

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
June 23, 2020 Minutes
Meeting Held via Webex Meetings

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting opened at 5:15 p.m. by Ms. Rebekka Zydel. Ms. Zydel asked Ms. Hess to do a roll call. Roll call as listed below.

Members Present:

Jeff Basche, Citizen Representative
Linda Csengeto, Citizen Representative
Maria Fodali, Morris County Office of Temporary Assistance
Xiomara Guevara, Morris County Organization for Hispanic Affairs – Dover
Joann McEniry, Edge New Jersey
Kenneth Oexle, Citizen Representative
Laura O'Reilly-Stanzilis, North Jersey Collaborative
Joseph Pawelczyk, Citizen Representative
Michelle Roers, United Way of Northern New Jersey – Morristown
David Saltzman, Esq., Legal Services Northwest New Jersey
Jane Shivas, Project Self-Sufficiency
Rebekka Zydel, Child & Family Resources, Inc. – Chair

Also Attending:

Joann Bjornson, Family Promise

MC Staff in Attendance:

Amy Archer, MCDHS
Jane Armstrong, MC Workforce Development Board
Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Anna Marie Hess, MCDHS

II. Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed.

Chair Report – Ms. Rebekka Zydel – no report

III. Approval of May 26, 2020 Minutes

Motion to approve the May 26 meeting minutes made by Mr. Joseph Pawelczyk and seconded by Ms. Jane Shivas. All were in favor with no opposition and one abstention. Motion carried.

IV. County of Morris Department of Human Services – Ms. Amy Archer

Grant In Aid (GIA) funding is postponed, and try to coordinate with state funding. The release will be announced via website <https://hs.morriscountynj.gov/> and emailed to providers.

We will continue to accept current GIA funding modifications until July 21, 2020. The CARES Act Funding for CGDG and ESG funds for housing during Covid-19 will be advertised within the next two weeks.

- V. **Presentation: Evictions** – Mr. David Saltzman, Esq.
See attached report

- VI. **New Jersey Department of Human Services** – no report

Division of Developmental Disabilities – Ms. Mary Giorlando

Although the State Office of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is closed, state employees have continued to work remotely. The office number, 973.927.2600, is being answered and been receiving many calls regarding school graduations.

Day programs are not open at this time. There is a task force in place that consists of division staff, community providers, and other stakeholders, formulating a reopening plan for the day programs.

There is a Covid-19 link on the New Jersey Department of Human Services <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/home/index.html>.

- VII. **New Jersey Department of Children and Families**
Division of Child Protection and Permanency – no report

- VIII. **Staff Reports – Ms. Amy Archer, Ms. Shelia Carter**

Ms. Archer reported the coordination of the Grant In Aid Funding with State funding. We are expecting the award letter soon.

Navigating Hope began going out on-site visits. Starting July 8, they will be out twice a week and going out with Hope One. At this time, clients are not allowed on the vehicle to fill out applications. Clients that do not have access to the internet are given paper applications, and those that do are given website addresses to refer to. Navigating Hope is continuing to refer at-risk clients to community providers.

Ms. Carter reported the HSAC's focus has been on virtual agency monitoring with a high rate of voting member participation this year. The virtual monitoring visits are almost complete, with five out of the seventeen agency meetings remaining. These should be completed by the end of next week.

The Needs Assessment Committee is putting together the survey in a virtual format. Ms. Zydel added that much work is going on behind the scenes. They are gathering information from the study that went out to all HSAC members and creating accessible documents for the next step. Once the Grant-In-Aid monitorings are complete, the next step will be focus groups.

Ms. Carter announced the Department of Community Development posted a Public Hearing for the Consolidated Plan on the website <https://hs.morriscountynj.gov/community/>. Additional information and applications are also published.

Morristown Housing Authority opened its waitlist June 19, 2020, and it will remain open until they reach 500 applicants.

