

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
340 West Hanover Avenue, Morristown
May 23, 2017 Minutes

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

Members Present:

Robert Armstrong, HIV/AIDS Advisory
David Hollowell, Workforce Development Board Liaison
Charles LaRussa, Citizen Representative
Mary Jane Melo, Citizen Representative
Debi Merz, Citizen Representative
Kenneth Oexle, Chair, Citizen Representative
Tom Pappas, Aging, Disabilities & Veterans Liaison
Tom Pepe, Citizen Representative
Rebecca Sherrod, Child & Family Resources

Also Attending:

Kristen Carew, Dawn Center for Independent Living
Milagros Castro, El Primer Paso, Ltd.
Lucy Ortiz, El Primer Paso, Ltd.
David Johnston, NJDCF, Division of Child Protection and Permanency
Betty Sayner, NJDHS, Division of Developmental Disabilities
Luis Tamayo, New Jersey Department of Human Services

Staff in Attendance:

Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Pat MocarSKI, MCDHS
Maria Rosario, MCDHS

Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions made.

Approval of April 25, 2017 Minutes

The motion to approve the April 25 minutes was made by Ms. Debi Merz and seconded by Ms. Mary Jane Melo. All were in favor with no opposition and two abstentions. Motion carried.

Public Comment – None

Presentation – El Primer Paso – Milagros Castro, Executive Director

El Primer Paso was founded to help Hispanic children in language acquisition to become kindergarten ready in the Dover community in 1969 by a group of volunteers. The need in the Hispanic community of Dover for high quality programming is significant. There is a well-documented body of research to support the value of early childhood education as an important indicator of future success for at-risk children.

El Primer Paso has been in Dover for 47 years. El Primer Paso is NAEYC (National Association for the Education of the Young Child) accredited. They were rated three by Grow NJ Kids. Both represent high quality standards in early childhood.

They have preschool, adult ESL and Parent Education and Family Engagement programs. Thirty-nine children enrolled this year (maximum is 43). They have about 10 open slots for the next school year. The summer program is already full. Last year, they ran into difficulty with the transitioning of directors. Now things are on track. El Primer Paso is here to stay.

There was an opportunity for questions and answers. Mr. Oexle thanked Ms. Castro and Ms. Ortiz for the update and presentation.

County of Morris Department of Human Services – Luis Tamayo (also see DHS report att.)

There was an article today published about the budget. There is \$1.7 trillion in proposed cuts to entitlement programs for low income. These proposed cuts will be to food stamps, poverty programs, Medicaid and SNAP.

Commissioner Connelly felt our budget made out well. Medicaid changes affect us with the transition to fee-for-service. This mostly involves the mental health world. All agencies must shift to fee-for-service by July 1. Some larger agencies have already shifted to fee-for-service.

The Community Care Waiver was approved. This involves the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and respite, employment, rehab programs, community transition services, transportation, vehicle modifications, etc. Some are happy with the new changes and some are nervous.

New Jersey Developmental Disabilities – Ms. Betty Sayner

Once all are moved to fee-for-service the Community Care Waiver residential piece will be part of housing vouchers. DDD has a lot of them. They are switching to a new fiscal intermediary.

Overview:

DDD provides public funding for services and supports that assist NJ adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible. Services and supports are available in the community from providers, and in five 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 allows for increased flexibility and choice and an expansion of services. Once fully implemented, eligible individuals can enter 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:

The PPP (Personal Preference Program), administered by the Division of Disability Services (DDS), and the Self-Directed Employee option, administered by the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) are transitioning to a new fiscal intermediary, Public Partnerships, effective July 1, 2017.

New Webinar:

Q&A for DDD Self-Directing Individuals/Families Transitioning to the New Fiscal Intermediary

The NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is transitioning to a new fiscal intermediary, Public Partnerships LLC (PPL), and a new Self-Directed Employee model – the Fiscal/Employer Agent (F/EA) model. This webinar is intended for individuals and families who participate in DDD's Self-Directed Employee option and will transition to the new fiscal intermediary and the new F/EA model effective July 1, 2017. The first 30 minutes of the webinar

will be devoted to responding to FAQs that have been raised at the Orientation and Training sessions. The remainder of the webinar will be spent responding to live questions submitted by webinar attendees.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Presenter: Christine James, MSW, LSW, Assistant Division Director, NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities

Register: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2944342987913789953>

Other Webinars:

- How Is Case Management for DDD Services Changing? An Overview for Families of the Support Coordination Model in the New Fee-for-Service System:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sx8vDoCqnVg>
- DDD's System Reform: Understanding What It Means for Someone Currently Receiving DDD Services:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8o9KbusiCE>
- DDD's System Reform: Understanding What It Means for Someone Entering DDD Services:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5SL7-puP58>

Morris County recent Group Home openings:

GH2322 - The Rose House (Knoll Road, Parsippany)
Licensed for 4 on 2/1/17 (3 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

April 2017

Morris East Local Office -

Child Welfare Assessments -	29
Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations -	78
Total -	107

Morris West Local Office -

Child Welfare Assessments -	33
Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations -	92
Total -	125

The office had the annual qualitative review and received their preliminary report. Highlighting some areas of challenge:

- Work on individual assessing of parents and getting a better understanding of their needs.
- Make a plan with families.
- Collaborate more with clinical workers and create plans that are more accurate.
- Increase teamwork and cooperation.
- Improve ongoing assessment and look closer at the bigger picture.

