

Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory Board (MHASAB)

MEETING – October 11, 2018 – 1 Medical Dr., Morris Plains

Members Present:

Gregg Benson, Citizen Representative
Chris Chernick, Citizen Representative
Linda Csengeto, MCOTA
Carol DeGraw, United Way of N.N.J.
Heather Diamond, Center for Evaluation & Counseling
Aura Dunn, Citizen Representative
Cheryl Garodnick, Citizen Representative
Julian Hill, MCPO
Marcy McMann, Citizen Representative
Vicky Mulligan, Rest, Stop & Rejuvenate
Heidi Schnapp, Center for Evaluation & Counseling
LaJuan Tucker, MCPO
Barbara Ward, Citizen Representative

Also Attending:

Eileen Alexander, DMHAS
Lynne Chandler, Saint Clare's Behavioral Health
Christine Meyers, MC Freeholder

Staff in Attendance:

Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Jennifer Carpinteri, MCDHS
Anna Marie Hess, MCDHS
Beth Jacobson, MCDHS
Pat Mocariski, MCDHS

I. Call to Order and Approval of Sept. 13 minutes –

Ms. Marcy McMann, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:27 p.m. Mr. Gregg Benson made a motion to approve the September 13 minutes and Mr. Chris Chernick 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. McMann

Mr. Gregg Benson and Ms. Linda Csengeto offered to be on the Nominating Committee. Motion made by Ms. Carol DeGraw and seconded by Ms. LaJuan Tucker to accept Mr. Benson and Ms. Csengeto as the nominating committee. There were no abstentions and no opposition and the motion carried. The board will be seeking a new Chair and Vice Chair. The slate will be presented in November and the vote will be in January. Nominations may be forwarded to

the Nominating Committee or to Ms. Becker. The Chair has the added responsibility of serving on the Advisory Leadership group with all the Human Services Committee Chairs.

The consensus was that the board meet on November 8 and not meet in December.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

Funding - moved to end of meeting

Legislative/Advocacy – No Report

County Alliance Steering Committee – No Report Meeting Cancelled

V. State Liaison Report – Ms. Eileen Alexander (written report provided)

Ms. Alexander reported that her email is changing to Eileen.alexander@dhs.state.nj.gov.

- As part of the transfer of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) from the Department of Health (DOH) back to the Department of Human Services (DHS), email address will change, effective October 1, 2018, to `firstname.lastname@dhs.nj.gov`. This change will only impact those users who work in the Community-based programs; the change does not impact any other staff (e.g., Hospitals) that are remaining with DOH. Any email sent to the account `firstname.lastname@doh.nj.gov` will be forwarded to the new account starting October 1.
- Jonathan Seifried is the Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and Louise Rush as the Director of the Division of Aging Services (DoAS). Both Louise and Jonathan have long served at the Department of Human Services and have been outstanding leaders in their divisions. Louise has served in aging services for the State since 1980 in such roles as program manager and deputy division director. In spring 2018, Louise became the Acting Director of the Division of Aging Services.
- Jonathan started in the disabilities field in 1998 and started work with DDD in 2001. Since being with DDD, he has worked in many different roles including case management, community development, and as the Director of Community Transitions. Since 2017, Jonathan has served as the Acting Assistant Commissioner for DDD. Providers please ensure you use this revised FFS WRAP forms when submitting WRAP requests, see attached. It includes an area that has the status of the Net Family Assets that are less than \$2,000 and they have exhausted all community resources, i.e. Board of Social Services.
- Providers will need to include source of accruals when requesting to use contract accruals. The request should clearly state the type of accrual -revenue/Medicaid accrual or expenditure accrual.

- A new list of Contract Administrator assignments has been updated, see attached. Your Contract Administrator may have changed.
- The Cycle 1 trainings for the Foundations in Behavioral Health Training Series are being offered in the month of October, see attached. Please feel free to contact Linda Garvey at (732) 235-9252 or (garveyl1@ubhc.rutgers.edu) or Tameka N. Chatman at (732)-235-9279 or (tameka.chatman@rutgers.edu) if you need any assistance.
- Passaic Screening RFP is still a preliminary award for Bridgeway.
- CarePlus was recently awarded a Regional contract for The Family Support Center (FSC). You can contact Matthew Grey for details, referrals and presentations to community meetings. MatthewG@CarePlusNJ.org or 201-265-8200.
- DMHAS website will be transitioning back to Department of Human Services from the Department of Health. Official date has not been announced. Please continue to check both for important announcements and information, until the transition.
- CY2019 Contract Renewal Letters will be mailed out to providers, shortly.
- NJMHAPP released NJMHAPP 4.1 on October 1, 2018. The new update allows for billing adjustments to be submitted electronically through ECAS. ECAS has replaced the former FCAP system. There is also ability to request additional ICMS units over 50, electronically. More updates are planned for the near future.
- Providers are encouraged to participate in the bi-weekly FFS webinar. Next meeting is Thursday October 11, 2018 at 2pm.
- FFS Audits have resumed. Providers will be contacted with an audit date when they are selected. Prior audits have uncovered billing errors. Providers need to ensure they are billing Medicaid and NJMHAPP appropriately. DMHAS encourages providers to check Medicaid EMEVS bi-weekly to reduce billing errors.
- Michael Fleming is the new Contract Monitor for DMHAS.

