

Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory Board (MHASAB)

MEETING – January 10, 2019 – 1 Medical Dr., Morris Plains

Members Present:

Charlie Berman, The Willow Tree
Chris Chernick, Citizen Representative
Linda Csengeto, MCOTA
Aura Kenny Dunn, Citizen Representative
Cheryl Garodnick, Citizen Representative
Julian Hill, MCPO
Margaret Himsl, NJ Friendship House
Marcy McMann, Citizen Representative
LaJuan Tucker, MCPO
Barbara Ward, Citizen Representative

Also Attending:

Eileen Alexander, DMHAS
Lynne Chandler, Saint Clare's Behavioral Health
Shade Cronan, Zufall Health Center
Valerie Fox, Public
Kayleigh Hayford, Student, Centenary
Jane Shivas, Project Self Sufficiency
Sharon Yoo, Legal Services of NW Jersey

Staff in Attendance:

Laurie Becker, MCDHS
Beth Jacobson, MCDHS
Pat Mocarski, MCDHS

I. Call to Order and Approval of November 8 minutes

Ms. Marcy McMann, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m. Mr. Julian Hill made a motion to approve the November 8 minutes and Ms. LaJuan Tucker seconded the motion. All were in favor with no abstentions and no opposition. Motion carried.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. McMann welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

III. Chair Report – Ms. McMann

The board orientation will be at the next meeting.

Ms. Becker stated that at the next meeting we will be welcoming four new members. The Greystone CEO has been invited to come and give an update on Greystone and status of all.

2019 Chair and Vice Chair – Vote

Ms. Becker reported that Mr. Benson has to rotate off the board due to term expiration. Therefore, Ms. McMann has agreed to continue as Chair. There were two offers for Vice Chair, Ms. Garodnick and Mr. Chernick. Motion made to reelect Ms. McMann as Chair and Mr. Chernick as Vice Chair with Ms. Garodnick to be Alternate Vice Chair. Motion seconded by Ms. Barb Ward. All in favor with one abstention and no opposition. Motion carried.

IV. Presentation on Legal Services NWJ Report: HEAL (Health, Education and Legal) program and 2019 DMHAS Contracted Services

Ms. Becker stated that Legal Services and St. Clare's State contracts have been drafted. Ms. Sharon Yoo, Legal Services of NW Jersey and Lynne Chandler of Saint Clare's were in attendance to provide an overview of state contracted services.

The Legal Services covers 5 counties and offers a range of legal services, from disability cases, to helping the homeless, to supporting the community and providing representation at commitment hearings.

Studies show that 71% of low-income households face one legal problem. When they have legal representation, they do better. In 2018, there were 1,666 Morris County cases. They helped 2,510 people. There were 46% that had a mental health diagnosis and 87% that achieved their legal goal (avoid homelessness or freedom from domestic violence).

Through the State Mental Health grant, they help mental health consumers. They had 250 cases in 2018 (144 from Morris County). They also help consumers in other counties. These services include help for anyone facing housing evictions, benefits, SSI disability, etc. This is a broad grant covering many areas. The primary criteria is that the person has to self-identify. They have had this grant for twenty years.

Legal Services has a Protective Services grant and assists seniors and individuals with disabilities to help them remain in the community. Legal Services provided 336 hours of legal assistance to seniors and disabled.

A total of 482 people were provided with legal representation at involuntary commitment hearings. Ms. Becker said that Legal Services is the County's public defender at Greystone Hospital for commitment hearings as well at other hospitals. Legal Services also represents adults at outpatient commitment hearings. Connecting services and treating the whole person is important. Legal Services helps the person successfully reenter the community. They also provide legal assistance to seniors (those 60 and over), with 518 hours of legal assistance provided to seniors in 2018.

Ms. Yoo and Ms. Shade Cronan, Zufall Health Center, also provided an update on the county funded Health, Education and Legal (HEAL) partnership program.

