

COUNTY OF MORRIS
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
P.O. Box 900
Morristown, New Jersey 07963-0900

Board of County Commissioners

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MENTAL HEALTH ADDICTION SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (MHASAB)
Thursday, July 8, 2021, 5:15 pm via Webex Meetings
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order and attendance

Mr. Chris Chernick, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. A quorum was established, and attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Caroline Bailey, Morris County Prevention is Key
Gregg Benson, Citizen Representative
Susan Calantone, Citizen Representative
Chris Chernick, Citizen Representative – Chair
Linda Csengeto, Citizen Representative
Cheryl Garodnick, Therapy Resources of Morris County – Vice Chair
Julia Hill, Esq., Morris County Prosecutor's Office
Meg Rodriquez, Morris County Prosecutor's Office
LaJuan Tucker, Esq., Morris County Prosecutor's Office
Erica Valvano, Morris County Sherriff's Office
Barbara Ward, Citizen Representative

Board Liaisons:

Michelle Borden, NewBridge Services

Morris County Staff:

Amy Archer, Morris County Human Services
Kasey Errico, Morris County Director Human Services
Anna Marie Hess, Morris County Human Services
Stephen Nebesni, Morris County Juvenile Detention Center
Maria Fodali, Morris County Office of Temporary Assistance

Others in Attendance:

Martha Seidenfeld, Morris County Probation

II. Approval of June 10, 2021 Minutes

Mr. Chernick, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the June 10 minutes distributed before the meeting. Mr. Benson made the motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Csengeto seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no opposition and two abstentions. Motion carried.

III. Chair Report

Mr. Chernick announced the two new board members Ms. Francesca Viola, Acenda, and Ms. Deborah Ward, Citizen Representative. They are replacing Ms. Carol DeGraw, who retired from United Way, and Mr. William Torres, who resigned from Acenda.

Ms. Marcy McMann resigned from the MHASAB at our June meeting, pending her judicial oath of office as Superior Court Judge, Family Division, Morris County. A resolution to thank her for her time, dedication, leadership, and Advocacy, signed by the MHASAB voting members will be presented soon.

There will not be an August 2021 MHASAB meeting.

IV. State Liaison Report

Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services – as submitted before the meeting.

New Staff:

DMHAS welcomes Maria Camacho to the Office of Treatment and Recovery Supports. Maria will be working part-time as a program manager under the SOR grant. Her primary focus will be managing two initiatives: Peer Counseling and Wellness and Cultural Competency Training and Practice.

Community Support Services:

- The CSS training department is offering a July Webinar- *Awareness, Humility, and Tolerance: Building Partnerships with Persons Diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder* on Friday, July 9, 2021, from 9:30 – 11:00 am ([register](#))
- The CSS Orientation Modules are now open on an ongoing basis to all CSS Staff Self-paced modules, available anytime on Canvas. Great for new staff.
 - (1) Module 1: Overview of CSS Admissions and Documentation Process
 - (2) Module 2: CSS Services
 - (3) Module 3: The Golden Thread of CSS*
 - (a) *These are the same modules used as pre-requisites for the 8 Session CSS Training Series [Register here.](#)

Letter to Providers re: FY 2021 Contract Close-Out:

In response to the pandemic, DMHAS extended most SFY 20 cost-based contracts through SFY 21. As a result, most providers will be submitting 2-year reports of expenditure (ROE's) as the current contracts are closed out. For those contracts only, all

contract surplus generated from March 2020-September 2020 will be allowed to be retained by providers. Questions have emerged regarding treatment of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan forgiveness or other emergency COVID-related funds that providers may have received and how to report these items on the ROE's. The June 29, 2021 communication from DMHAS provides guidelines for ROE reporting and announces a one-time initiative concerning those funds. Providers will have an opportunity to request a budget modification or an unreasonable request for surplus retention for the amount generated by the PPP loan forgiveness, which must be submitted no later than July 16, 2021. The conditions for these requests are detailed in the June 29, 2021 correspondence. Please note that this is a one-time program being offered by DMHAS in recognition of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the behavioral health system; no extension of this allowance will be provided in SFY 22. Questions can be directed to your agency's contract administrator.

