

**HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**1 Executive Drive, Morris Plains**  
**June 25, 2019 Minutes**

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting opened at 5:15 p.m. by Mr. Tom Pepe.

**Members Present:**

Robert Armstrong, HIV/AIDS Advisory Liaison  
Jeff Bashe, Citizen Representative, CoC Liaison  
Linda Csengeto, MCOTA  
Xiomara Guevara, Hispanic Affairs  
David Johnston, Deidre O'Brien Child Advocacy Ctr.  
Joann McEniry, New Jersey AIDS Services  
Kenneth Oexle, Citizen Representative  
Joseph Pawelczyk, Citizen Representative  
Tom Pepe, Citizen Representative  
Rebecca Sherrod, Child & Family Resources  
Jane Shivas, Project Self Sufficiency

**Staff in Attendance:**

Amy Archer, OTA  
Lori Barry, DCP&P  
Laurie Becker, MCDHS  
Shelia Carter, MCDHS  
Gary Denamen, OTA  
Christopher D. Linne, OTA-Navigating Hope  
Pat Mocariski, MCDHS

**Guests:**

Joann Bjornson, Ashley Reed, Maria Fodali, Family Promise; Jane Armstrong, Project Self Sufficiency; Thomas Gillis, Kevin Derricotte, U.S. Census Bureau; Maria Lopez, Zufall Health Center.

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

All were welcomed and introductions made.

**III. Approval of May Minutes**

Motion to approve the May 28 minutes with one change on page two (spelling of Chris Lynn incorrect should be Chris Linne) made by Mr. Joe Pawelczyk and seconded by Ms. Jane Shivas. All were in favor with no opposition and two abstentions. Motion carried.

**IV. Presentation on U.S. Census Bureau – Kevin Derricotte and Thomas Gillis**

The U.S. Constitution requires that each decade a count or census of America's population is conducted.

The Census provides vital information to you and your community. It determines how many representatives each state gets in Congress. The Communities rely on census statistics to plan for a variety of resident needs including new roads, schools and emergency services. Businesses use census data to help provide more local jobs and places to shop.

Each year the federal government distributes hundreds of billions of dollars to state and communities based on the U.S. Census bureau data. The Census Bureau is the leading source of statistical information about the nation's people. They provide snapshots of population size and growth and detailed portraits of our changing communities.

There are many jobs available through the Census Bureau see [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs) of [USAJOBS.gov](https://USAJOBS.gov) for more information. For more information on the Census, see [www.census.gov](https://www.census.gov).

Mr. Derricotte said Mr. Gillis is the representative for Morris County. The County was encouraged to involve all municipalities and form a Complete Count Committee (CCC). The first time this was done was in 2010. The strategy is to get trusted voices in the community to get the word out to those hard to reach. The most effective approach is to establish these committees. The Human Services Advisory Council was encouraged to designate a person as liaison to attend and host events, arrange speakers, get the word out, assist with operations and host job fairs.

Mr. Pepe asked them what they expect us to accomplish. Mr. Gillis said that they believe we could get responses from the hard to reach places like Dover where there is a lack of responses. There are so many unidentified individuals. They trust that we would be able to reach those folks. Mr. Pepe asked if we figure this out who does the outreach. Mr. Gillis said that some counties do the complete count working with the municipalities, nonprofits, churches, etc. They are not asking people to knock on doors they will do the legwork.

Ms. Guevara said the Council of Grant makers had a whole day meeting dedicated to the census. Hispanic Affairs is interested to get all people counted correctly, since it makes a difference in funding. Private funders are looking to see if they can help. Wind of the Spirit and NJ Kids Count are thinking of trying to create a Complete Count Committee. Mr. Gillis said that having this committee could be as simple as having them meet once a month or making it part of another meeting. Ms. McEniry said that those HIV and LGBTQ are also difficult to count. It is important to come up with strategies to get to those that are hard to reach. Further discussion ensued.