The HEAL program is a collaboration between Zufall and Legal Services. Many of the patients served at Zufall also need basic needs assistance and are struggling with a mental health and/or addiction disorder. HEAL served 63 patients in 2018.

Ms. Shade reported that Zufall is a federally qualified health center offering medical, dental and behavioral health services. They serve all and do not turn anyone away. It is known that many people have legal situations that effect their health. HEAL is a great partnership. They have a part time case manager that connects patients to the team and determines their eligibility for the program. They are happy this program will continue into 2019 and hope to increase number of cases. Ms. Yoo said this is a population that had been difficult to reach. Ms. Becker said the County is pleased to support this partnership.

Ms. Chandler, Saint Clare's, handed out information on Saint Clare's Behavioral Health Center in Denville. They have a full continuum of community- based services. There are orientation and training programs for staff. Saint Clare's provides evidence-based treatment.

Through the screening services, Saint Clare's sees about 4,500 people a year. They see recurring people in the Emergency Room that are medically compromised. Treatment outcomes are very good and show more than a twenty percent reduction of recidivism to the hospital.

Saint Clare's Enhanced Outpatient Program is able to see people right away (within 24 hours). They have thirty groups available that meet each week. The reduction in hospital rates is good. This program sees about 200 people a year.

The state funds the Intensive Family Support Program. The program provides free services to families in the county, including educational programs and respite activities. There are LCADCs in every level of care. Staff is always provided with education and enhancing services. There is a special project with Rutgers to enhance the skills of staff and work with the co-occurring population. Saint Clare's is Stigma Free.

Community Support Services is based on a psychiatric rehab model to help individuals with mental illness live successfully in the community. This had been the Supportive Housing Program.

Saint Clare's appreciates the support of the county and state to provide many needed services. Ms. Becker said many providers had a hard time with the changes due to fee-for-service. Ms. Chandler said things are going well with fee-for-service. They have a strong finance team that has helped them through this transition.

Ms. Becker thanked the presenters. She asked for a motion to provide support letters for both these state contracts. Ms. Barb Ward made a motion to provide support letters for the Legal Services and Saint Clare's 2019 DMHAS contracts. Mr. Charlie Berman seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried with no opposition and two abstentions.

V. Subcommittee Reports

Funding

Ms. Becker said that at the next meeting there will be an orientation and review some of the changes in regard to programs funded. Ms. McMann said that she encourages all to attend and

see the new funding information. At the next meeting, we will also pass around subcommittee signup sheets.

Planning

Ms. Jacobson submitted the 2020 – 2023 County Comprehensive Plan for Morris County to DMHAS on December 31, 2018. She distributed the Executive Summary. The plan provides a framework for the delivery of substance use and co-occurring services across the entire continuum of care. This includes the domains of prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery supports. Ms. Jacobson will share the full plan for review and approval in the upcoming months, and encouraged members to sign up for the planning subcommittee at the next meeting.

Legislative/Advocacy – Ms. Laurie Becker

The first planning meeting for the Annual Consumer & Family Forum will be in February. She is proposing the MHASAB consider bringing it back to its original purpose. The reason the forum began was to address a responsibility in the Community Mental Health Act, where Mental Health boards were obligated to have one meeting annually to gain consumer input on service needs. Discussion ensued about changing the format and simplifying the event to focus more on the public hearing portion of the evening. Initial response is that the public forum in its current format is beneficial and an event that many look forward to every year. Anyone interested in being part of the Planning Committee, please contact Ms. Becker.

County Alliance Steering Committee – No Report

VI. State Liaison Reports – Ms. Eileen Alexander (written report provided)

Medicaid:

Molina Medicaid Solutions is now known as DXC Technology. This change is the result of DXC Technology’s acquisition of Molina Medicaid Solutions. DXC Technology is in the process of replacing the Molina name with the DXC Technology name. Telephone contact information will not change. E-mail addresses will change later.