Quarterly Provider Meeting:

QPM is scheduled for July 8 at 9:30 am over Zoom. Agenda items include COVID vaccinations, Mental Health and SAPT Block Grant, Low Threshold Access to Medications for Substance Use Disorders at Harm Reduction Centers, and the 2022 Budget.

RFP:

Program Name: Nurse Care Management in Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs)

Purpose: This Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to embed Nurse Care Managers (NCMs) into Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) to manage physical health services, including hepatitis C, for individuals being served at the OTP. This RFP is funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) State Opioid Response (SOR) grant. The SOR grant period is from September 30, 2020, to September 29, 2022. Funding is available through September 29, 2022, depending on federal appropriations. Total annualized funding for this RFP is \$2,800,000, subject to federal appropriations.

Successful bidders will add nurse care management, case management, and health coaching to improve people's overall health and well-being, emphasizing hepatitis C and integrating their behavioral and medical healthcare.

In addition to onsite services, the successful bidder may provide services through telehealth, thereby expanding the reach of nurse care management, case management, and health coaching.

Submission Deadline: Proposals must be received by 4:00 pm on July 26, 2021.

Notification Date: Bidders will be notified on or before August 18, 2021.

State Budget Updates for Mental Health:

Supportive Housing

Funding will increase for supportive housing rental subsidies for individuals with mental health conditions. This new funding will help individuals find affordable housing or remain in their current accommodation.

Psychiatrists

The budget includes funding for a psychiatric residency pipeline program to help address the shortage of psychiatrists in New Jersey, especially those serving low-income individuals and those with complicated cases, including struggling with co-occurring substance use and mental health diagnoses. Human Services will fund ten new four-year psychiatric residency slots. As a condition of the program, the residency programs and the residents would commit to working with the underserved populations in Human Services programs during their training.

Early Intervention Supports Services (EISS)

The budget includes an additional \$11 million in state funding for EISS, allowing Human Services to expand the program to all 21 counties from the current 11. The expansion also **calls for pilot initiatives to enhance access to EISS services for individuals across the State.**

Centralized Admissions

Effective 7/5/2021, the Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) Centralized Admissions will be accepting patients' referrals from all **New Jersey Psychiatric Emergency Screening Services (PESS)** who require involuntary inpatient psychiatric admission at the Ann Klein Forensic Center. The referral process remains the same for the other State Psychiatric Hospital referrals from the psychiatric emergency screening services. All phone calls are directed to the DBHS Centralized Admissions at the numbers listed below for the Ann Klein Facility Referrals and Admissions.

Centralized Admissions Contact Numbers-

609.777.0289

609.633.7276

609.633.1873

Centralized Admission Fax Numbers-

609.777.0288

609.292.2488

609.633.0917

When submitting a referral, please ensure the packet includes complete clinical, diagnostic, and legal documentation. This will allow for timely completion of the medical clearance process of an appropriate referral. All available beds at the psychiatric facilities will be assigned based on clinical acuity.

Other resources

Loan Repayment Opportunity

A loan repayment opportunity is available through Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Applications are being accepted through July 22. The program focuses on SUD treatment and recovery, though the list of eligible practitioners/eligible sites is broad. More information can be found here:

https://bhw.hrsa.gov/funding/apply-loan-repayment/star-lrp?mkt_tok=NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAF9mwuGa2W3pnt0S-YmqSHJyUrItEkFpcByGxbjBmy8CYS6spWECiD2Tlm1gKhBGHt6Kazc1Y97pf726POvUH0cTSWinSr_E0MXsIFQeY2m

S-COPE Training

S-cope is providing regional training as part of their mission to provide resources and improve the overall emotional, mental, and physical health of individuals in our communities of adults over the age of 55+ who reside in Nursing Facilities.

The topics will be on Suicidality in Long Term Care, Mental Illness in Long Term Care, and Managing Resistant and Aggressive Behaviors. Please, review the flyers and registration form. All training will be held on Thursdays, and training will commence at 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.

Professional Contact Hours (CEU's): (3.0) Content for this program has been approved for professional license contact hours. (*Physicians, Nurses, Social Workers, Screeners, Psychologists, Certified Counselors*).

