

# **Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory Board (MHASAB) MEETING – January 9, 2020 – 1 Medical Dr., Morris Plains**

## **Members Present:**

Lynne Chandler, Saint Clare’s Hospital Behavioral Health  
Chris Chernick, Citizen Representative  
Linda Csengeto, Citizen Representative  
Carol DeGraw, United Way of N.N.J.  
Heather Diamond, Center for Evaluation & Counseling  
Paul Dougherty, SERV  
Marcy McMann, Citizen Representative  
Jane Shivas, Project Self-Sufficiency  
Barbara Ward, Citizen Representative

## **Also Attending:**

Eileen Alexander, NJDHS Mental Health and Addiction Services  
Chris DiIorio, Care Plus NJ/Integrity House  
Nikki Rarick, Care Plus NJ  
Ashley Reed, Family Promise of Morris County  
John Robbins, CSPNJ  
Gillian Small, Care Plus NJ

## **Staff in Attendance:**

Amy Archer, MCDHS  
Maria Fodali, MCOTA  
Anna Marie Hess, MCDHS  
Heather Rose, MCDHS  
Rosalyn Suarez, MCDHS

### **I. Call to Order and Approval of November 14 minutes –**

Ms. Marcy McMann, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Ms. Barbara Ward made a motion to approve the Nov. 14 minutes and Ms. Linda Csengeto seconded the motion. All were in favor with one abstention and no opposition. Motion carried.

### **II. Welcome and Introductions –**

Ms. McMann welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

### **III. Chair Report – Ms. Marcy McMann**

Greystone Hospital issues continue. A letter from The Wolf Law Firm was distributed. This letter outlines the most recent events of tragedy that has occurred at Greystone. In the last thirty days, it was alleged that one patient was sexually assaulted and raped, and another has been killed. Discussion ensued about future advocacy.

There were two teen suicides over the New Year holiday in Mendham. Ms. Amy Archer reported that the Traumatic Loss Coalition (TLC) have been in the schools to help students and

families of the community. The Mayor of Mendham contacted Ms. Archer for additional services for the adult community effected by this tragic loss. Ms. Archer contacted NewBridge Services and Lynne Chandler, Saint Clare’s Hospital; both agencies have been in contact with the Mayor.

Morris County will receive approximately \$151,000.00 of a \$3 million Innovation Grant from New Jersey. The focus will be on Pre-Trial services and a RFP will be distributed once the grant is finalized.

#### **IV. Subcommittee Reports**

##### **Funding – Ms. Amy Archer**

GIA contracts will be back in our office this week and subgrant packages will be mailed out next week. Ms. Rosalyn Suarez stated the Chapter 51 contracts should be mailed out around January 22, as we are still waiting for the final award letter from the State.

##### **Planning – Ms. Amy Archer**

Planning for the Forum will be starting. Look for emails to start late January early February.

##### **Legislative/Advocacy – No Report**

##### **County Alliance Steering Committee – Ms. Heather Rose**

CASS has scheduled a special meeting for Monday, January 27, 2020 at 5:15 p.m. at 1 Executive Dr., Morris Plains, Human Services conference room. We will be voting on the new grant cycle FY 2020-2025 applications submitted by the Municipal Alliances.

2020 County Alliance Steering Subcommittee meeting dates:

April 14

June 9

October 13

December 8

#### **V. State Liaison Report – Ms. Eileen Alexander**

The Office of Treatment and Recovery Supports is pleased to welcome Alina Hickman, who will be working on Justice Involved projects/issues. Alina comes to DMHAS from the Judiciary where she worked as a Court Services Officer working for the Administrative Offices of the Courts. She also worked at Mercer Vicinage, Superior Court, also as a Court Services Officer assisting with the implementation of the Criminal Justice Reform.