VI. Staff Reports

Municipal Alliance Coordinator – Ms. Jacobson

There has not yet been a replacement hired for Mr. Nebesni.

At the September Freeholders Meeting, four Municipal Alliance volunteers were honored. They received special recognition for their contributions and volunteer work for Municipal Alliances. The Municipal Alliances provide substance abuse prevention activities and programs in the community.

Gregg Benson mentioned that the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse honored the Volunteers of the Year at their last meeting.

Addictions Services Administrator – Ms. Jacobson

Beth Jacobson announced that the annual countywide prevention forum “Raising Resilient Teens in Challenging Times” will be held on November 1 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Meadow Wood Manor in Randolph, NJ. The presentation will focus on building strength and

resilience in our children and teens, and discuss risk factors for suicide. For more details go to www.hs.morriscountynj.gov. Registration is required.

The Knock Out Opioid Abuse Concert was held on Oct. 4 at the Malcom Forbes Amphitheatre, Morristown Medical Center. It was an inspirational evening of hope and recovery, and was well attended.

Mental Health Administrator – Ms. Becker

A Board member asked if there were updates on Greystone. Ms. Becker plans to attend the Greystone Board meeting in November and will ask the new CEO, Tamika Carter, to give an update to the board in the next few months.

The Mental Health Association has a Consumer Advisory Board. Ms. Becker was invited to their meeting on October 30 when Assistant Commission of the NJ Department of Health, Deborah Hartel will report on Greystone Hospital.

Ms. Becker stated that Legal Services NWJ brought to her attention that individuals from Morris County are referred to Northbrook and Buttonwood Hospitals in Southern New Jersey. Morris County attorneys and families have to travel far to get to these hospitals. To date, Ms. Becker has not heard any concerns from family members. The feedback so far is that providers and families are satisfied with these hospitals' treatment and discharge service planning.

Ms. Alexander stated that if the county does not have room, it is better for the client to be referred to an out of county hospital than to wait for a bed in the PES. These clients are getting good care and are being processed. They are getting a good discharge plan and back into the community with appropriate resources. If possible, they try to place clients in a facility close by.

There was some discussion about Northbrook and Buttonwood Hospitals. Ms. Alexander said the State contracted with these hospitals and pays a fee per day. Ms. Becker will call John Verney of DMHAS to get more information on these hospitals.

Ms. Becker stated that 2019 funding award letters are drafted and being reviewed. All advisories met, reviewed and prepared recommendations for the Freeholders for 2019 funding. Letters are scheduled to go out to providers on November 16.

Human Services Director – Ms. Carpinteri

The deadline for the Ruth Davis Drive RFP was extended to Nov. 30 since a few agencies requested additional time to collaborate efforts. There was an information session and about twenty agencies attended. The Leadership Advisory group will review applications and make recommendations to the Freeholders.

On Oct. 5, Congressman Lance visited the Hope One van on the Morristown Green to announce the award of a federal grant of over \$332,000 by the Bureau of Justice to Hope One. Hope One was selected for the two (2) year competitive grant to plan, develop and implement comprehensive efforts to identify, respond to, treat, and support those impacted by the opioid epidemic. The Comprehensive Opioid Abuse program will help to roll out the Hope One's Police Assisted Recovery Initiative. Mr. Benson mentioned that the GCADA plans to invite Sheriff Gannon to present at one of their upcoming meetings.

Family Promise has been awarded the Navigating Hope subgrant, but the vehicle is still in the works. In the meantime, Family Promise staff will be going out with Hope One and assessing needs so all will be prepared when the Navigating Hope vehicle is ready.

The Jail Reentry Program is up and running to help those coming out of jail with a successful transition and reentry to the community. This program was created to help those transitioning out of prison through employment opportunities, counseling, and other needed services to lower recidivism among ex-offenders and increase the safety and security of our neighborhoods. The belief is that effective and focused programs aimed at breaking the cycle of recidivism will make a difference. There are two OTA staff persons running the program. Medication Assisted Treatments will be a part of the program. A presentation on this will be made to the Freeholders.

VII. Joint PAC Report – Ms. Lynne Chandler

Susanne Graham and Kim Donnenberg, Saint Clare's, attended the November meeting to talk about the impact of the transition to managed care Medicaid on acute care and substance abuse services. Glitches are being addressed that are slowing service provisions and are being brought to the attention of DMHAS.

