

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
1 Executive Drive, Morris Plains
August 27, 2019 Minutes

I. Call to Order: The meeting opened at 5:16 p.m. by Mr. Robert Armstrong, Vice Chair.

Members Present:

Robert Armstrong, HIV/AIDS Advisory Liaison
Linda Csengeto, Citizen Representative
David Johnston, Deidre O'Brien Child Advocacy Ctr.
Joann McEniry, New Jersey AIDS Services
Kenneth Oexle, Citizen Representative
Joseph Pawelczyk, Citizen Representative
Jane Shivas, Project Self Sufficiency

Staff in Attendance:

Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Gary Denamen, Deputy Director MCDHS
Anna Marie Hess, MCDHS
Pat Mocarski, MCDHS
Maria Ojeda, NJ Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection & Permanency

II. Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions made.

III. Approval of June Minutes

Motion to approve the July 23 Meeting Minutes made by Mr. Kenneth Oexle and seconded by Mr. Joseph Pawelczyk. All were in favor with no opposition and one abstention. Motion carried.

IV. County of Morris Department of Human Services – No Report

V. New Jersey Department of Human Services – No Report

Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) – No Report

VI. New Jersey Department of Children & Families

Division of Child Protection and Permanency – Maria Ojeda

MWLO

MELO

MAY CWS 36 CPS 119

MAY CWS 35 CPS 103

JUNE CWS 27 CPS 85

JUNE CWS 15 CPS 65

JULY CWS 18 CPS 83

JULY CWS 23 CPS 60

Core Approaches to Our Work

These approaches cut through all that DCF does. These are not initiatives or programs, but instead are practices that we will work to embed. It can be described as *DCF Air (or Atmosphere)*. When we consider the families we serve, and their situations, we need to be sure that we are taking into account the following:

- Race equity – Are we allowing that there are color or cultural biases impacting their circumstances and/or our interactions with them? DCF is working with Dr. Carol Spigner of the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work. She is a renowned academic, educator and consultant in the areas of cultural competency. She will be helping us to integrate policies that advance racial equity in the work that we do.
- Healing Centered Practice – Are we establishing our practice models, our customer service, our physical spaces and services that we purchase on behalf of New Jersey residents, so that they promote healing?
- Protective Factors Framework – Are we structuring our practice models and purchased services to assess for and to promote the five protective factors: parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social and emotional competence for children?
- Family Voice – Are we listening to people with lived experience? Are we honoring their specific circumstances and experiences? Individuals and families know what they need to thrive. Are we projecting onto them what we think they need or are we really hearing them? DCF's new Office of Family Voice will provide us with staff and families with lived experience to ensure that we are attentive to their ideas and input.

Collaborative Safety – this is a model of behavior as much as it involves operations. How do we incorporate the type of safety science that is used in aviation, heavy industry, health care and other sectors into child and family services so that we do not merely respond to adverse events, but learn from them in such a way that we can reliably prevent future adverse events from happening? This way of working rests on our ability to create a safe space for staff to let us know where our weaknesses exist before critical events occur.

Keeping Children & Families Safe, Health and Connected - CP & P 2018/2019 Practice Priorities

- Leadership Development - Focusing on strengthening the skills of supervisory staff to help them to exhibit and demonstrate engagement, leadership, and competencies with staff to ensure best-case conferencing techniques.
- Plan of Safe Care - Working with families utilizing the protective factors framework to create a Plan of Safe Care for infants exposed to substances in utero and/or at birth.
- Address Post-Reunification Maltreatment and Re-Entry to Placement - Taking a critical look at substantiation after reunification and replacement of children into substitute care to understand and address systemic issues and practice trends.
- Defining Resource Practice - A focus on CP&P resource staff workload and improving the assessment process of resource applicants. Incorporating resource parent

characteristics in the matching process to enhance first placement best placement practice.

- Strengthen concurrent planning practice and accountability - A focus on strengthening concurrent planning practice to ensure that appropriate permanency goals are established for children and permanency is achieved in a timely manner.
- Strengthen NJ DCF's statewide focus on understanding practice and promote a culture that prioritizes family engagement and assessment - Strengthening father engagement by ensuring that there is a statewide focus on accountability, and an emphasis on understanding and managing the underlying challenges of effective engagement with fathers.

Ms. Joann McEniry asked what the difference was between CWS and CPS. Ms. Maria Ojeda explained CWS is Child Welfare Assessment. This is a call from a family member or schoolteacher stating a child is acting out and needs help. DCP & P will go out to the family home, assess the situation and refer them to other services. CPS is Child Protective Services. This is a call claiming abuse or neglect of a child. DCP & P has sixty days to complete their investigations.

VII. Staff Report – Shelia Carter

Ms. Laurie Becker is retiring at the end of September. There will be a Freeholder Proclamation for her at the Freeholder Meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. in the Administration & Records Building on the 5th Floor.

The HSAC Program Review committee will be meeting on September 4 and September 5, 2019 to start developing funding recommendations for Child Abuse Prevention (CAP), Social Services for the Homeless (SSH), General Grant in Aid, and Navigating Hope applications for year 2020. These recommendations will come before the General HSAC Committee at the September 24, 2019 meeting.

Site Monitorings are complete for the summer. Coordinators are still generating reports.

Mr. Armstrong reported the HSAC Chairs and at least one Human Services staff member represented all 21 Counties, at the August 16, 2019 State HSAC meeting in Trenton. The focus of the meeting was the Needs Assessment.

