

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
1 Executive Drive, Morris Plains
May 22, 2018 Minutes

I. Call to Order: The meeting opened at 5:16 p.m. by Mr. Ken Oexle.

Members Present:

Robert Armstrong, HIV/AIDS Advisory Liaison
Linda Csengeto, OTA Liaison
Heather Diamond, Center for Evaluation and Counseling
Jeff Bashe, CoC EC Liaison
Xiomara Guevara, MC Organization for Hispanic Affairs
Joanne McEniry, NJAS
Kenneth Oexle, Chair, Citizen Representative
Joseph Pawelczyk, Citizen Representative
Tom Pepe, Citizen Representative
Michelle Roers, United Way of Northern New Jersey

Also Attending:

David Johnston, NJ Division of Child Protection & Permanency
Luis Tamayo, NJDHS
Freeholder Heather Darling
Jane Shivas, Project Self Sufficiency

Staff in Attendance:

Jane Armstrong, MCDHS
Shelia Carter, MCDHS
Pat Mocarski, MCDHS

II. Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions made.

III. Approval of April 24 Minutes –

Motion to approve the April 24 minutes made by Ms. Joanne McEniry and seconded by Mr. Bob Armstrong. All were in favor with no opposition and three abstentions. Motion carried.

IV. Morris Count Department of Human Services – Shelia Carter for Jennifer Carpinteri

June 6 will be the grand opening of the Veterans Services Office and the VA Clinic at Morris View.

On May 30, the annual Request for Funding Application (RFA) announcement will go out to providers. An application must be submitted to be considered for 2019 funding. The RFA application package can be accessed on line at <https://hs.morriscountynj.gov>. The package contains detailed information regarding the application process, including

priority summaries and instructions for completing the RFA. Applications are due on June 29.

There will be a Community Based Funding Information Session on Friday, June 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Public Safety Training Academy, Room 102A/B. While this session is not mandatory, potential applicants are strongly encouraged to attend. Human Services staff will be there and there will be a question and answer period.

The RFA for Navigating Hope was released on May 3. Applications are due on May 31. There will be a meeting to review applications received on June 13 at 1 Medical Drive from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The conflict of interest policy prevails and no one in conflict can participate in the review. Applicants will be notified and letters sent out by June 15. Programs will be operational by Sept. 3. The information is also on the county website at <https://hs.morriscountynj.gov>.

V. New Jersey Department of Human Services – Luis Tamayo (att. report submitted)

There was a conference call on May 14 with the Stakeholders. The Commissioner gave testimony regarding the budget. It is important for all to listen and see if there are any other proposed cuts in order that folks can advocate for funding. The hope is the budget will be discussed at the June 8 meeting. It is very important any advocacy issues be brought to this meeting. On June 15 there will be the State Human Services meeting. Ms. Carter attends these meetings and concerns may be brought there.

There have been regular Forums for those evacuees from Puerto Rico. The next one will be in Paterson – not sure of the date yet. These forums are bringing a lot of information to the people. These evacuees are refugees so they are entitled to FEMA services. There are still a lot of problems there. Many services have been extended. The closing date for FEMA sign up is June 18.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) had their quarterly meeting on May 26. There was much concern expressed about the change to Fee-for-Service. The full implementation period has been extended to June. Some providers found it easier to adjust than others did.

New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) – Betty Sayner

DDD is a large division that serves more than 25,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. DDD is shifting from a contract-based system of service reimbursement to a Medicaid-based, Fee-for-Service system. Individuals are being assigned to support coordination agencies to help them manage an individual budget. Individual budgets are based on a tier level that is determined by a comprehensive assessment. The Fee-for-Service model allows for increased flexibility, increased choice and an expansion of services. The Division's transition to a Fee-for-Service system is expected to be fully implemented by June 2019.

DDD Updates:

The "Stephen Komninos Law" was signed in October 2017. The law, named after a young man who choked and died while under group home supervision, is designed to make group homes more accountable to the state. It doubles annual unannounced inspections, requires employees to undergo drug tests, and mandates that group homes more quickly disclose information to families after a loved one is hurt. The increased monitoring went into effect on May 1st. To date, the law does seem to have increased the number of calls to DDD's after-hours on-call number, as well as the number of unusual incident reports (UIRs).

