care Centers throughout Morris County. The training is part of preparing the early childhood community for the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) that is going to be called Grow New Jersey Kids. The training was held in May at the MC Human Services Building.

In regard to dedicated voucher process there is no waiting list for child care subsidies. Child & Family Resources is serving all applicants and receives approximately 12 new applications a week. Dover Child Care has four unutilized Dedicated Vouchers. The 30 day clock is still in effect. Little Learner in Budd Lake has one unutilized Dedicated Voucher. The 30 day clock is still in effect.

The Division of Family Development conducted regional meetings to discuss e-Child Care. They were well attended and feedback was well received.

The Division of Family Development (DFD) in partnership with the Department of Education is providing an eight week Preschool Summer Enrichment and Literacy program. Morris County was allocated 101 slots. Interested providers applied via an RFP process. Child & Family Resources received 13 applications requesting 167 slots. DFD amended the agency's allocation to 167 slots so all applicants received their requested amount. Providers are currently recruiting families. Parent eligibility is different than the typical voucher program as this program is quality focused.

Highlights:

- Wage supplement for the use of certified teachers
- Lower classroom ratios
- Use of research and evidenced based curriculum
- Commitment to providing healthy and nutritious snacks
- Literacy and Preschool Standards embedded in program

Program Review Subcommittee – Cynthia DeGazon

The Program Review Subcommittee met to review Morris County's Notice of Intent to apply for federal funding through the Morris County continuum of care for homeless assistance. Cuts of 5-8% are anticipated due to federal sequestration.

The formal announcement of this request is scheduled for July 5 with a return date of August 2. The review committee will hear agency presentations on August 19.

Monitoring visits with agencies funded through the continuum of care (Homeless Solutions, Inc., Jersey Battered Women's Services, Mental Health Association of Morris County and New Jersey AIDS Services) are being scheduled during the months of June and early July in order to have monitoring reports prepared prior to the August 19 meeting. The following people have expressed an interest in participating in site monitoring visits this year: Robert Armstrong, Linda Csengeto, Debi Merz, Ken Oexle and Ms. DeGazon. If anyone else is interested, please contact Ms. DeGazon after the meeting.

Legislative – No Report

Nominating/ByLaws – No Report

Advisory Committee Reports –

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

The Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee met this morning, May 28 at Hope House in Dover. The committee reviewed recent service category definition changes and the percent allocation process. Information from state and county HIV Epidemiological Data and Utilization Data are needed before percent allocation for the service categories can be recommended to the Planning Council. The Tri-county HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee will meet again on June 25 at the Zufall Health Center in Dover.

The Newark Eligible Metropolitan Area (NEMA) HIV Health Services Planning Council met on May 15 and is currently working on their annual Needs Assessment for Ryan White Part A which includes funding for Morris County. The Planning Council's Community Service Advisory Committee is discussing ways to target the homeless population at Newark's Penn Station to meet the challenges of lack of IDs, adherence issues and places to store medications. They are planning an HIV education forum in September. The Planning Council was given a commendation from the Assistant Commissioner of the NJ Department of Health and Human Services for information provided to the State coming out of the Early Intervention and Retention Collaborative (EIRC) groups in the five county region of Morris, Sussex, Warren, Union and Essex counties. Currently NEMA is operating on a partial award of about 35% of their grant award. The Planning Council will meet on June 12 at 1:30 p.m. at the NEMA Office in Newark.

Youth Services Advisory – written report provided by Ms. Jessica Mondino

Liz Manley from the Children's System of Care (CSOC) attended the meeting to discuss the changes at CSOC.

- The biggest change is the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) transition which started in October 2012 with 450 youth. In January 2013 the remaining 15,500 youth transitioned to CSOC. Only 3,500 of these were known to CSOC before hand. Some of the services provided to these youth are family support, which are services to support the parent/caregiver, respite, home health

care, summer camp, home renovations, and a fixed budget. Right now CSOC is working on 650 summer camp applications. This provides financial support for families to send their children to summer camp. This is open for any youth determined eligible by DDD.