This is a new charge. The State is assigning counties to complete the Assessment every two years. The Needs Assessment is still in the development phase and drafts of different materials were distributed. The State Department of Children and Families (DCF) is leading the assessment, which includes the State Department of Human Services population. DCF has divided the 21 Counties into two groups. The first group of 10 counties will start their Needs Assessment Fall/Winter 2019 and the second group will start in the Fall/Winter 2020. Morris County was assigned to the second group. There was an opportunity for feedback and Ms. Carter, Ms. Archer, and Mr. Armstrong put together questions and submitted them yesterday to the State. Mr. Armstrong asked

Mr. David Johnston, “is this Needs Assessment only to include information about children and families or is it to include all services provided by the HSAC?” Mr. Johnston stated it is to include all Human Services.

Discussion ensued and concluded that the Needs Assessment will become a standing item under Old Business on the agenda.

2020 Census (effective April 1, 2020)

- The Census is important for the following reasons:
 - Nearly \$23 billion in federal funding for New Jersey depends on Census counts, including Medicaid, hospital funding, Title 1 school funding, childcare, student loans, highway and transportation funding and school meal programs.
 - About 22% of New Jersey residents (almost 1.9 million people) live in a hard-to-count area.
 - New Jersey has some of the hardest-to-count cities and congressional districts in the nation.
 - Over 150,000 children under age 5 live in hard-to-count areas in New Jersey, and 27,000 young children were missed in the 2010 Census.
- Trusted messengers are the providers; people clients have a relationship with and trust.
- Governments provide census promotional activities.
- Service providers may apply for census jobs and can be paid. Hours are part time and flexible. People are encouraged to work in communities where they live.
- The Census can be taken online and over the phone.
 - DHS has a waiver, where client benefits will not be effected if they are paid as census workers.

VIII. Subcommittee Reports

Planning – Childcare Report – Submitted by Rebecca Sherrod Capozzi

- There is **no waiting list for childcare subsidies**. We are serving all eligible applicants
- 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 Leaner 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

Morris Sussex Warren Workforce Development Board – Jane Armstrong

Legal Services is holding a Service Provider Forum on Monday, October 28, 2019 at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. It is open to Social Services Providers from Morris, Sussex, Warren, Somerset, and Hunterdon counties. A light breakfast will be provided. The following topics will be covered: Housing & Tenant's Rights, Debt Collection, Expungement, and Career Services.

New Jersey Council of County Colleges has launched the New Jersey Community College Opportunity Grant. Although it is tuition free, it does not mean fee free. The program does not cover books, lab fees, or other fees that may incur. It is also a program of last resort. There is a potential of supported services through One Stop program through Employment and Training.

Morris, Sussex, Warren, HIV Advisory – Bob Armstrong

The Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee (MSW HIV Advisory) in conjunction with the Early Intervention and Retention Collaborative (EIRC) did not meet this month but will meet at 11:00 am on September 17, 2019 at 435 South Street, 3rd floor conference room, Morristown. Following the meeting there will be a Lunch and Learn with a presentation by Summer Brown, MSW (PrEP Counselor, Morristown Medical Center) on the topic of PrEP, treatment as prevention, U + U (Undetectable equals Untransmittable), sexual and injection drug risk reduction strategies and the future of HIV prevention.

HIV statistics for the State of New Jersey, 2016 according to AIDS V:

- More than 35,000 New Jersey residents are living with HIV or AIDS. Currently, the state ranks fourth in the nation for overall cumulative HIV cases among adults/adolescents
- Percent of people living with HIV, by Race/Ethnicity
 - 45.0% Black
 - 28.4% Hispanic/Latino
 - 19.2% White
- Rate of people living with HIV per 100,000 population: 468
 - In Morris County the is 197 of every 100,000 people
- Percent of people living with HIV by Sex
 - 67.3% male
 - 32.7% female

Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory – No Report

Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans – No Report

Youth Services Advisory Council (YSAC) – David Johnston

No meeting in August. YSAC submitted the Youth Services Plan to the Juvenile Services Commission and are awaiting upon approval.

IX. Partnership Report – Continuum of Care (COC) Shelia Carter

All provider project proposals have been approved by the CoC Executive Committee and agencies notified. The 2019 Morris CoC systems application is due September 30, 2019 to HUD.

X. Old Business

Mr. David Johnston gave an update on the Game of Life. On November 1, 2019, Deidra's House in conjunction with The Education Partnership will hold the Game of Life at the Kinnelon High School. There are seven providers scheduled to participate. Morristown School District is looking to hold this event in the spring of 2020 and there are two schools in Roxbury interested in holding the event as well. Deidra's House is looking for more providers to participate.

Homeless Trust Fund – No Report

XI. New Business

Mr. Johnston reported that DCF has released an RFI for Child Advocacy Centers for \$1.5 million across the state. The number of grants and funding streams are undetermined at this time but looking at treatment, transportation and building rehabilitation. Deidra's House is looking into their qualifications.

The Police Chief's Association announced that Deidra's House is this year's beneficiary of their annual Corn Hole Tournament on Saturday, September 7, 2019 at Jersey Girl Brewery in Hackettstown.

On September 19, 2019 is Deidra's House Annual Golf Outing and on November 15, 2019 is the Annual Gala. This year they are honoring the Woman's Club of Morristown.

Ms. Joann McEniry asked what the process was to form a new County Committee. Mr. Denamen advised to contact the Freeholder or Administration office.

XII. Public Comment

XIII. Adjournment –

Mr. Joseph Pawelczyk made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. Ms. Jane Shivas seconded the motion. All were in favor with no objection and no abstention. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Marie Hess
Front Office Clerk