Topic: Suicidality in LTC: July 22 and September 30

Topic: mental Illness in LTC: august 12 and November 18

Topic: Managing Resistant and Aggressive Behaviors: July 8, September 23, and November 4

V. Staff Reports

Municipal Alliance Coordinator – Mr. Steve Nebesni

Half of the Fiscal Year 2022 plans were submitted, and the rest of the towns were working on finishing their plans.

Still closing out the Fiscal Year 2021, which ended at the end of June.

Addiction Services Coordinator – no report

Mental Health Administrator – Ms. Amy Archer

Site monitoring will begin in July. Ms. Suarez has already sent out her schedule to providers to sign up for their monitoring. Ms. Archer will be sending her plan to the Mental Health providers soon. These monitorings will be held virtually this year. MHASAB members are encouraged to sign up for program reviews; it is a great way to learn about the individual programs and the providing agency.

Ms. Archer stated a request to participate in the Mental Health State review of applications was sent out to all MHASAB voting members. The applications are fee for service and include Mental Health Association, Saint Clare's, and Community Hope. The review of applications will be held virtually on July 30, 2021. Each applicant will have a half-hour to present their program to the Review Committee and have time for a question and answer session; then, the Review Committee will discuss and provide recommendations to the State.

The township of Butler is hosting a Community Wellness event on Sunday, July 11, 2021, from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Butler Library in the parking lot, and Hope One will be there.

Community Development's COVID-19 CDBG CV2 and CDBG CV3 applications for funding were processed. As a result, we were able to give funding to all agencies that applied. These new programs will fill gaps in services in the community that those providers saw a need.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

Funding – Ms. Amy Archer

Our Funding Review Committee will meet in person this year to review Grant-In-Aid and Chapter 51 funding streams. This meeting will be on Thursday, September 2, 2021. Meeting details and materials will be sent out soon.

Planning – no report

Legislative/Advocacy – no report

County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (CASS) – no report

VII. Joint PAC Report – no report

VIII. HSAC Report – Ms. Linda Csengeto

In 31 of 39 townships, the Municipal Alliances do substance use prevention programs, such as DARE, Project Graduation, etc. CASS (County Alliance Steering Subcommittee) oversees the Municipal Alliances. They are looking for people for their board.

Ms. Catherine Connelly, United Way, presented on ALICE (Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed workers/residents). All results are on the website – UnitedforAlice.org. These are low-income workers who are having trouble making ends meet. The United Way is using ALICE data to bring attention to this matter.

HSAC Site Reviews will be virtual again this year.

Navigating Hope Van visited Victory Gardens when a need was brought to their attention and highlighted in the needs assessment focus groups.

IX. Old Business – no report

X. New Business

Ms. Caroline Bailey stated that Proventions is Key has a Youth Mentorship Program. This program is for any youth affected by opioid use, whether in the home or at school. If you want more information, don't hesitate to contact me at 973.830.7730 or Cbailey@mcpiik.org.

Ms. Bailey announced that Brenda T. is the Social Support Coordinator for Morris County Division of Public Health. She has created a manual to provide informational resources for COVID exposed and COVID positive residents. For more information or a copy of the manual, don't hesitate to contact me at 973.830.7730 or Cbailey@mcpik.org.

XI. Public Comment

XII. Adjourn Open Session

Motion to adjourn the open session of this meeting made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Ms. Csengeto. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.

XIII. Municipal Alliance Closed Session

Municipal Alliance Funding Closed Session (moved to the end of the meeting)
A motion was made by Mr. Benson and seconded by Ms. Csengeto to begin a closed session. There were no abstentions and no opposition. Motion carried.

The board closed the open portion of the meeting under P.L. 1975 Ch. 231 of the Open Public Meetings Act at 5:56 pm.

Return to Meeting

The meeting reopened at 6:08 pm. No one reentered the meeting.

Actions Resulting from Closed Session

Mr. Chernick stated the CASS met, reviewed, and approved all the funding applications. Funding is for the Fiscal Year 2022 (from July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022). The record reflects that the board voted to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Alliance funding in the closed session. Therefore, we need a motion in an open session of the same.

As discussed in the closed session, Ms. Csengeto motioned to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Alliance funding recommendations. Ms. Garodnick seconded the motion. All were in favor with three abstentions and no opposition. Motion carried.

Mr. Chernick adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Marie Hess
Clerk II