Ms. Chandler said she is not aware of any individual that was affected negatively from Saint Clare's, but they are tracking this. Ms. Becker said the Adjuster's Office is also tracking "temporary hold" orders that are used when a patient is held in the emergency room longer than legally prescribed due to lack of access to hospital beds. Ms. Chandler said the other issue is the authorization process and the fact that it is often direct service staff working through this process, which is time consuming.

Mr. Benson suggested perhaps since the new ASAM criteria came out providers are in a position to advocate for the ASAM criteria and assurance of approval. Ms. Carpinteri advised that we should try to get data first, and then look at how we can approach this from an advocacy perspective. Ms. Carpinteri asked Ms. Chandler to keep us informed so that we can lend support.

Ms. Chandler thinks it would be a good idea to reach out to Steve Tunney and Roxanne Kennedy from the NJ Medicaid office to voice concerns and get more information.

Ms. Carpinteri said that Union County recently passed a resolution stating concerns about Fee For Service (FFS). Morris County has passed two resolutions already. Discussion ensued as to whether more advocacy is needed in relation to FFS.

Ms. Becker stated that a coalition of agencies led by the Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris will hold the 1st Mental Health Legislative Advocacy breakfast on October 26 at 8:30 a.m. at the Park Avenue Club, 184 Park Avenue, Florham Park. The cost is \$30. She encouraged everyone's attendance.

VIII. HSAC Report

- Ms. Carter attended the State HSAC meeting in Sept. Various items discussed:
 - Presentation and big push on emergency preparedness given (due to recent hurricanes). Morris County has a good system established. Each of us need to be prepared as citizens and have a plan. Morris County is fortunate to have the Mennen Arena, a large facility, where people can go. The Office of Emergency Management has a whole registry ready for those in the county and for those with special needs. If you register, you can get calls and alerts.
 - Discussion and updates on the Medicaid system. There is additional funding to assist those with diabetes. They are expanding family planning benefits and removing some restrictions for those on Medicaid. Medicaid is offering packages that are more complete and new services. Restrictions on some drugs have been lifted. Folks will not have to wait for Medicaid enrollment and there is a push to get enrollment in Family Care. Applications can be submitted on line. Those that are not eligible can apply for low cost insurance. Open enrollment is Nov. 1 – Dec. 15. Enroll at www.healthcare.gov or call 1-800-318-2596.
 - Push to encourage folks to apply, at any times, for low cost health coverage at NJFamilyCare (www.njFamilyCare.org or call 1-800-701-0710). For people not eligible for NJ FamilyCare due to income: Health Insurance Marketplace, open enrollment is November 1 to December 15, 2018. May apply online at www.healthcare.gov or call 1-800-318-2596.
- At the Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV Advisory meeting it was reported that the Eric Johnson House, which provides transitional housing to people living with HIV/AIDS, is closing this fall after twenty-five years of service. New Jersey AIDS Services is moving toward a permanent housing model, including a newly implemented LBGQT program, offering training on LBGQT cultural competence.
- Morris County has begun the Coordinated Entry process. There is now one list of the homeless maintained through 2-1-1. When a person dials 2-1-1 hotline, they are connecting themselves with a continuum of service providers in Morris County committed to assessing each individual situation and responding accordingly. The

system is intended to minimize traditional barriers to shelter and housing services by creating a single point of entry and providing additional support to access as needed. Those in need of shelter and others who are experiencing a housing crisis can make the call to 2-1-1 themselves or go into one of two drop-in centers to get connected to the appropriate housing and shelter resources in the county. This will help the county get a better handle on the homeless situation.

IX. Old Business – None

X. New Business None

XI. Open to the Public – None

Funding (Moved from Subcommittee Reports to the end of meeting)

Ms. McMann asked anyone in conflict to leave the room for the closed session. Ms. Chandler and Ms. Alexander excused themselves. Mr. Benson made a motion to begin the closed session of the meeting. Mr. Chernick seconded the motion with no opposition and no abstentions. The meeting closed at 6:30 p.m.

At 7:09 p.m., Mr. Gregg Benson made a motion to return to open session, seconded by Mr. Chernick with no opposition and no abstentions.

Open Session

Of those who excused themselves, no one returned to the meeting.

Mr. Chris Chernick made a motion to approve the Chapter 51 revised funding recommendations for 2019 as discussed in closed session. There was a reduction by the State of \$67,472 and eight programs were affected due to this reduction. Ms. Linda Csengeto seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions. Motion carried.

Mr. Gregg Benson made a motion to make Chapter 51 subgrant reallocations/modifications as discussed in closed session. Ms. Barb Ward seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions. Motion carried.

Mr. Green Benson made a motion to approve the GIA subgrant reallocation/modification as discussed in closed session. Ms. Barb Ward seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition and no abstentions. Motion carried.

XII. Adjourn

Motion made by Mr. Gregg Benson and seconded by Ms. Carol DeGraw to close the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia MocarSKI
Administrative Secretary