New / Proposed Development in Morris County:

1. ***Advancing Opportunities*** McKinley St., Lincoln Park – GH is open, but the agency has not fully completed their Molina/Medicaid application and qualification process for individual supports. No move in dates have been set.
2. ***CPNJ*** was looking at a vacant lot on Rt. 202 in Morristown / Harding Twp. as a possible site for two 4-bedroom medical group homes. NJDEP did not approve the site for two homes, due to a stream in the center of the property. Only one home was approved for construction on the property.
3. ***Avidd Community Services*** has several projects planned including:
 - Old Turnpike Road, Washington Twp. - Projected to serve 4 people; 2 are confirmed. The inside of the home is complete; exterior work is almost complete.
 - Espanong Road, Jefferson / Lake Hopatcong - Projected to serve 4. This is a vacant lot on 1.5 acres. Project closed with HMFA 12/20/17. Projected licensing in 7/18. Developer reported project is at 50%.
 - Minnehaha Blvd. in Lake Hiawatha - Projected to serve 4. Closed with HMFA 11/15/17. Projected opening date is 9/1/18. 50% inspection was to take place in May.
 - Glenwood Road, Parsippany - Projected to serve 4 people. Projected opening 7/18. Developer reported project is at 50%.
 - Mooney Road, Roxbury – Projected to serve 4 people. Project began 1/29/18. Vacant lot. Inspection of land was completed. Developer is working to fill a \$100,000 funding gap.
4. ***Bellwether*** is developing two new 6 person group homes in Morris County (Pine Brook & Morris Plains). Certificate of Occupancy has been obtained for both homes. Construction is 100%. Tours for proposed individuals will be scheduled after the agency hires a Clinician, Site Supervisor, and Program Director. They are also proposing a 6 person group home in Lincoln Park (construction is needed and no individuals have been identified yet).

**VI. New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) –
Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) - Dave Johnson
Morris East L0**

CWS 28

CPS	69
Total	97
<u>Morris West LO</u>	
CWS	36
CPS	109
Total	145

DCF –

They had their annual qualitative review. They look at best practices for the Children’s System of Care. There were three components assessed for a similar review from five or six families. Overall, they did well. Once the review was complete, there was a presentation and meeting at the Public Safety Training Academy to develop an improvement plan.

DCP&P - Keeping families together contract with Project Self Sufficiency

Program staff are identifying families to refer to this program. There are 21 families from Morris East and Morris West and Sussex. There are 16 families from Morris County. Intake appointments are being scheduled. There are 25 slots.

Ms. Shivas stated there are 24 people deemed eligible. The criteria is that they must be open cases with DCP&P and in the situation of homelessness. This is effecting referrals. All must go through DCP&P. They determine who is eligible and refer back to Project Self Sufficiency. Ms. Shivas said the goal is to get people out of homelessness, get them services, stable housing, income, and improve their parenting.

VII. Staff Report – No Report

VIII. Planning Child Care/No Report (written report received)

There is no waiting list for childcare subsidies. Currently serving all eligible applicants and receive approximately 30+ new applications a week.

Currently there are no 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

These centers hold 350 dedicated voucher spots cumulatively.

There was also a rate increase for the reimbursement rate and the tiered reimbursement went into effect during the first pay period of June. The rate is now tied to Grow NJ Kids ratings.

Child Care & Development Fund (CCDF) Plan draft was released and comments were made and due by June 20, 2018.

IX. Advisory Committee Reports

Workforce Development Board – David Hollowell (written report submitted)

ETS Change/Transition Workshop

Employment and Training Services staff across the tri-county are scheduled to participate in a “Managing Change” workshop on April 2, April 9, May 7 and May 14. Given recent funding, organizational and environmental change, these sessions will explain 1) difference between change and transition; 2) identify transition phases and provide practical strategies to help self and clients; 3) how to navigate through unsettling feelings that arise when transitioning through the change process.

Youth Outreach and Recruitment RFP

ETS and WDB are developing an RFP to identify a vendor to serve eligible youth in Morris, Sussex and Warren counties. Elements of the youth program requirements are being considered for inclusion:

1. Outreach & Recruitment: WIOA eligible youth are identified, recruited and referred to Employment and Training Services for final determination of eligibility per WIOA regulations.
2. Supportive Services Referrals: Youth are referred to activities where youth receive tutoring to address intensive case management and referral to ancillary services (e.g., mental health/substance abuse counseling and housing) and/or issues addressing barriers to employment.
3. Employer Outreach: Development and referral of youth to employment opportunities/work experience with area employers through either On-the-Job Training (OJT), internships or apprenticeships.

The RFP is anticipated to be released in August of 2018.

Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV Advisory – Mr. Armstrong

There was no meeting in May. The next meeting will be June 19 at 11:00 a.m. at this location (1 Executive Drive). There will be a meeting and Lunch and Learn on HIV Around the World immediately following the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

An HIV consumer will be speaking at the annual Consumer & Family Forum on June 21. NJAS will attend the next Consumer Forum Planning meeting to see how they can incorporate HIV information into the event.

