

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

Call to Order: The meeting opened at 5:03 p.m. by Mr. Ken Oexle.

Members Present:

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

Also Attending:

Betty Sayner, NJDHS, Division of Developmental Disabilities
Luis Tamayo, New Jersey Department of Human Services
Kristen Carew, DAWN?

Staff in Attendance:

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

Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions made.

Approval of October 24, 2017 Minutes

The motion to approve the October 24 minutes was made by Mr. Tom Pepe and seconded by Ms. Rebecca Sherrod. All were in favor with no opposition and one abstention. Motion carried.

County of Morris Department of Human Services –No Report

New Jersey Department of Human Services – Division of Developmental Disabilities – Ms. Betty Sayner (written report submitted)

Overview:

DDD is a large division that serves more than 25,000 people with developmental disabilities including those with: intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy, spina bifida, traumatic brain injuries and certain neurological impairments. DDD is continuing its shift from a contract-based system of service reimbursement to a Medicaid-based, fee-for-service system. In the new system, individuals will be assigned individual budgets based on a tier level that is determined by a comprehensive assessment. These are “up to” budgets (someone may purchase needed services up to the top budget amount). The amounts range from \$19,000 for an individual enrolled in the **Supports Program** to \$406,100.00 for an individual enrolled on the **Community Care Waiver** (see [Fee for Service System Individual Budgets: Quick Reference Guide](#)).

The Community Care Waiver (CCW) is a program for individuals with developmental disabilities that pays for the services and supports they need in order to live in the community. Without the CCW, and individual’s Medicaid funding would only cover services if they resided in

an institution. The federal government allowed states to create waivers as a way to help individuals with specific needs avoid institutionalization. In order to enroll on the CCW, individuals must be eligible for Division-funded services; must meet the specified level of care for Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/ID) and must meet specific Medicaid requirements regarding income and resources. These individuals are usually not able to self-direct their own services and are recommended for a provider managed licensed setting. That provider would bill on a daily rate for the supports/services provided to the individual based on the person's tier.

The Supports Program funds services and supports for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who live in a non-licensed setting. This program is intended for someone who is able to self-direct their services. They would have access to an up to budget based on their tier. They would be able to receive services/supports from more than one agency based on their preferences.

New / Proposed Development in Morris County:

1. Advancing Opportunities McKinley St., Lincoln Park – ready to fill 4 person GH.
2. Aplus is planning to open a 2 person supervised apartment program in Overlook Village, Flanders.
3. Bergen United Way is the Project Developer on a Tax Credit project is being planned in Florham Park. A provider agency has not yet been identified. DDD will support a total of 24 beds, consisting of one 4-bedroom group home and 17 apartment units. This program is expected to be licensed in 2019.
4. CPNJ is looking at a vacant lot on Rt. 202 in Morristown / Harding Twp. as a possible site for two 4-bedroom medical group homes. The Township is being consulted on if two homes would be allowed.
5. DPD (Department for Persons with Disabilities) is relocating an existing home to Ridge Road in Succasunna. The Group Home currently serves 8 people, but there are plans to reduce the program to 5. They secured the funding and closed on the property in 5/17. Construction has started. Projected opening is December.
6. Avidd Community Services has several projects planned including:
 - Old Turnpike Road, Washington Twp. - Projected to serve 4 people. Vacant lot on 3 acres. Closing on the home was 5/17 and construction began 7/17.
 - Espanong Road, Jefferson / Lake Hopatcong - Projected to serve 4. This is a vacant lot on 1.5 acres. In 8/17, they were waiting to close with HMFA.
 - Minnehaha Blvd. in Lake Hiawatha - Projected to serve 4. Vacant lot needing demo and new construction. As of 8/17, they were waiting to close with HMFA.
 - Glenwood Road, Parsippany - Projected to serve 4 people. Closing occurred and demo started in 8/17. Agency plans to backfill this GH with individuals from an existing GH, and then fill that home.