They will get their written Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) by June.

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

Staff Report – Ms. Becker (no report)

Staff Report – Ms. Carter

This Tuesday Morris County Human Services annual Request for Funding Applications (RFA) will be mailed to providers. Related information will be posted on Human Services website.

The 2017 Morris CoC Notice of Intent (NOI) was released. This notice concerns agencies that provide services for the homeless. Primarily housing services. This information is also posted on Human Services website. Agencies need to respond by June 30.

OTA opened a new site in Dover, 375 E. McFarlan St. Their phone number is 973-682-4990. They are open Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Subcommittee Reports

Program Review – SSH 2017 Six-Month Allocation and 2018 SSH Funding Priority Summary

Ms. Debi Merz made a motion to close the session at 5:03 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Tom Pepe with no opposition and no abstentions. Motion carried and session closed.

Mr. Oexle asked that any public or members in conflict leave the room.

Debi Merz made a motion to reopen the meeting at 5:09 p.m. Mr. Tom Pepe seconded the motion with no opposition and no abstentions. Motion carried. Meeting was reopened.

Mr. Tom Pepe stated that in closed session the committee went over the SSH 2017 six-month allocation and the amounts awarded to each agency. The committee also reviewed the 2018 SSH funding priority summary. Mr. Pepe made a motion that the board approve the SSH 2017 six-month awards as well as 2018 SSH funding priority summary as discussed in closed session. Ms. Debi Merz seconded the motion. All were in favor with one abstention and no opposition. Motion was carried.

Planning –

Child Care – Ms. Rebecca Sherrod

- There is no waiting list for child care subsidies. Serving all eligible applicants and receive approximately 55 new applications a week.
- They are receiving many calls regarding Summer Camp referrals at this time.
- There are not currently any openings at any dedicated voucher centers.
- Kindercare in Mt. Arlington will close. Families have been notified and generally other centers take in the children.
- 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.

Advisory Committee Reports

Workforce Development Board (WDB) – Mr. David Hollowell

North Jersey Partners (NJP), a collaboration of Workforce Development Boards and One-Stop Operators in northern New Jersey held a Best Practices Conference on May 11 at the Feliciano School of Business, Montclair State University in Montclair, New Jersey. M/S/W was a co-organizer of the event. Zenobia Fields, Department Director for North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), opened the summit with an overview of regional transportation trends of the future. The morning session included a business panel focusing on hiring challenges and future workforce needs featuring Melanie Willoughby, Senior Vice President of New Jersey Business and Industry Association, Dennis Bone, Director of the Feliciano Center for Entrepreneurship at Montclair State University, Todd Hay, Regional Vice President of Pennoni, and Kevin Tarantino, Manager of Talent Acquisition, Suez Utility. An education panel featured Tom Eastwick, President of Eastwick College, Gale Tenen Spak, Associate Vice President, Continuing and Distance Education at New Jersey Institute of Technology, Irene Schrader, Adult Education Manager at Morris County Vo-Tech and Jennifer Cleary, Director of Career Exploration in Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University and Karen Hansen, Director of Workforce Planning and University Relations from Hackensack Meridian Health discussed innovations in education. The morning session concluded with the New Jersey Department of Labor's Talent Networks sharing insights on key industry sectors. The recorded event will be post on NJP’s Linked-In group page.

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

The May 7th Morristown New Jersey AIDS Walk was a great success with wide community turnout. Morristown Mayor Timothy Dougherty was present and declared HIV Awareness Day. The fundraising goal was \$50,000 and the amount raised was over \$70,000.

The Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory met on May 17 at the Human Services Building. The committee met in conjunction with the Early Intervention and Retention Collaborative (EIRC) which also focuses on HIV in the Morris-Sussex-Warren region.

Kelly Martins reported that NJ AIDS Services is starting a Crystal Meth support group. Peer Navigator program development was discussed with the idea of one agency taking the lead. EIRC webpage development meetings are planned for June, July and August on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. prior to the HIV Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) meetings. The HIV CAB met today.

Following the Tri-county HIV Advisory meeting a “Lunch and Learn” on Social Security was held of HIV+ clients. The event was well attended with much interaction and Q & A.

