

ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

THIRD QUARTER 2018

MORRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

The Mental Health Addictions Services Advisory board reported that 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. A light supper will be served. Personal recovery stories will be told and awards given for advocacy in the field.

The Morris County Request for Funding Application (RFA) Announcement went out to providers on May 30. An Application must be submitted to be considered for 2019 funding for Child Abuse Prevention, Social Services for the Homeless, Grant-in-Aid, Grant-in-Aid Senior Support and Area Plan Contract Funding. RFA application package can be accessed on line at <https://hs.morris.countynj.gov>. The package contains detailed information regarding the application process, including funding priority summaries and instructions for completing the RFA. Applications are due June 29.

There was a Community Based Funding Information Session held on June 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Morris County Public Safety Academy. While this session was not mandatory, potential applicants were strongly encouraged to attend. There was a good turnout with about 73 in attendance.

At the Human Services Advisory meeting, Sheriff Gannon gave an update on the HOPE 1 Mobile Outreach. In April 2017, HOPE 1 began its first outreach with the goal of engaging hard to reach individuals into recovery services. HOPE 1 is a van that goes out to the community to help link clients to services. The Sheriff's Office removed police loges and government plates to make the van appear more approachable. The van goes to various locations in the county such as the soup kitchen, community events, strip malls, etc. and helps bring additions services and education to potential clients, family, others. The Sheriff's office staffs the vehicle two days a week with plain-clothed police officers, a CARES person and Mental Health Association personnel. Other treatment providers are also at the table. They have connected with over 3,250 people since they started. The van enables potential clients, family and friends to have a cup of coffee, talk and get connected with services.

Ms. Carpinteri, Director of Human Services, reported that the grand opening of the new Veterans Services Office and Veterans Administration Clinic was held on June 6 at Morris View Healthcare Center. It is three times larger than the county's former Veterans Services/VA Clinic quarters in the nearby Human Services building. The new center has a meeting room and space where veterans can congregate and socialize while waiting for appointments. There is also much more room for enhanced programs.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY HIV PREVENTION

The following training opportunities are available through Rutgers HIV Prevention CPSDI:

- 7/11/18 – WEBINAR, 12:30 PM: U=U: A Revolutionary Approach to HIV Prevention
- 7/19-7/20/18 – Motivational Interviewing Training
- 7/23-7/24/18 – Social Networks Strategies Training
- 8/7-8/9/18 – Effective Facilitation Skills Training
- 9/11-9/12/18 – Transgender Issues Training

To register, go to: <http://hiv.rutgers.edu/training/>

PLANNING COUNCIL

Planning Council support staff participated in National AIDS Walk 2018 sponsored by NJCRI. It was a day of remembrance for all those that have succumbed to the disease, and those that are currently living with the disease. Planning Council support staff have a table of information about the Planning Council and also used this opportunity for recruitment purposes for Consumers as well as providers.

Planning Council – Conversations Involvement Committee met on April 25th 2018 at Willing Heart Community Center in Newark, participated in the Priority Setting Allocation Process for The Comprehensive Planning Committee, this meeting was attended by Consumers from the NEMA network representing Essex, Union, Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties. The meeting sought input from consumers about what core and support funded services by Ryan White should be given priority ranking and what consumers would like to see funded that is currently not funded by Ryan White. Housing was ranked the most essential of all the services listed. Also Planning Council Support Staff collected forty-two consumer surveys that will be incorporated into the 2018 Needs Assessment.

We are recruiting consumers and providers for the Planning Council and their sub committees. Please contact Terrisa Lindo at terrisa.lindo@uwguc.org or (908) 353-7171 ext. 137.

FAMILY HEALTH CENTER

EVENTS

The Family Health Center Counseling, Testing and Referral Department is having a Private Prevention Party for invited clients and their guests on Wednesday, June 27th at 6:00pm at 200 South Street.

ZUFALL HEALTH CENTER

PROGRAM UPDATE

There is an ophthalmologist available for uninsured patients two Fridays per month.

Legal Services of Northwest Jersey partnership model recognizes that medical wellness and recovery can be negatively impacted by social factors, such as lack of adequate income, lack of safe housing, and lack of sufficient medical insurance or other third-payer assistance. A 2015 survey of medical-legal partnerships found that patients who received legal assistance reported improved access to housing and utilities, personal and family stability, and income and insurance needs. While there are almost 300 medical-legal partnerships nationwide involving hospitals, health centers, schools, legal services organizations, and law schools, HEAL is the first medical-legal partnership focused solely on the needs of people of limited means residing in Morris County. HEAL will address the legal needs of Zufall's patients through a collaboration of healthcare and legal professionals. This program will be based at the Zufall Wellness Center at 85 Washington Street, Morristown. At the outset, HEAL will focus on legal issues involving housing, income maintenance and domestic abuse.

STAFFING

David Alexander is the new data analyst/quality coordinator.

EVENTS

There will be a National HIV Testing Day Event at each Zufall site on June 27th.

NEW JERSEY AIDS SERVICES

EVENTS

- Annual Fall Client Weekend Retreat: NJ AIDS Services will host their annual fall client retreat this October, 2018. For my information, please see a NJAS case manager.
- New Jersey AIDS Services continues to offer a host of recreational activities for agency clients. Please see a NJAS case manager for a list of current activities.

PROGRAM UPDATE

New LGBTQ+ services are being offered at NJ AIDS Services. This includes the following:

- LGBTQ+ Support Groups
- Mental Health Counseling for LGBTQ+ individuals and their families
- LGBTQ+ Substance Use Counseling
- Cultural Competency Trainings for Providers working with LGBTQ+ people

To refer a LGBTQ+ client for care, please contact Kelly Martins at 973-285-0006 ext. 18 or email k.martins@njas-inc.org

NJ AIDS Services continues to host the following support groups:

- Gay Men's Support: Thursdays at 11:00am
- HIV Support: Wednesdays at 12:30pm
- Relapse Prevention: Fridays at 5:00pm