Department of Human Services – Mr. Tamayo (see written report attached)

This Friday, Dec. 1, the Budget Forum will be held on So. Warren St. in Trenton. If you have any comments or input you may send your written report to Mr. Tamayo. The transition team is at work. Ms. Jennifer Velez and Mr. K. Ryan, both previous Commissioners, are part of the transition team.

Some counties are doing advocacy work around the Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP). This program started in 1997 and was designed to help uninsured children. There is concern

that this CHIP coverage could be terminated if congress does not act to extend the federal funding.

There were also changes made in the Division on Aging Services NJAC-10165 that will take place in March 2018. Folks may wish to advocate for or against this as well.

At the last State Human Services meeting, there was a presentation on immigration issues by three agencies:

1. N.J. Alliance for Immigration Justice
2. N.J. Office of Refugees
3. Legal Aid Services

Information was given on how to access services. DHS used to administer a program for refugees. They have not been doing this program for over a year. Now non-profits are administering the refugee programs. These agencies will give presentations. Anyone interested in having a presentation should call the agencies directly.

There was an update on the move. The move was targeted to begin in November. They are in the process but the move is not complete. The Department of Human Services (DHS) has moved under the Department of Health. The budget, people, contracts and most the folks have moved. It is the same organization but under a different department and different name. The budget of \$1.2 million moved from DMHAS. This involves about 5,000 people from DHS that moved to the Department of Health. Before this change, the Department of Health was a group of about 1,000 people.

Ms. Bjornson asked if he knows anything about the waiver on opioid use that was listed in the Nov. 24 DHS report. He will find out.

New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) – Division of Child Protection and Permanency – No Report

Staff Report – Ms. Carter

Mr. Tom Pappas is retiring from the board on Dec. 31. There will be a recognition ceremony at 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 13 at the Administration Building in Morristown.

The 2018 award and declination letters went out. They are now past the time for agencies to appeal. Coordinators are working on preparing 2018 subgrants.

World AIDS Day, a nationwide event, is scheduled Dec. 1, 2017. Various events are scheduled throughout the county with this year's theme being Isolation, Stigma & HIV Transmission. The underlying emphasis is education and linkages for those in need to treatment and care.

Mr. Armstrong distributed fliers on various upcoming events in Morris County relative to World AIDS Day.

Subcommittee Reports

Planning Childcare – Ms. Rebecca Sherrod

- There is no waiting list for childcare subsidies.
- We currently 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
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.

Nominating Committee – Written report submitted by Ms. Mary Jane Melo

Ms. Melo submitted Mr. Ken Oexle for 2018 Chair and Mr. Tom Pepe for Vice Chair. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted at the January meeting.

Youth Homelessness – No Report

**Advisory Committee Reports –
Workforce Investment Board – No Report**

Next meeting to be in January.

Morris, Sussex, Warren (MSW) HIV Advisory – Mr. Bob Armstrong (written report provided)

On Tuesday, November 21, the MSW HIV Advisory met concurrently with the Early Intervention and Retention Collaborative (EIRC) at Fairleigh Dickinson University School of Pharmacy, 230 Park Ave., in Florham Park. EIRC is an initiative of the Newark Eligible Area HIV Health Services Planning Council (NEMA Planning Council).

The committee focused on World AIDS Day, which is nationally observed on December 1. New Jersey AIDS Services reported the NJAS event will be in the evening of December 1 and will include a client panel discussion, a choir performance and a candlelight vigil and will take place at the Community Soup Kitchen. Hope House reported that the HH event will take place on November 30 on site during the day and will include two client speakers, education on legal issues and health issues and lunch. Zufall Health Center reported that the Zufall event will take place on November 30 at Sussex County Community College and focus on prevention. The medical van will be providing free HIV and STD testing; there will be a sex education talk with Kelly Martins and a PrEP education table with Summer Brown. There will be an HIV+ person and his partner who is on PrEP present to provide their stories. The Family Health Center reported that the FHC event will provide gift card incentives to the first 15 people who come for testing on November 30 between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and the first people who come for testing on December 1 starting at 8:00 a.m.