Beginning January 1, New Jersey residents experiencing homelessness can call 2-1-1 for help. Under this new framework, NJ 2-1-1 will serve as New Jersey’s Homeless Hotline to connect residents in need with shelter. NJ 2-1-1 will work in partnership with county agencies to ensure residents have a safe place to stay and be connected to resources. NJ 2-1-1 operators will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and accessible in different languages for non-English speakers. Information provided by the callers will be kept confidential, except for information that must be shared with providers involved in providing shelter or shelter-related services.

Penn Medicine at Princeton House has announced that they now have six closed acute beds now online. These involuntary non-STCF beds are open to all insurance and all counties.

## **VI. Staff Reports**

### **Municipal Alliance Coordinator – Ms. Heather Rose**

Twenty-six Alliances have submitted applications and are awaiting the review and approval process.

2020 Countywide Municipal Alliance meeting dates:

March 2

May 4

September 14

November 2

### **Addictions Services Administrative – Ms. Rosalyn Suarez**

Hope One hit 10,000 contacts. This is a big accomplishment in under three years. The Morris County Freeholders along with Sheriff James Gannon and State Sen. Anthony Bucco recently honored the Hope One partners for the International Association of Chiefs of Police Award, for the work addressing the Opioid Epidemic.

Sigma Free meeting will be January 14, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Opiate Task Force meeting will be January 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

### **Mental Health Administrator – Ms. Amy Archer**

We have many Stigma Free Posters available. Anyone needing posters for their agencies should contact Ms. Archer.

MHA Essex Morris is hosting “Every Brilliant Thing” which is a play by Duncan Macmillan at the Chester Theatre Group. See flier for additional information.

Morris County Emergency Alerts – AlertMorris will allow you to get emergency notifications in any manner you choose, including phone, email, text, or social media, so you can stay informed during major storms or other emergencies taking place throughout Morris County.

## **VII. Joint PAC Report – Ms. Lynn Chandler**

Ms. Chandler discussed a presentation that was given by Family Intervention Services which focused on Trauma Focused CBT at the January PAC meeting. It is an evidence-based program for children 3 to 18 years old. This short-term 16-week program covers sexual abuse trauma and family & witness violence.

## **VIII. HSAC Report – Ms. Jane Shivas**

According to the current NJ Code Blue Legislation, county emergency management coordinators are required to establish a Code Blue Program for at-risk individuals who require

shelter during a severe weather event. There is no funding and many challenges. Navigating Hope, a mobile outreach initiative designed to provide social services, is a partnership between MC Department of Human Services and Family Promise of Morris Count. Throughout the 2018-2019 Code Blue Season, Navigating Hope served as liaison with Morristown social services agencies and Warming Centers. Navigating Hope helped clear barriers to service in weather emergencies and enhanced quality of services provided to those seeking shelter during Code Blue. Last year 162 people were served and the majority of people at the warming centers were connected with services. See the Code Blue 2018-2019 Morristown Warming Centers Data Report for further information.

Mr. Johnston, Deidra's House, said that Deidra's House ran their First Game of Life in November 2019 at Kinnelon High School. There were 19 providers and a great turnout. There were 360 students both freshman and junior classes participated. The goal of the game is to help youth gain the tools they need to know what help is available and how to get it. Once they have participated in the game they are better prepared for life.

Project Homeless Connect will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Morristown. Opening Ceremony is at 9:00 a.m. and doors are open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**IX. Old Business – None**

**X. New Business –**

Ms. Rose announced Morris County Pride Event save the date, June 27, 2020. NJAS/Edge Pride Center has a run/walk in the morning with a Pride event to follow. Location TBD.

Ms. Archer announced YSAC is forming a subcommittee for youth substance abuse treatment. The meeting will be held right after the PAC meeting on February 7, 2020.

Ms. Suarez announced Hope One is having a Narcan Training presentation at the Morris County Court House on Friday, January 10, 2020.

Daytop New Jersey is holding Take the Plunge for Recovery on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Beach in Asbury Park, NJ. See flier for additional information.

**XI. Open to the Public – No Comment**

**XII. Adjourn**

Motion made by Ms. Barbara Ward to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Anna Marie Hess  
Front Office Clerk II