This transition shall have no impact on your current ability to access the NJMMIS online portal, access to on-line eligibility information and your normal claims processing activities. The weekly payment schedule shall not be interrupted due to the transition.

If you have any questions concerning this Medicaid Alert, please contact DXC Technology Provider Services at 1-800-776-6334.

CSS:

In the 12/12/18 bi-weekly CSS call, agencies were instructed to seek approval from their program analyst before submitting an enrollment/admission form to the IME for an initiative change. Agencies should provide the following information to the analyst as part of the approval process:

- the agency name where the transfer is taking place;
- the consumer’s name

- the level of care (program) she/he is in; and
- the level of care (program) she/he is moving to.

DMHAS Staffing Changes:

Please welcome 22nd Century Staff, Caroline Brennan and Raoul Bhatta, to the Office of Planning, Research, Evaluation and Prevention (PREP).

Caroline is a Grants Manager who is overseeing the overall project management for the State Targeted Opioid Response Initiative (STORI) grant. Raoul Bhatta joins PREP as a Health Data Specialist 2 for the Prevent Drug Overdose (PDO) grant. He will provide public health analysis to the Regional Operations and Intelligence Center (ROIC) on the Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) project. Primarily, he will focus on identifying and addressing “Hot Spots” of opioid overdoses across the state. He has also been tasked to develop ROIC’s intelligence functionality. He will also present such analysis to DMHAS to continue to build our unit’s prevention capacities state-wide and inform our system partners at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School as to needed areas for Naloxone training and kit distribution.

Please welcome 22nd Century Staff, Chelsey Hoelz to the Office of Treatment and Recovery Supports/Housing Unit. Chelsey will be working on the DMHAS Rental Subsidy Program.

New RFP’s:

Division/ Office	Title of Request for Proposal (RFP)	Mandatory Conference Date	Notify Date
DMHAS	Designated Screening Services Passaic County	Mandatory Bidder’s Conference January 14, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.	March 18, 2019
DMHAS	Community Peer Recovery Center	No Mandatory Bidder’s Conference	February 1, 2019
DMHAS	Support Team for Addiction Recovery (STAR) Program	No Mandatory Bidder’s Conference	February 1, 2019
DMHAS	Alternative Approaches to Pain Management for Older Adults	No Mandatory Bidder’s Conference	February 1, 2019

Passaic Screening:

- January 2, 2019 Notice of Funding Availability
- January 14, 2019 Mandatory Bidders Conference
- February 11, 2019 Deadline for receipt of proposals - no later than 4:00 p.m.
- March 18, 2019 Preliminary award announcement
- March 25, 2019 Appeal deadline
- April 1, 2019 Final award announcement
- April 30, 2019 Initiation of Contracts with Awardee
- May 1, 2019 Ninety (90) Day Program Phase-In Period Commences
- August 1, 2019 Anticipated program start date

Total annualized funding subject to State appropriations is allocated as follows: Passaic County –\$1,880,235.

Community Peer Recovery Center:

- December 14, 2018 Notice of Funding Availability
- January 11, 2019 Deadline for receipt of proposals - no later than 4:00 p.m.
- February 1, 2019 Preliminary award announcement
- February 8, 2019 Appeal deadline
- February 15, 2019 Final award announcement
- March 8, 2019 Anticipated contract start date

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to develop regional Community Peer Recovery Centers (CPRC). Funding is available for FFY 2019 and may be available for FFY 2020. Total annualized funding is \$300,000 subject to federal appropriations. DMHAS anticipates making up to three (3) awards in the amount of \$100,000 each.