On May 10, some HIV clients go to speak with the candidates in the U.S. House of Representatives that may take Rodney Frelinghuysen's seat. The clients put together a list of questions for the candidates. There was some great two-way conversations with the candidates about important issues for HIV consumers.

On May 6 was the AIDS walk in Morristown. The event was well attended with about 250 people there. There were 100 volunteers assisting with the event.

Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory Board – Ms. Mary Jane Melo

- The 24th Consumer and Family Forum will be held on June 21 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Haggerty Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown. The title of the Forum is “Many Faces of Recovery”. The Forum is a unique opportunity to get countywide perspective from the individuals we serve regarding the local system of care. All are welcome – fliers distributed. A light supper will be served. Personal recovery stories will be told and awards will be given for advocacy in the field.
- The Freeholders approved the FY 2019 Municipal Alliance funding recommendations and the award letters were mailed out. County Supplemental funding applications went out and are due at the end of the month. Each Municipal Alliance can apply for up to \$2,000 in Supplemental funding per municipality represented. There is a cash match of 50% required by each Alliance for Supplemental Funding. There are usually about 17-20 Alliances that apply for this funding. This funding supports the activities and efforts of the Alliances.

The Municipal Alliances provide substance abuse prevention activities/programs in the community. The Alliances are volunteer led, community organizations which are funded by the state through Drug Enforcement Demand Reduction (DEDR) funds. These funds collected by fines imposed on people convicted of drug-related offenses in the State of NJ.

- Ms. Becker reported that May 10 is Youth Mental Health Day. Governor Codey unveiled a plan to combat teen suicide. There was a Stigma Free meeting today and representatives from the American Society to Prevent Teen Suicide were in attendance. They won a grant from Provident Bank to provide education and training in the Skylands region, which includes Morris County. Morris has the highest rate of completed teen suicide. There were 20 in 2015-2016. The Codey Fund for Mental Health has \$1 million for training teachers and professionals on this. They are also training paraprofessionals, security guards, cafeteria workers

and janitors. The Sheriff is also doing work to help prevent school violence, prevention, protection and bullying. It is best to try to prevent before these incidents occur.

Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans – No Report

Youth Services Advisory Committee – Ms. Jessica Mondino STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS

- Nacie Arnold has retired but upon her departure, she had trained 642 community members and 26 unduplicated agencies. TBD on the direction of the nurtured heart position that Nacie has left.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Kim Johnson from Employment and Training Services reminded the committee about the funding they have available for youth ages 16-24 for job training programs.
- Juli Harpell-Elam handed out flyers for their Camp Hope summer camp in June; they are looking for two Male counselors' ages 18-24 (or 17 going into their senior year.)
- Beth Jacobson informed the committee that she would be holding a focus group following the July closed YSAC meeting
- Dave Haggerty from Neighborhood house announced their "Fight Like a Girl" presentation on May 31, 2018 at 6pm.

X. Partnership Announcements

CoC – Mr. Jeff Bashe

They got the preliminary numbers for the Point in Time. Hoping by the next meeting will have the full report. There were about 400 homeless reported in Morris County. This year it seems there are more identified homeless with mental illness and substance abuse. This may be due to the Hope One vehicle going out and identifying more of these issues.

The RFP for the CoC Notice of Intent for 2018 – 2019 should be going out in June.

XI. Old Business – None

XII. New Business

Ms. Roers would like to make a proposal. She understands that the local voucher rate to be low. She is asking the board to advocate for increased voucher rates especially for the 0-3 age population. She is willing to draft the letter. Mr. Oexle asked that Ms. Zydel also be involved. The rate is the same for infants and preschool children, which does not cover the cost.

This is especially challenging for some of the nonprofit centers. The centers serving young children are the most at risk. Morris County has many local nonprofits that stand to lose a lot. All agreed it is a good idea to send the advocacy letter. Ms. Roers agreed to

do this letter by the end of the week. Ms. Carter can send it out to the committee for comment and review. Mr. Bashe made a motion the committee send an advocacy letter for higher childcare rates. Mr. Pepe seconded the motion. There no abstentions and no opposition. All were in favor. Ms. Roers will get out the board for review by Friday.

XIII. Public Comment –

Ms. Armstrong stated that Sussex County College received a grant and are offering a machine-tooling program. Dislocated workers are eligible. This program is at no cost and ends up with an internship. There was talk at the PAC meeting about some young men that need work and need a place to live. Perhaps this would be a good program for them. Ms. Armstrong also stated that there is an employer looking for help compounding as a Pharmacy Tech. There is available a certificate to Warren County Community College for this class at no cost.

XIV. Adjournment –

There was a motion made by Mr. Tom Pepe to close the meeting at 6:17 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Mocarski
Administrative Secretary