

**MINUTES**  
**MORRIS COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YSAC)**  
**Morris County Human Services Building, 1 Medical Drive Morris Plains, New Jersey**  
**February 15, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Maria Augustowicz at 2:34pm. Members present:

Maria Augustowicz  
Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro  
David Haggerty  
Neville Newton  
Jim Saylor  
Jessica Mondino

Sandra Gogerty  
Beth Jacobson  
David Johnson  
Chris Mueller  
Laura Siemonsma-Bertelli  
Samantha Denegri

Guests: Eleanor Plutto, Stacy Chia, Rebecca Tritt, Michael Negast, Kristen VanEeuwen, Pritti Patel, Laura Vargas, Jennifer Amaya, Beth-Ann Vernacchio, Jennifer Brown, Warren Ververs, Nacie Arnold

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of member Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro, seconded by member Dave Johnson the committee approved the minutes of the January 18, 2018 regular meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Ellie Plutto and Rebecca Tritt, The Substance Use Navigators for Morris and Sussex Counties presented about their new position. Through CSOC they are addressing gaps and barriers for youth in the substance use system, such as despite a high amount of youth using substances, there is low utilization of inpatient beds through the state.

The committee had a discussion about the legalization of marijuana, the conversation will be continued at an AD Hoc subcommittee group tomorrow, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

Peter Mancusi from CSOC reported

- Current Acting Commissioner Christine Norbut Beyer, hoping to have her confirmed in march
- The current acting director of CSOC is Ruby Goyal-Carkeek
- There is a new team member, Gina Persson she is the Youth Ambassador, which is a new position which will be working directly with youth, mainly with FSO, to understand their voices, needs and concerns and bring them to the DCF policies.
- Rolled out phase 4 of the Promising Path Initiative. Over 10,000 people have been trained statewide
- Reissued RFP for stabilization services
- Ask that CIACCs review their list of outpatient mental health provides to make sure it is accurate. Jessica Mondino will send this list out to the committee.

**ACTION ITEMS**

There were not action items

## **STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS**

### **Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC)**

Jim Saylor reported that there were currently 4 juveniles in custody of the JJC. One family moved to a different county so that youth is no longer counted as Morris County. There are going to be some changes to the JJC residential community home however they cannot be publically announced yet.

### **Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P)**

Dave Johnston was not present but sent a report; Morris DCP&P had a total of 223 referrals: Morris East 135; 97 CPS; 38 CWS. Morris West 140; 92 CPS; 48 CWS.

### **Department of Children and Families (DCF)**

Jessica Mondino reported for Jeena Williams that there are the following RFPS and RFQS

- Request of Qualifications for Forensic Evaluation Services by Psychologists – responses accepted through 4/2/18.
- REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CRISIS STABILIZATION AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES FOR YOUTH WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AGES 11 THROUGH 15 – DUE BY 3/23/18 AT 12:00 pm.
- Request for Qualifications for the Provision of Interpreter Services - Due 4/4/18 at 12:00 pm.
- More information on the DCF website

### **Youth Services Coordinator Report**

Jessica Mondino did not have anything further to report.

### **Unified Funding**

Maria Augustowicz reported that the committee met on January 16, the RFP for Ruth Davis Drive was discussed. We will meet again on February 22 to review all of the county plans and priorities and see where there are overlaps.

### **Bridging the Gap Network**

Nacie Arnold reported the committee met on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Still analyzing and reviewing data the next meeting will be March 13 at 10am.

### **Nurtured Heart**

Nacie Arnold reported that she has held 33 Nurtured Heart Training events, training 550 community members. 22 Morris county agencies have been trained. There will be an open public training on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Stigma Free**

Beth Jacobson reported that the committee met on February 13, the main focus currently is getting schools and the faith based community involved. The next full meeting will be on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. There will be a “Language Matters” presentation on April 10<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

## **Juvenile Detention Center/Youth Shelter**

The JDC currently has ten (10) residents: ten (7) males. 4 from Morris, 1 from Sussex, 2 from Hudson, 3 Warren. 2 are sentenced.

Currently the shelter has seven (7) residents: two (2) males and five (5) females. 4 from Morris, 2 from Warren, 1 from Hudson.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

The subcommittee reports were not reported by they were handed out.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*\*All hand outs will be redistributed via e-mail.*

Christie Farber from FSO announced that they have a crew club for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 2:30 PM at 1 Medical Dr Morris Plains

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At approximately 3:34 pm, Samantha Denegri moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Mondino  
Youth Services Coordinator

*Original is signed and kept on file at the office of the Division of Community and Behavioral Health Services.*