Support Team for Addiction Recovery:

- December 7, 2018 Notice of Availability of Funds
- January 8, 2019 Deadline for receipt of proposals – no later than 4:00 p.m.
- February 1, 2019 Preliminary award announcement
- February 8, 2019 Appeals deadline
- February 15, 2019 Final award announcement
- March 8, 2019 Anticipated award start date

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to develop Support Teams for Addiction Recovery (STAR) to provide case management and recovery support services for individuals with opioid use disorders (OUD). Funding is available for FFY 2019 and may be available for FFY 2020. Total annualized funding for this RFP is \$700,000 subject to federal appropriations. DMHAS anticipates making two (2) awards of approximately \$350,000 each. One (1) award will be

made in two (2) of the following counties that are high risk for opioid overdoses: Burlington, Morris, Passaic and Union.

Alternative Approaches for Pain Management for Older Adults:

- December 6, 2018 Notice of Funding Availability
- January 8, 2019 Deadline for receipt of proposals - no later than 4:00 p.m.
- February 1, 2019 Preliminary award announcement
- February 8, 2019 Appeal deadline
- February 15, 2019 Final award announcement
- March 8, 2019 Anticipated contract start date

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 educational programs regarding Alternative Approaches to Pain Management for Older Adults. Funding is available for FFY 2019 and may be available for FFY 2020. Total annualized funding is \$375,000 subject to Federal appropriations. DMHAS anticipates making up to five (5) awards of \$75,000 each.

Contracts were awarded to establish five (5) educational programs from an Alternative Approaches to Pain Management for Older Adults RFP issued in October 2017. This RFP is for five new educational programs from organizations that did not receive an award from the RFP issued in October 2017.

VII. Staff Reports

Municipal Alliance Coordinator –

Ms. Jacobson said they are continuing to work on getting a replacement for Mr. Nebesni.

Addictions Services Administrator – Ms. Beth Jacobson

They received the approval on the 2019 DMHAS Contract. Chapter 51 contracts will be signed and executed with the Grant-in-Aid contracts at the end of January, and subgrant packages will go out at the beginning of February.

Mental Health Administrator – Ms. Laurie Becker

- Ms. Becker reported that Sheriff Gannon is rolling out Hope One expansion services. The Police Assisted Addiction Recovery Initiative (PAARI) model will be rolling out soon. This model is similar to the Angel program in Sussex County. Hope One has been awarded a federal grant of over \$332,000 by the US Bureau of Justice. The two (2) year competitive grant is to plan, develop and implement comprehensive efforts to identify, respond to, treat, and support those impacted by the opioid epidemic. Hope One, which offers critical in-the-field support for persons struggling with addiction, has made over 5,000 contacts since its inception.

This Comprehensive Opioid Abuse program will help roll out the PAARI. Police Departments will be in a position to offer treatment and recovery services to folks requesting help. If an individual comes in the Police Station, asks for help and has drugs,

he/she will not be arrested. Instead, the police officer will have the resources to get the person to services. PAARI will start with a few police departments. On January 29 at 10:00 a.m. at the Office of Emergency Management, the Sheriff will talk to Providers about this program. All are invited.

- Project Homeless Connect will be on January 24 at St. Peter's Church in Morristown. Ms. Becker will send out the information. There will be many giveaways (food, clothing and gift cards). Providers will attend and there will be various services offered. The opening ceremony is at 9:00 a.m. and the event starts begins at 10:00 a.m.
- Ms. Mary Jane Melo got a Proclamation from the Freeholders in recognition of her 25 years of service on the MHASAB and the HSAC. The Proclamation was a surprise to her and she was very pleased. Her family, friends, Board Chair and Human Services staff attended.

VIII. Joint PAC Report – Ms. Lynne Chandler

Mr. Carmine Deo was voted as Co-Chair. He will be here at the next board meeting. They talked about the three new initiatives in the County. New Bridge is expanding; NJAS got a new grant for the LBGTQ population; and MHA will provide case management and outreach to those that do not meet the ICM criteria. It was suggested that NJAS come and speak about their new LBGTQ program. The MHASAB approved the funding for this new program, EDGE, created to help end discrimination and gain equality.

