

**MINUTES**  
**MORRIS COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YSAC)**  
**Morris County Human Services Building, 1 Medical Drive Morris Plains, New Jersey**  
**September 19, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dave Johnston at 2:38pm. Members present:

Juli Harpell-Elam  
Jackie Looby  
Neville Newton  
Margaret Pittaluga  
Dave Johnston  
Cindy Cuenca  
Beth Jacobson

Jessica Mondino  
Dave Johnson  
Kim Johnson  
Kathy Defillippo  
Sharon Yoo  
Laura Siemonsma-Bertelli  
Jeena Williams

Guests: Steve Nebesni, Kathy Acosta, Jim Mahoney, Denise Nausedas, Rebecca Tritt, Kimberly Bradey, Marveen Barnes, Alena Seekacevo, Preeti Patel, Warren Ververs, Holly Dinney, Azalia Ortiz

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of member, Juli Harpell-Elam seconded by member Jim Mahoney the committee approved the minutes of the June and July 2019 regular meetings.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Marveen Barnes from Morris County Transitional Education Center (TEC) presented about their school

- Referrals can come from probation, parents, CMO, school districts etc.
- Ages 11-21 middle and high school
- Classified and non
- Expanding to include a new program called Project Teach
  - For pregnant and parenting mothers and fathers
  - Children 6m to 2.5 years
  - Licensed child care facility
  - Will teach parenting skills
  - Connect to local resources
  - Open enrollment
  - 12 month program with staggered breaks
  - Work with sending districts and diploma come from that district

**ACTION ITEMS**

There were no action items

## **STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS**

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

No Report

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

Jeena Williams reported:

Morris East Local Office received 74 referrals

Morris West Local Office received 105 referrals

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

Providers that are contracted with DCF are offering a free training to clinicians who provide individual counseling to youth between the ages of 13-21 "I Am" curriculum to prevent human trafficking 10 week program.

Quality review and child stat update:

- Areas DCP&P needs to focus on
  - Engaging parents with complex needs
  - Bilingual substance use outpatient providers
  - Relapse prevention
  - Pulling in extended families
  - Racial disproportionality

### **Youth Services Coordinator Report**

Jessica Mondino spoke about a new vaping program. Ms. Mondino also gave the time line for the RFP award letter and contracts for 2020

### **Unified Funding**

Dave Johnston gave an overview of the unified funding group and their goals.

### **Bridging the Gap Network**

Steve Nebesni reported that the group met on 9/17 there was a presentation from legal services.

### **Nurtured Heart**

Rutgers received a 4 year grant as an extension to the nurtured heart grant to expand to focus on substance use.

### **Stigma Free**

Beth Jacobson reported the group met on 9/17

Black River Middle School in Chester talked about what they are doing in their school for stigma free. It's basically a whole curriculum that they're implementing. The group also discussed having an LGBTQ+ event in the next year or so.

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

Currently the shelter has four (4) residents: three (3) males and one (1) females. 1 Morris, 2 Sussex, and 1 from Hunterdon

The JDC currently has ten (10) Males, 9 Hudson and 1 Morris.

### **JDAI**

Jessica Mondino and Sharon Yoo spoke about the proposal that was submitted to the JJC in August.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Planning**

Met July 8, 2019

The committee approved the 2019 plan and application

Next Meeting: TBD at 10:00 a.m. at the Morris County Department of Human Services, 1 Medical

### **Systems Review**

Met on July 22, 2019

Next meeting October 28, 2019 at 9:30am at CMO, 200 Valley Rd Mt Arlington

### **Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Program**

Met September 12

Discussed and planned an upcoming training for police, fire, probation mental health and schools on the program.

Next Meeting: October 16 11:00am at the Morris County Department of Human Services, 1 Medical Dr.

### **Education Partnership**

Next Meeting: September 26, 2019 1:30pm at Department of Human Services, 1 Medical Dr.

### **Juvenile Review Committee (JRC)**

Next Meeting: Sept 26, 2019 at 9:30am at the Morris County Department of Human Services, 1 Medical Dr.

### **Developmental Disabilities Subcommittee**

Next Meeting: TBD at 2:30pm at the Morris County Department of Human Services, 1 Medical Dr.

## **NEW BUSINESS/GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Dave Johnston spoke about beginning a Substance Use subcommittee of the YSAC. A sign up sheet was sent around the group will meet to see what kind of focus and goals can be developed.

Daytop has opened a Men's Halfway House in Pittsgrove

FIS handed around flyers for their fall/winter course offerings

JBWS – October is domestic violence awareness month please contact Juli if you are interested in having any presentations, professional trainings, schools ect.

Warren from St Clares spoke about their in school program in the Denville middle schools

Probation has new phone numbers and Cindy will send them out.

Beth Jacobson announced that she would be retiring as on November 1

Deirdre's house had a corn hole tournament fundraiser that went really well. Their next fundraiser is a gold outing and their annual Gala on Nov 15.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 2:30 PM at 1 Medical Dr Morris Plains

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At approximately 3:40 pm, Dave Johnson 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.*