

**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

*Director*

Stephen H. Shaw

*Deputy Director*

Deborah Smith

Douglas R. Cabana

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John Krickus

Thomas J. Mastrangelo

Tayfun Selen



*County Administrator*  
John Bonanni

*Department Director*  
Katharine A. Errico  
973.285.6863

*Deputy Director*  
Gary L. Denamen  
973326.7240

*Division Director*  
Amy Archer  
973-285-6852

**MENTAL HEALTH ADDICTION SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (MHASAB)**  
**Thursday, November 18, 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 5:22 pm. A quorum was not established, and Attendance was as follows:

**Board Members:**

Gregg, Benson, Citizen Representative

Chris Chernick, Citizen Representative – Chair

Linda Csengeto, Citizen Representative

Julian Hill, Esq., Morris County Prosecutor's Office

Alton, Robinson, Community Recovery Center of Morris County

Erica Valvano, Morris County Sherriff's Office

Chelsea Whiting, Morris County Sherriff's Office

**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

Rosalyn Suarez, Morris County Human Services

**Others in Attendance:**

Martha Seidenfeld, Morris County Probation

**II. Approval of October 14, 2021 Minutes**

It was tabled until the next meeting, lack of a quorum.

**III. Chair Report – Mr. Chernick**

The Nominating Committee will convene before the next meeting, January 13, 2022, to discuss and then present the nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair.

**IV. NJ Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services – Ms. Eileen Alexander  
Request for Proposals**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES Community Support Services for Individuals in Need of Community Support Services in Gloucester, Cape May and Salem Counties TAKE NOTICE that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5 and 34.6, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) hereby announces the availability of the grant program funds described herein. Program Name: Community Support Services (CSS) for Individuals in Need of Community Support Services in Gloucester, Cape May, and Salem Counties Purpose: This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) for the provision of CSS to adults age 18 and over who reside or wish to reside in Cape May, Gloucester, or Salem Counties. The CSS will ensure that the services provided ensure diversity, inclusion, equity, and cultural and linguistic competence to the target population. Specifically, the DMHAS seeks proposals to develop CSS to serve individuals who meet CSS criteria and reside or wish to reside in Cumberland, Gloucester, or Salem counties. Many of these individuals also have co-existing medical conditions and/or co-occurring substance use disorders, have experienced periods of long-term institutionalization, and/or are reluctant to leave the hospital.

The DMHAS is seeking to develop new CSS opportunities for a minimum of twenty (20) individuals. DMHAS funding and capacity will be allocated as follows, based on the relative census of each county:

**County Funding Capacity**

- Cape May \$100,000 4
- Gloucester \$325,000 13
- Salem \$75,000 3
- TOTAL \$500,000 Total capacity 20

Available Funding Amount: DMHAS will initiate a deficit-funded contract, subject to State appropriations. This cost-based contract's annualized funding amount is up to \$500,000, subject to State appropriations. Please check on the DMHAS website for additional information. [www.state.nj.us/humanservices](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices)

**DMHAS Contracting**

• **Calendar Year Contract Renewals**

Morris Friedman, DMHAS CFO, sent out a memo to all Calendar Year contracted agencies about the renewal process. Contracts are due November 1.

- **Year-End Modification Requests**

As a reminder, all year-end modification requests are due to the Division of Mental Health and Addictions Services by *November 30, 2021*. Modification requests received after December 1, 2021, will not be approved unless it is critical to direct services affecting clients and will be approved on a case by case basis.

### **Information sharing**

- Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order No. 271, which requires new and potential state contractors to demonstrate that all of their employees who enter, work at, or provide services in any state agency location are fully vaccinated or otherwise undergo weekly testing.
- CSS (Community Support Services) providers:
  - A letter went out on October 25 to all CSS providers explaining that CSS terminations will now be submitted through DMHAS CSIS (Community Service Information System). DMHAS asks that you identify no more than three individuals from your agency who will be completing these terminations and submit those names by November 1. To Diana Gittens ([Diana.Gittens@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:Diana.Gittens@dhs.nj.gov))
- CSS Training- Rutgers School of Health Professionals
  - A **remote Documentation Training** is scheduled on Tuesday 11/16 & 11/23 from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. This training is for licensed staff who complete the RNA and IRP.
  - CSS webinar, *Behavioral Addictions or Problem Behaviors*, will be held on Friday, November 12, 2021 – 9:30 -11 am
  - Providers could email [shelley.buchbinder@rutgers.edu](mailto:shelley.buchbinder@rutgers.edu) for the link for each training if the information were not received from Rutgers.

## **V. Staff Reports**

### **Municipal Alliance Coordinator – Mr. Nebesni**

Fiscal Year (FY)2023 funding will be the same as FY2022 if we do not lose or gain Alliances.

All FY2022 reporting forms have been compiled and mailed out to the Alliances.

FY2021 will be closed out shortly.

### **Addictions Services Coordinator – Ms. Suarez**

The Contract Information Management System (CIMS) application was submitted on October 29, 2021, for Chapter 51 Funding for 2022.

We are awaiting approval of the 2022 Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) application and award letter from the State.