Mr. Pepe asked Mr. Gills to send information on this. Mr. Derricotte will send information on how to form this committee. Ms. Yoo asked about the best way to get this information out to the community. Mr. Gills said by helping them get the word out, providing materials, fliers, job fairs, etc. Each county has a different approach. Mr. Bashe said that our job really would be to facilitate the process and not do the actual census. Mr. Gillis said this body is an Advisory Council to county government. They get

grant money, monitor programs and host events. Many other boards do the same. Ms. Becker said there are events the county hosts and we could try to get the word out.

- V. Presentation on Navigating Hope – Joann Bjornson, Ashley Reed and Maria Fodali**  
Presentation and update by Ms. Joanne Bjornson, Family Promise of Morris County and Mr. Chris Linne, Morris County Office of Temporary Assistance on the Navigating Hope mobile outreach vehicle. All got a tour of the Navigating Hope vehicle. From August 2018 – May 2019 the total face-to-face contacts were 926. They have linked 1,084 people to services. Linkages include service connections to program materials, donation items, benefits services, referrals for social services and case management linkages to resources including housing, health care, education, legal services, childcare services, etc.

Since the Navigating Hope launch May 2019 - June 2019 the total face-to-face contacts is 128. They have linked 113 people to services. Linkages include service connections to program materials, donation items, benefits services, referrals for social services and case management linkages to resources including housing, health care, education, legal services, childcare services, etc.

Ms. Becker said that the initial grant was with Family Promise from Sept. 12, 2018 to Aug. 31, 2019. The HSAC recommended an extension through Dec. 31. We are hoping the extension will be approved at the Freeholder meeting tomorrow.

The 2020 Request for Application (RFA) per county processes for Navigating Hope goes through the HSAC. Due to timing constraints, we need a vote to empower the Program Review Committee to review and approve on behalf of the full HSAC the RFA draft for Navigating Hope. Ms. Yoo said we want to continue to support the vehicle since we have invested in it. There was not enough time to finalize the RFA so the subcommittee needs to review and approve now for next year's funding.

Mr. Pepe made a motion for the HSAC Program Review Committee to review the RFA draft for Navigating Hope applications from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2020 for \$110,000. This funding is additional funding and not from Grant-in-Aid money. Mr. Jeff Bashe seconded the motion. There were no abstentions and no opposition. Motion carried. Ms. Becker said she would like the Program Review Committee to meet by July 15. Mr. Pepe said he is happy to accommodate this request but he does not like that, this is not ordinary business and procedure.

- VI. Morris County Department of Human Services (DHS) – No Report**
- VII. New Jersey Department of Human Services – No Report**
- VIII. New Jersey Department of Children & Families  
Division of Child Protection and Permanency – L. Barry**

June 2019 Month to Date (6/24/19)

Morris East L0

CWS 15

CPS	55
Total	70

(Compare to June 2018 Month Total 81)

May 2019	
Morris East LO	
CWS	35
CPS	103
Total	138

(Compare to May 2018 Total 106)

**IX. Staff Reports – Laurie Becker**

Work is being done to bring on mental health champions. There is much advocacy for improvement at Greystone Psychiatric Hospital.

The 2020 Funding Orientation was on June 7. Approximately sixty people attended. All went well. Funding proposals are due on Friday, June 28 by 2:00 p.m. All applications will be recorded and sorted. Throughout the summer, various advisories will meet to review and rank applications. At the September 24 HSAC meeting, the board will review and approve the Program Review Committee’s recommendations. The Program Review Committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday, Sept. 4 & Thursday, September 5. The first day CAP and SSH applications will be reviewed. Time permitting GIA applications will be reviewed as well. If not finished with the review, the committee will meet a second day to complete.

**Shelia Carter –**

In July and August, agencies are monitored. This is an important task and monitoring outcomes will help the board make better decisions for 2020 funding.