The NJ Child System Case representative was there. They will be restructuring their team and there is a new Deputy Director. There is an increased focus on substance abuse.

There was an update on Managed Medicaid regarding denials to detox. DMHAS stepped in to rectify the situation. They checked with Ms. Susanne Graham to see if there have been any updates/changes. She reported that of six requests most are approved. At times one request is denied. Most denials are overturned.

IX. HSAC Report -

There was a State Department of Human Services Budget Listening Session Dec. 5 in Trenton. Advisory Member Tom Pepe attended and gave testimony on some of the HSAC's concerns, in summary, related to:

- Broadening support via Social Services for the Homeless (SSH) administered under the Division of Family Development for more emergency services/shelters funding inclusive of Code Blue.
- The increased need for fee-for-services rates for mental health.
- With possible legalization of marijuana - the Department of Human Services was encouraged to not only monitor, but also give strong consideration to the consequence of increased public access to legal cannabis use, calling for a response from the field of addiction medicine. Should New Jersey legalize marijuana, it will be necessary for DHS to proactively account for an increased

need for addiction services across the spectrum of prevention, treatment and ancillary services.

- In terms of childcare and early childhood education - though pleased with recent increases to NJ Childcare subsidy rates, increases fall significantly short of the true cost of care/education. To help close the gap between the true cost of care and the state's subsidy more resources are needed to ensure our neediest children access quality care.

Fliers and emails were distributed to ensure modest income residents are aware of NJ Family Care, a publicly funded health insurance program, which includes CHIP, Medicaid and Medicaid expansion populations. This means qualified NJ residents of any age may be eligible for free or low cost health insurance that covers doctor visits, prescriptions, vision, dental care, mental health and substance use services and even hospitalization. For additional information, call 1-800-701-0710.

November is National Adoption Month. There was a celebration last week in Ledgewood. Six children were adopted that day. Lunch was served and there were games and prizes.

Ms. Becker asked if Ms. Shivas would give the HSAC report in the future since she is a HSAC Advisory member.

X. Old Business

Ms. Tucker asked that the minutes from the last meeting be amended to reflect that she was not in attendance; therefore, she could not make the motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Linda Csengeto made a motion to amend the motion and to use her name instead in the motion to approve the minutes.

XI. New Business

Ms. Becker stated that she has a copy of the Greystone lawsuit. She had a conference call from Anne Portis of the NJ Division of Mental Health Advocacy. This will be a topic of discussion for 2019 and the county will partner with the state to improve services. The lawsuit is public.

Ms. Himsl said that it seemed like after the last update on Greystone things were improving. Ms. Becker said that Ms. Tamika Carter will be here in Feb. to give us further information on Greystone. Ms. Yoo said she goes to Greystone for the commitment hearings and the patients tell her a lot while she is there. She thinks that since Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital and developmental centers have closed, many of these individuals now at Greystone are not being provided with the accommodations needed.

Ms. Yoo said psychiatrists have to testify at commitment hearings and there is a shortage of psychiatrists. She thinks that increased staffing would be a big help to remediate safety and treatment issues. She said that when she is there it is often hard to find staff. When the psychiatrists started to leave and there was a huge shortage of staff, many bad things happened within months. Ms. Becker stated that salaries of psychiatrists has been increased so the hope is this will encourage additional psychiatrists to come on board.

XII. Open to the Public

Ms. Fox expressed that she and her peers enjoy the annual public forum, and she hopes it will stay in a similar format. It is a social and educational event. Families are invited. She thinks more providers should attend. Consumers look forward to this each year. She agrees that it would be good to have designated time for providers to answer questions.

Some discussion ensued regarding care by an APN versus a psychiatrist. With the shortage of psychiatrists, Ms. Fox has been seeing an APN. She feels the APN is adequate but not the same as having a psychiatrist, especially if the person is struggling.

XIII. Adjourn –

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. LaJuan Tucker. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.