

COUNTY OF MORRIS

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Board of County Commissioners

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HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (HSAC)

Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 5:15 pm via Webex ONLY

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Mr. Pawelczyk, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:18 pm. A quorum was established, and attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Joann Bjornson, Family Promise

Terry Connolly, Nourish NJ

David Johnston, Deirdre O'Brien Child Advocacy Center

Kenneth Oexle, Citizen Representative

Laura O'Reilly-Stanzilis, Citizen Representative

Joseph Pawelczyk, Citizen Representative – Co-Chair

Michelle Roers, United Way of Northern New Jersey

Board Liaisons:

Yosef Hegazy, Morris County Division of Child Protection & Permanency

Christine Rivera, Morris County Division of Child Protection & Permanency

Morris County Commissioner:

Christine Myers, Morris County Deputy Director, Commissioner Liaison

Morris County Staff:

Amy Archer, Department of Human Services

Kasey Errico, Director Department of Human Services

Maria Fodali, Office of Temporary Assistance

Anna Marie Hess, Department Of Human Services

Others in Attendance:

Shayne Daly, Long Hill Township Community Services

Kam Freitas, Homeless Solutions

Wes Gaynor, Homeless Solutions

Kayla Gieger, Child & Family Resources

Jaime Gonzales, Zufall
Maria Lopez, Zufall
Marco Zelay, NJ 211

II. Approval of February 28, 2023, Minutes

Mr. Johnston motioned to approve the submitted February 28, 2023, meeting minutes, and seconded by Ms. Bjornson. All were in favor, with no opposition and two abstentions. Motion carried.

III. Open to the Public – no comment

IV. Presentation on Code Blue – Ms. Fodali, Morris County Office of Temporary Assistance (OTA), Ms. Kam Freitas, Homeless Solutions, and Mr. Wes Gaynor, Homeless Solutions

Ms. Fodali gave a PowerPoint presentation on Code Blue; see attached.

- Questions/Comments
 - Mr. Johnson, thank you for that information; there was a lot of good data. Given that the past two winters have been relatively mild, what are you contributing to the increases in Code Blue Nights? Ms. Fodali stated that there's a variety of factors that contribute to the increase in bed nights. The number of households served and the number of services provided. One of these factors is accessibility to services, and in general, there is more of a coordinated effort to provide services and get them to those in need. Ms. Bjornson added that those seeking shelter are more accepting, understanding, and given more information than in the past. Fear of staying in a shelter has changed their perspective since they can access meals, showers, and additional services.
 - Ms. Errico commented that this was a great presentation and an important one to have. Showcasing the collaborative effort that goes into the work in Morris County to address the significant challenges in the community.

V. Chair Report – Mr. Pawelczyk

- An email was sent out by Ms. Hess about a month ago describing our subcommittees, and HSAC members are encouraged to sign up for at least two subcommittees by March 17th. We still have a few members that have not done this yet. Keep in mind that we will ask for a Chair for each subcommittee. The Chair will return information to the full HSAC for further discussion, vote, etc. Please email Ms. Hess at ahess@co.morris.nj.us a.s.a.p. with the subcommittee(s) you wish to sign-up for if you haven't already.
- There will be a closed session tonight for voting members to vote on the PY2023 ESG Funding Recommendations and a subgrant modification request.

VI. New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJ DHS) – no report

**VII. New Jersey Department of Children & Families
Division of Child Protection & Permanence – Ms. Rivera**

Morris East

Criteria	February 2023
Children <5-years old, Mother <30 -years old	0
Substance abuse affected newborn cases aka Safe Care	0
New	29
Reopens	38
Active	5
CPS	67
CWS	14
Domestic Violence	17
Sex Abuse	3
Homelessness	0
SPRU	15
Spanish Speaking	1
< 90 Day Re-opens	5
Substance abuse	15
Child on Child Sex Abuse	0

Morris West

Criteria	February 2023
Children <5-years old, Mother <30 -years old	0
Substance abuse affected newborn cases aka Safe Care	2
New	36

Reopens	52
Active	9
CPS	94
CWS	22
Domestic Violence	20
Sex Abuse	7
Homelessness/ Youth Homelessness	0
SPRU	26
Spanish Speaking	15
< 90 Day Re-opens	7
Substance Use	25
Child on Child Sex Abuse	2

VIII. Staff Reports

- **Human Services – Ms. Archer**
 - Thank you to those members that attended HOME ARP Allocation Plan Stakeholders meetings. HUD has accepted the Morris County HOME ARP Allocation Plan. We will meet with our consultants in April to finalize our timeline. More information to follow.
 - The Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee (CDRS), which is made up of appointed members from all of the Morris County Municipalities, has reviewed applications, listened to the presentations, and made recommendations at a subcommittee level for all HUD Programs, including CBDG, Housing, Facilities, Improvements, and Services. These recommendations will now go to the regional committee, then the full CDRS committee, and then to the County Commissioners for final approval.