**X. Advisory Committee Reports**

**Morris Sussex Warren Workforce Development Board –Submitted by Jane Armstrong**

**FREE FORKLIFT SAFETY CERTIFICATION TRAINING**

On Monday, July 15, 2019, a one-day Forklift Safety Operation training is being offered at the Warren County One-Stop Career Center in Phillipsburg, NJ. This nationally recognized certification program meets both formal and practical safety training requirements found in 29 CFR 1910.178. Training will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. One (1) year of forklift experience is recommended. Pre-registration and valid photo ID will be required. For additional information and to register, please call (908) 329-9190.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE & SAFETY CERTIFICATION TRAINING DELIVERED TO NORWESCAP AND PROJECT SELF-SUFFICIENCY UNEMPLOYED**

In April, ETS partnered with Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) and Warren County Community College to deliver Customer Service and Safety Training to twelve (12) Sussex county and four (4) Warren County unemployed NORWESCAP clients Employer from with Holiday Inn and Perona Farms (Sussex) shared employment opportunities with graduating students. Training was extended in May to eleven (11) Project Self-Sufficiency unemployed clients, with employer visits from Holiday Inn and Perona Farms. Similarly, on June 25, six (6) Morris County NORWESCAP clients were enrolled in certification training and are scheduled to complete July 11. NJ211 will present Call Center employment opportunities to completing students.

This 32-hour program will provided three industry-recognized credentials: ServSafe® Food Safety Advantage, American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute (AHLEI) Guest Service Gold Certification, and American Red Cross First Aid/AED/CPR training.

### **LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHWEST NEW JERSEY ONE-DAY FORUM**

On Monday, October 28, 2019, a one-day Legal and Career Services Forum, facilitated by NJ Legal Services of Northwest Jersey and hosted by Morris/Sussex/Warren Employment and Training Services, will be held at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy located at 500 W. Hanover Avenue in Morristown, NJ. Topics will include Housing and Tenant's Rights, Debt Collection and Expungement services. Further logistics are forthcoming.

### **RECOVERY JOB FAIR**

A daytime job fair will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at CARES in Rockaway. It is being coordinated with the NJ Department of Labor, Morris/Sussex/Warren Employment and Training Services and industry representatives. Resume writing and interviewing services will be available to attendees prior to the event. Please contact [DHebert@mcpik.org](mailto:DHebert@mcpik.org) for more information.

### **Morris, Sussex, Warren, HIV Advisory – Submitted by Joann McEniry**

The MSW HIV/AIDS Advisory met last on 06/18/2019. At that meeting, Heidi Haiken from Rutgers provided an overview of human subject research, the IRB process and the construction of a needs assessment to provide meaningful data for program improvement. Ms. Haiken explored examples of needs assessment topics and shared a sample questionnaire. She emphasized the need to consider ethics when developing a needs assessment plan.

The meeting was followed by a community lunch and learn on the topic of Health Insurance by Danielle Morgan and Nahid Suleiman from the NJ State Department of Health and Aliqa Onque from the City of Newark Ryan White Office. The presentation explored the following programs:

- ADDP (AIDS Drug Distribution Program)
- Health Insurance Premium Payment Program
- Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance

The next meeting of the MSW HIV/AIDS Advisory will be held on September 17, 2019.

### **Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory – Jane Shivas**

The annual Consumer & Family Forum, The Many Faces of Recovery – Building Bridges to Employment was held on Tuesday, June 18 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. In attendance were over 150 family members, public officials, providers and advocates.

It was an interactive evening facilitated by Dr. Peter Basto. There was music for recovery by Kathy Moser and the Mental Health Players (Mental Health Association volunteers) did a skit on employment. There were two personal recovery stories by Diane Beck and Amanda Boyum.

The Terri Belske Mental Health Advocate Award was given to Al Shurdom, of Parsippany. His friend and coworker Tracy Klingener, noted that Al sees his clients as people not as people with mental illness, nominated Al. She cited his kindness and respect toward all of the clients he visits during wellness checks, going beyond what is expected.

There was a panel to talk about building bridges to employment. Representatives from Work Incentives Network Support, Supportive Employment and Education, Saint Clare's, Department of Labor and Jersey Mike's.

The Invitation to Submit Applications for 2020 CY funding went out on Wednesday, May 29. The 2020 CY funding applications are due on Friday, June 28 by 2:00 p.m. Chapter 51 2020 CY funding announcement went out separately on Wednesday, June 12. Chapter 51 are due on Friday, July 12 by 2:00 p.m. Information on all is posted on the county website at <https://hs.morriscountynj.gov>.