Following the Tri-County HIV Advisory Committee meeting, there was a Lunch and Learn event.

U = U is the new HIV catch phrase, or symbol, which means Undetectable equals Untransmittable. According to the Washington Post, "In July, Anthony S. Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and one of the world's leading authorities on HIV, publicly agreed at an international conference that people with undetectable viral loads in their blood cannot transmit the virus...On Sept. 27, the CDC followed, releasing a letter that said people who take medication daily 'and achieve and maintain an undetectable viral load have effectively no risk of sexually transmitting the virus to an HIV-negative partner.'" Even with an undetectable viral load, the HIV virus is still present at such a low amount that it cannot be sexually transmitted to another person. The emphasis now is on viral load suppression as a means of reducing transmission of HIV. It is also a large step forward in reducing the stigma of being HIV+.

Some statistics: 1.2 million Americans are living with HIV and over 38,000 people currently live with HIV/AIDS in New Jersey. The rate of new infections in the United States dropped by 10 percent from 2010 to 37,600 in 2014, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Fewer than 7,000 people died of HIV/AIDS last year.

The next Lunch and Learn will be in January at the Morristown Zufall location on the topic of HIV and Obesity.

Mental Health Substance Abuse Advisory Board – No Report

Next meeting will be on Dec. 14.

Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans – Ms. Rosario (written report provided)

A written statement by Ms. Ophelia Cruse, Director, Office on Aging, which reported:

- The state monitored their Department and overall they did well.
- Ms. Carpinteri announced that the Morris View transition is nearing the end and Allaire Healthcare will take over on November 1, 2017. The level of care and staffing will be increased, so it will not be below state regulations.

Youth Services Advisory Committee (written report provided)

Presentations

There was a presentation by James Bryant from Employment and Training Services about their youth program.

- Cover Morris, Sussex and Warren
- Work with "WIOF" funds
- Ages 16-24
- Work with anyone that has any employment barriers
 - High school drop out
 - Ex offender
 - Pregnant/parenting
 - Homeless/runaway
 - Foster child
 - Low income
 - Basic skill deficient
- 3 options/programs

- High school dropout – New Bridge Jobs Plus
 - Earn GED
 - Work readiness training
 - Different career or education options
- On the job training
 - Has high school diploma and wants to get a job, if employer is hesitant to hire them because they have no training, workforce can pay half of their salary up to \$5,000. Therefore, they are being training while working in the actual job.
- Individual training grants
 - Can fund to go to training up to \$5,000 (ex. Go to votech for automotive)
 - Provide counseling
 - In demand market research
 - Job hunting
 - Interview skills
 - Follow up with how job is going for about a year
 - Check ins
- Have to be a permanent resident or U.S. citizen
- Also have these programs for adults
- Transportation, New Bridge provides for their program. Can also assist with public transportation.

Partnership Announcements

Continuum of Care – Ms. Carter

There will be mandatory Point-in-Time (PIT) survey training, 9:30 am, Friday, January 12, 2018, at the Morris County Department of Human Services new building located at 1 Medical Drive, Conference Room 82, in Morris Plains. Information gleaned from survey's help formulate services, measure progress in addressing homelessness and systems performance. To effectively participate in the January 24, 2018 count, attendance is strongly encouraged. Morris will add a survey addendum this year. The addendum will focus on collecting information specific to understanding the homeless in Morris County whose last permanent address before becoming homeless was outside Morris County; and, the extent to which homeless Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and youth populations may be underserved.

Still waiting for the Continuum of Care 2017 HUD award notification. The Annual Homeless Assessment report is in progress. The report is shared nationally and due Dec.1.

The CoC Executive Committee meeting will be Thursday. They will be working on their plan for next year.

Old Business –

The next board meeting will be in January at our new offices at 1 Medical Drive, Parsippany. There is no December meeting.

Public Comment –

None

Adjournment –

There was a motion made Mr. Tom Pepe to close the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia MocarSKI
Program Development Aide