IX. Subcommittee Reports

Planning – Child Care – Ms. Rebekka Zydel

Emergency Child Care for Essential Workers

Effective June 15, 2020, Governor Murphy permitted the reopening of licensed child care centers. Licensed Centers interested in reopening are required to sign an attestation 24 hours before opening. Youth Camps are allowed to begin operating July 6.

June serves as a transition month for Emergency Child Care and the traditional child care subsidy program. It is anticipated that Emergency Child Care will end on June 30.

Child Care in Morris County

- We expect approximately 33% of licensed centers to reopen in the month of June
- We anticipate approximately an additional 11% of centers to open in July
- We anticipate approximately an additional less than 1% to open in August
- We expect roughly an additional 37% of centers to open in September
- We have approximately 39% of Family Child Care Providers open

Grooming to Grow

- 2 Programs (Program Administration Scale (PAS)- GIA Funded)
 - Serves as a recruitment program for GrowNJ Kids

Registered Family Child Care

- Orientations being conducted remotely

Child Care Resource & Referral

- Referrals have increased
- Increase in the number of child care subsidy applications being received

Shared Services

- Morris County Early Child Care Shared Services Alliance
 - Eight licensed center members

Piloting 3 Family Child Care Provider members

X. Advisory Committee Reports

Workforce Development Board – Ms. Jane Armstrong – see attached report

Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV Advisory – Ms. Joann McEniry

Ms. McEniry stated that most HIV AIDS services are being conducted remotely via telehealth available to Morris County residents. There are concerns regarding social

isolation and mental health in the community. There is a mini needs assessment to determine the impact of Covid 19 on the HIV AIDS population in Morris County. Ms. McEniry announced a July 14 at 2:00 p.m., the four HIV AIDS Services Organizations in the area would host a listing session. This discussion will focus not only on the needs of the HIV positive population but will include LGBTQ+ and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI).

Mental Health Substance Abuse Advisory Board – Ms. Jane Shivas

Project Self-Sufficiency is starting a program, funded by the Department of Labor; Bridges assists pregnant and parenting youth, female and male ages 16-24, with a range of comprehensive supportive services. Throughout a 16 week cohort, youth will work to achieve their educational and employment goals, resulting in greater economic self-sufficiency and family stability. Based in Dover, Bridges will create positive outcomes for young parents through thoughtful and useful wraparound services. PSS seeks to hire the following staff for the Bridges program: Program Coordinator; Job Developer/Employability Skills counselor; Alcohol & Drug Counselor; Case Manager; Administrative Assistant; Literacy & Numeracy Instructors. Jane will provide brief job descriptions for distribution.

Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans – Ms. Christine Hellyer

Aging

The department is still providing services via telephone since the beginning of COVID, via telework through June.

On June 8, limited staff will be back in the office, and some on a rotating schedule.

Nutrition

April and May's staff delivered two bulk deliveries, one on three meals on Monday and three meals on Thursday. They also received two shelf-stable meals.

Starting June 8, the home-delivered meals will resume Monday-Friday (frozen & box lunches), and by the end of the month, hot meals will be available.

Congregates sites will be available for grab and go only or converted to HDM. We also continue to accept new clients for Home Delivered Meals.

MAPS

Through May was minimal capacity.

June 8

Our staff of 20 drivers will be on the road with limited capacity service:

Mini-vans = 1 client/family unit and or one person if assistance is required,

Buses at 50% capacity = if it usually transports ten, it will be limited to 5.

Medical reason visits and essential employees and regular rides were previously provided.

Riders are requested to wear a mask for the duration of trips.

No shelter workshops because they are still closed.

Youth Services Advisory Committee – no report

XI. Partnership Announcements
Continuum of Care (CoC) – no report

XII. Old Business
Homeless Trust Fund – Mr. Jeff Bashe
Nothing new to report

XIII. New Business

XIV. Public Comment
Ms. Bjornson asked, "if the courts are not open, how do tenants know they are going to be evicted, or how will they be notified?"

XV. Adjournment
Ms. Zydel adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anna Marie Hess
Clerk II