- In regards to a question of age cut off, when a child turns 18 they have to go through a financial eligibility process to determine if they are eligible for Medicaid. Youth under 18 do not have to be Medicaid eligible. If they are under 18 then CSOC determines eligibility, if they are 18 and up DDD determines eligibility for services. 18-21 year olds can receive services until their 21 birthday; if they have Medicaid then they can continue after 21. In order to receive services after age 21 the individual must be Medicaid eligible. PerformCare has an application that is filled out while on the phone with parent.
- In regards to DDD consultants (not called case workers); CSOC currently has 5 consultants and will be hiring more. They are case managers that came from DDD, their case loads consist of about 100 kids each, however this should be reducing soon. Their role is to help connect families to in or out of home services. They go out on visits. They are only located in Trenton for now but CSOC is working on acquiring more locations. CSOC did not get the waiting list of youth waiting for services from DDD; therefore they had to start over. CSOC struggled at first with data from DDD, but they have finally gotten all of the files they need and had to restart all lists. They now have lists which are broken down by each service. When a slot opens they go to the list and find a person from the lists. The lists are driven by need. They can also find out from their computer program how long a family has been on the waiting list. All of the files are computerized and made from the family support application (which is filled out by PerformCare with parent at first call). This means all families need to contact PerformCare to fill out application to begin services. YSAC will eventually get data about the Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) services in our county.
- The addiction services will be transitioning to CSOC on July 1. This will be a very small transition compared to DDD. The full addiction services will not be transitioning, only under 18 at first. There are 16 contracts as well as the South Jersey Initiative. Most contracts are residential but some are also outpatient. Chapter 51 will not be a part of the transition. CSOC wants to work directly with the county on how to move youth throughout the system. The ultimate goal is to have beds filled and place youth in the right place at the right time. PerformCare will look at full continuum at time of application and will connect to the appropriate services based on this application. If a child is recommended for substance abuse treatment the parent will call PerformCare (the same as with mental health) and PerformCare will assess if they have enough information to make a clinical determination. If there already is an assessment PerformCare will not recreate it. ASAM (American Society of Addiction Medicine) Placement Criteria will be included as part of the triage process (at the initial call). CSOC will identify one staff member to work with the county regarding the addictions transition. This person will be available to be contacted for information by the counties. CSOC is looking at the transition of 18 -20.99 year olds from Adult Mental health, but currently there is no data for this age group.

Dave Johnston from DCP&P reported that a Child Well Being Survey was conducted in all 50 states with 7 different areas. New Jersey was number 1 followed by Massachusetts and New Hampshire at 2 and 3. The Northeast and Midwest were ranked the best while the South and Southwest rank lower.

Lashone Murphy from The Neighborhood House informed the committee that their Director, David Walker, has resigned. She also announced they would be having their summer camp program this year.

Workforce Investment Board (WIB) – written report submitted by David Hollowell

- The WIB has received preliminary Workforce Investment Act funding allocations for Program Year 2013, which begins July 1, 2013. The allocations are:
 1. Adult: \$968,234 (An 11% increase from Program Year 2012)
 2. Youth: \$1,051,881 (a 16% increase)
 3. Dislocated Worker: \$1,961,983 (a 9% increase)
- The WIB received five responses to its Request for Proposals (RFP) for Out-of-School youth services for Program Year 2013. However there was only one response to WIB's RFP for In-School youth. Proposals are currently under review and grant award announcements will be made in the near future.
- The WIB and Morris, Sussex, Warren Employment and Training Services will join with Morris County Library to present a series of workshops to assist job seekers in finding employment. There will be six workshops, each featuring a different aspect of a successful job search. Dates and time of the workshops will be announced in the near future.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Advisory Board – Mr. Charles LaRussa

- The 19th Annual Public Mental Health Forum is coming up quickly. The theme "The Many Faces of Recovery – the Importance of Connections". The event will be on Tuesday, June 11, 2013 at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Haggerty Center, 353 East Hanover Ave., Morristown. All are welcome. There will be testimonials made by individuals who have utilized systems resources, self help resources, local connections and other information. For more information call Laurie Becker at (973) 285-6852. Light refreshments will be served.
- The board will be reviewing state contracts that are coming up for renewal. They will provide a letter of recommendation to the State on their behalf. The board will also prepare a letter of recommendation to DMHAS in regard to Screening Waiver requests that were made by Morristown Medical Center and Chilton Hospital.
- On May 2, Governor Christie signed the bipartisan Good Samaritan law at a drug Rehabilitation Center in Paterson – providing protection from prosecution to those who help overdose victims or administer antidotes in life-threatening situations. Governor Christie had originally vetoed the bill. New Jersey's General Assembly

approved the law, which legislators said is aimed at helping to save lives and prevent drug overdoses. The new measure provides immunity for witnesses and victims of drug overdoses in order to get timely medical treatment. It also provides civil, criminal, and professional immunity for health care professionals involved in prescribing, dispensing, or administering FDA-approved drug for the treatment of opioid overdose.