HSAC of Morris County members are invited to join the HIV Care Continuum Collaborative. The Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee has established a memorandum of agreement among providers who serve HIV positive and at risk populations with the intentions of facilitating the coordination of program services and maximizing county resources. We are inviting all community providers, irrespective of funding sources, to participate in this tri-county collaborative as Resource Partners. Please submit a brief statement of interest regarding the HIV Care Continuum Collaborative to Allison Delcalzo-Berens, Advisory Committee Chair, at Allison.Delcalzo@atlantichhealth.org

According to AIDS United the proposed budget for FY 2018 released today would cut \$59 million to the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program eliminating AIDS Education and Training Centers and Special Programs of National Significance (SPNS). The President’s budget also reduces funding for Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) programs which address the HIV epidemic by developing targeted approaches to reach chronically underserved people. One in two and one in four Black and Latino gay and bisexual men respectively are at substantial risk for HIV infection in their lifetime. (AIDS United’s mission is to end the AIDS epidemic in the U.S., through strategic grant-making, capacity building, formative research and policy. AIDS United’s works to ensure access to life-saving HIV/AIDS care and prevention services and to advance HIV/AIDS related policy for U.S. populations and communities most impacted by the epidemic. AIDS United’s grant-making initiatives have directly funded more than \$104 million to local communities, and have leveraged more than \$117 million in additional investments for programs that include, but are not limited to HIV prevention, access to care, capacity building, harm reduction and advocacy (aidsunited.org).

The next meeting the board will be on Sept. 26 with a Lunch and Learn directly following the meeting.

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

1. There was a presentation by Mr. Bob Davison, Mental Health Association (MHA) of Essex County. He reviewed the main reasons MHA of Essex County decided to merge with MHA of Morris County.

- The two organizations are closely aligned with the same mission, values and services.
- The transition to fee-for-service will likely result in fewer resources. Both organizations felt it was their duty to consider the merger to maintain services. By coming together, they believe they will be stronger.
- As things change in Washington, it is likely there will be more cuts to Medicaid. With the transition to fee-for-service, there will be significant challenges and changes.

Their agency’s new name will be the Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris County. They will continue to provide all the current services to the Community and are committed to helping the mentally ill in Essex and Morris County.

2. 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: Celebrating 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. This year’s Forum will include music and song in honor of Celebrating You!

3. Ms. McMann gave an update on the Hope 1 Launch. The Sheriff’s vehicle has been going out in to the community two days a week. Plain-clothed police officers, a CARES person and an MHA person are all in the van. Other treatment providers are also at the table. In April, the HOPE 1 van made its first outreach to our community with the goal of engaging hard to reach individuals into recovery services. They have already made 385 contacts. They hope to connect people to services and help get them get into recovery and treatment.

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

The members reviewed the following bills and recommend the endorsement of the ACADV:

- Assembly, No. 133- Establishes 80 as maximum age for issuing special handgun carry permits to retired police officers.
- Assembly, No. 143 – Broadens eligibility of veterans’ benefits by eliminating requirements of service during specified dates or specified locations.
- Assembly, No. 145- Grants certain leaves of absence for Vietnam Veterans of America conventions.
- Assembly No. 680- Requires emergency action plans for delivery of oxygen to patient residences during public health emergency.

All of the above were supported by Council and letters for endorsement sent to Assemblymen.

Youth Services Advisory Committee – Ms. Jessica Mondino

PRESENTATIONS

- There was a presentation by Jill Worall from New Bridge Services on their Jobs Plus and Summer Youth Employment Program
 - New location in Parsippany
 - Job Plus
 - Out of school youth
 - Educational component, prepare to take test to receive high school diploma
 - Employment skill training
 - Resume writing
 - Cover letter
 - Thank you let
 - Letter of res
 - Interview skills
 - Job search
 - Transportation
 - Volunteer opportunities in different settings to develop skills
 - Case management
 - Counseling
 - Life skills
 - Work to identify barriers and work with them or refer out to an agency to work with them
 - Follow for a year after
 - Summer Youth

- Runs in the summer months, begin taking referrals in March
- In school youth 14-18 Morris residents
- Employment skill training
- Supervised volunteer program
- Work with nonprofits in Morris, daycare, parks, new eyes for needy etc.
- Youth go in groups
- Work with youth in residential facilities
- Two days a week

STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS

- Jenna Williams report that there are several open RFPs
 - Substance use treatment for women and their dependents up to age 4 Bidders conference June 15
 - Group home level of service for youth this intellectual and developmental disabilities
 - Intensive level of service for youth this intellectual and developmental disabilities
 - More information on the DCF website
- 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
 - The next meeting will be June 20 at 10am at 30 Schuyler PI Morristown
- Nacie Arnold also reported on the Nurtured Heart Approach
 - Nacie has trained a totally of 295 people in the community

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jersey Battered Women's Services has three trainings for clinicians coming up. Identifying IPV (intimate partner violence) in your LGBT caseload, IPV in adolescent and IPV and substance abuse. Julie Harpell Elam also announced that they are recruiting for camp counselors for Camp Hope for children 7-11 who have experienced domestic violent. Recruiting counselors ages 18-24 volunteer position. Camp will run August 14-18.

Next meeting will be on June 15 at 340 West Hanover Avenue.

Partnership Announcements – None

New Business – None

Old Business – None

Adjournment –

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting made by Mr. Tom Pepe and seconded by Mr. Tom Pappas. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

**Patricia MocarSKI
Program Development Aide**