The next Opioid Task Force meeting will be Tuesday, January 11, 2022, @ 10:00 am via Microsoft Teams.

The cut-of date for vouchers to be paid in 2021 is December 8<sup>th</sup>. All 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter vouchers for 2021 are due via email on Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

#### **Mental Health Administrator – Ms. Archer**

Ms. Archer will send an email requesting the MHASAB's participation in the State Mental Health Contract Review process. In addition, there will be provider presentations, giving the review committee a better understanding of the application and an opportunity to ask questions. The review committee will then draft a letter with recommendations and concerns to the State.

The Division is in the middle of the 2022 funding process. Award and Declinations letters were sent out, and contract signing is scheduled for the middle of December.

Ms. Lynne Chandler, St. Clare's Behavioral Health, is retiring after 42 years of service. She will be honored and celebrated at the next Professional Advisory Committee Meeting on Friday, December 3, 2021.

Morris County Office of Community Development has posted a Request for Application (RFA) for PY2022 HUD Funding. Applications are due January 7, 2022 by 4:00pm.

### **VI. Subcommittee Reports**

**Funding** – no report

**Planning** – no report

**Legislative/Advocacy** – no report

Mr. Robinson mentions a legislative push for harm reduction, Fentanyl test strips, safe injection sites, & needle exchange. Discussion ensued.

#### **County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (CASS) – Mr. Nebesni**

The next meeting will be Thursday, December 2, 2021, @ 10:00 am via Webex Meetings.

### **VII. Joint PAC Report – Ms. Archer**

The next meeting will be Friday, December 3, 2021.

A Workforce Work Group was formed to address the issues surrounding the lack of staffing in the Behavioral Health community.

### **VIII. Human Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) Report – Ms. Csengeto**

**Needs Assessment** – Ms. McEniry discussed that they are still checking with the State for more information. Rebecca Sherrod will chair this committee.

**Homeless Trust Fund** – Mr. Jeff Bashe led a discussion (with input from Blair Wilson, Habitat for Humanity, and Russ Hall, COC) on developing a Homeless Trust Fund in Morris Co. to end homelessness. He requested that HSAC send a letter of support. The money would be obtained from fees at the County Clerk's office on every document recorded. They are trying to get the topic on the Commissioners Agenda.

**NJ Dept. of Children and Families** – Statistics on cases were provided with 7 CWS cases open in Morris West Office last month and 90 CPS cases. In the Morris East Office, there were 69 CPS cases and 9 CWS new cases.

**Staff Reports** – Ms. Archer discussed the topic of the shortage of staff at many agencies and that PAC is developing a workgroup to study this.

Ms. Carter reported that information is available for working with Afghan refugees.

**Childcare** – CFR is currently looking to host a virtual job fair for childcare centers. The fair is on November 17. This is for Morris Co. Childcare Centers.

**Workforce Development Board** – Ms. Armstrong provided statistics on August 2021, Unemployment and Labor Force for MSW.

There was discussion on people needing jobs that pay more to reside in Morris Co.

**MSW HIV Advisory Committee/EIRC Report** – Mr. Robert Armstrong reported HIV statistics, definitions, and acronyms –

### Definitions

**Prevalence** is the proportion of a particular population affected by a medical condition at a specific time.

**Incidence:** refers to the number of individuals who develop a specific medical condition during a particular time.

### Global

People living with HIV (PLWH) in 2020: 37.7 million  
United States

People living with HIV today: approximately 1.2 million

Approximately 13% of PLWH don't know it and need testing

HIV has a disproportionately significant impact on minorities and men who have sex with men (MSM)

New HIV infections (HIV incidence): 34,800 in 2019; this declined 8% since 2015 and has been in decline since 1998

## **New Jersey**

People living with HIV: 37,801

Prevalence of PLWH in 2018: 419.7 (per 100,000 people)

Morris County

People living with HIV at the end of 2018: 873

People living with HIV in June of 2020: 851

Prevalence of PLWH in 2018: 174.7 (per 100,000 people)

### **Some HIV acronyms**

**U=U:** Undetectable equals Untransmutable; an undetectable viral load (or amount of virus) in the bloodstream, according to a blood test, renders that person unable to transmit the HIV to another person through sexual contact. Therefore, viral suppression from daily HIV medication adherence is a critical strategy in ending the HIV epidemic

**EHE:** End the HIV Epidemic

**PrEP:** Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis; adhering to an HIV medication regimen before being exposed to the risk of being infected with HIV to avoid HIV infection

**PEP:** Post Exposure Prophylaxis; adhering to an HIV medication regimen after being exposed to the risk of being infected with HIV to avoid HIV infection

**Advisory Committee on Women** – their strategic focus for the next three years concentrates on Housing and Healthcare.

**IX. Old Business** – no comment

**X. New Business**

Ms. Csengeto mentioned the article in the Daily Record about ModivCare, formerly known as, Logisticare. The state's non-emergency medical transportation provider. Discussion ensued.

**XI. Open to the Public** – no Comment

**XII. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Csengeto and seconded by Mr. Hill. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Marie Hess  
Clerk II