### **Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans - No Report**

### **Youth Services Advisory Council (YSAC) – Submitted by Jessica Mondino PRESENTATIONS**

- Emily Munks from Morris County Prevention is Key spoke about her new position as Youth Prevention Specialist. She will be focusing on prevention for underage drinking, marijuana use and prescription pills. The age focus will be for 9-24. She will specifically be doing trainings for youth serving organizations on these topics.

### **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Beth Jacobson reminded everyone about the “Breaking Stigma” event happening on Saturday June 22 at the Morristown Green.

- Dave Johnston from Deirdre's house reported that they would be moving forward with "The Game of Life" starting with 3 interested schools, Kinnelon in the fall, Morristown in the spring and Parsippany TBD. Provider registration forms will be sent out soon. They will be capping it at 20-25 providers.

#### **XI. Partnership Report – CoC**

Ms. Carter said the Allocations Committee met and prepared preliminary ranking and funding allocations for 2019. Nothing is finalized until HUD's CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is released.

#### **XII. Old Business**

Ms. McEniry distributed copies of a support letter from the HSAC to the State of NJ. This letter is in support of the recommendations made by the county's HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee that the state was requesting input regarding the state's End the HIV Epidemic Plan. Recommendations are briefly described below:

- 1) Align the NJ AIDS Drug Distribution Program (ADDP) and NJ Medicaid Program in both HIV medication formularies and application process; and remove the NJ Medicaid requirement for both authorization of HIV medications.
- 2) Extend the NJ Medicaid requirement for 6-month recertification to one year.
- 3) Provide timely and more detailed HIV surveillance data including new diagnoses and met and unmet need by smaller geographical areas (NJ Dept. of Health).

#### **XIII. New Business**

June is men's health month and free screenings are available at Atlantic Health. Call 973-971-5952 for further information.

Free summer meals for children and teens under 18 are available in New Jersey. No enrollment and no ID is required. Call 1-866-3-HUNGRY for further information.

Mr. Johnston stated that Deidra's House is getting information on the Children's System of Care. They developed a survey monkey and sent it out to nine childcare advocacy centers. They got valuable information back. They said the childcare centers are not the biggest user of the system. Schools are the biggest user of the system. They modified the survey monkey and sent it to schools and municipalities.

They want to find out the access points and services the system provides. There are many children with trauma. Trauma and Medicaid do not work well together. They want to get helpful data to plan better. They have been talking to YSAC and thinking about forming a subcommittee to work on this.

Mr. Pepe went to Trenton with Shelia to the State HSAC meeting on June 21. He distributed his notes on the meeting. His notes included information given by the DCF Commissioner Norbut Beyer and information on the DCF Needs Assessment.

Mr. Johnston said that he thinks the Needs Assessment is great and important. Feedback is important. In the past, the Needs Assessment was done but we never got feedback. Ms. Carter said they are aware of this and once the information is collected, it will go into Child Stat. They really want this information to help direct a statewide focus.

Ms. Becker said it sounds like information for the Cross Systems group and similar groups to review. Mr. Johnson said their offices follows up the Child Stat. and the Qualitative Reviews. Two families per office are reviewed. There are also internal reviews.

**XIV. Public Comment –**

Ms. Laurie Becker announced her retirement as of Oct. 1. She introduced Ms. Amy Archer, who will be taking over her position. Ms. Becker said Ms. Archer will go on site visits throughout the summer and will work with staff to learn about the Division.

Ms. Sharon Yoo thanked Ms. Becker for all hard work through the years. To many she is the face of Morris County. Ms. Yoo is excited to have Ms. Archer on board and looking forward to working with her.

Further discussion ensued about immigrant families and their concerns. Earlier presentation on the census was talk about why immigrants are afraid to take the census or give out their information. Ms. Armstrong said these types of conversations are important. We want to protect families from losing their housing. Ms. Becker asked Ms. Guevara to send information on this.

**XV. Adjournment –**

Mr. Tom Pepe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Ken Oexle seconded the motion. All were in favor with no objections and no abstention. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Mocarski  
Administrative Secretary