- The Board in sent a letter to Lynn Kovich, Assistant Commissioner, New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). This letter is urging state leaders and funders to strengthen community services for individuals on Continuing Extension Pending Placement (CEPP) who are in need of intensive addictions treatment. Community options are limited for these individuals and as a result, these folks remain in the State and County Hospitals too long or are likely to be discharged with an inadequate safety net of community supports. There needs to be a better discharge plan. The Board asked NJDMHAS for a response to their letter.

Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans – Mr. Tom Pappas

May is traditionally celebrated as “Older American’s Month”, and this year’s theme is “Unleash the Power of Age”.

There were several events scheduled throughout the County;

- The Senior Disability Art show at the Morris County Library.
- The “Living Treasures” award was held at St. Francis Health Center.
- Morris County Council of Older Persons Organizations (MCCOoPO) held their annual President’s Luncheon.

The new Morris County Directory of Services is available and online at www.MorrisHumanServices.org

Partnership Announcements – Michelle Roers

The United Way was able to get Morris County included in the State Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) that is going to be called Grow New Jersey Kids. In the last few weeks Morris County was caught up to speed on this. Orientations were done in fifteen centers in Morris County in an expedited manor. The child care staff has greatly benefited through this training. Ms. Roers thanked Ms. Zydel and the Child Care Resource & Referral Agency for all their help. This is beneficial to Morris County childcare centers. They also added another program which served an unmet population.

United Way put out a Request for Funding Proposal (RFP) and sent applications out. There will be 5 trainings offered throughout the state. The training is mandatory and is two and a half hours. The first year they will open this RFP up to any non profit. There was a press release and currently funded agencies will be sent information electronically. They are not yet sure of the 2014 funding amounts but believe they will be about the same as last year (which was about two million dollars) for the five counties. This will be a two step process. Part A is due on June 20 and then after the agency passes Part A they can go ahead and fill out the rest of the information. They will have about 3 weeks to do this.

Ms. Becker stated that the county is gradually working towards putting our funding information on line and electronically. The hope is that by next year the county will try to go paperless. Ms. Zydel stated many area nonprofits already paperless and using electronic submission. Ms. Roers stated that is great since it will make it easier to extract information and do reporting.

Ms. Becker stated that Ms. Buchanan got two very well deserved social work administration awards.

Old Business –

Ms. Roers stated that she would like to see Freeholder Liaison, Hank Lyon, attend board meetings and hopes he will be attending the next meeting.

New Business –

Ms. Zydel asked for suggestions on other presentations. Ms. Becker suggested perhaps Ms. Carter and she could give a report on the HUD Continuum of Care project. Ms. Becker also asked if the board might want to be involved in any other advocacy issues. Perhaps there are gaps within the county. Ms. Becker asked what the group thought of the presentation today. The Family Success Center also gave a presentation to the board about a year ago when they first opened. The board was hoping to get a sense of what the Center has accomplished in their first year. The board is concerned that they primarily serve the Dover area and would like to see them link to other areas. Mr. Johnston suggested having a State representative come out to talk to the board. Mr. Johnston stated that his division has sent families to the Family Success Center. The families were told they don't help with various things the families needed help with. Perhaps it would be helpful to know their outcomes and get a more global view. It could be that the need for the Success Center in other counties was greater. It seems there are a lot of other organizations that provide the same services. There should be a higher level of coordination of services in order to avoid duplication.

Ms. Roers stated that the United Way runs a Family Success Center in Montclair that is privately funded. One of their primary services is the coordination and outputting for the Department of Human Services in that region. The Office of Temporary Assistance (OTA) workers go to the Center and the Center coordinates services with other agencies.

Ms. Zydel asked how the board can support the Center and help facilitate in some way so they don't provide duplicate services. They have no relationship with Child & Family Resources. It seems they don't have a relationship with other agencies. Perhaps the board could write them a letter in regard to the concern over the duplicative services they provide. The Center really needs to work collaboratively with other agencies and find something they can do that is not already done. Maybe they can do the child development assessment or help with the grow project. Ms. Zydel will draft a letter for the board's review in regard to this.

Public Comment – None

Adjournment –

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next regular meeting will be July 23.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Mocarski

Program Development Aide