

COUNTY OF MORRIS
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
P.O. Box 900
Morristown, New Jersey 07963-0900

Board of County Commissioners

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County Administrator
Deena Leary

Department Director
Katharine A. Errico
973.285.6863

Deputy Director
Gary L. Denamen
973.285.7240

Division Director
Amy Archer
973-285-6852

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (HSAC)
Tuesday, October 24, 2023, via Webex Only
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Ms. Sherrod, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:23 pm. A quorum was established, and attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Joann Bjornson, Family Promise of Morris County
Kelly Martins, EDGE NJ
Kenneth Oexle, Citizen Representative
Laura O'Reilly-Stanzilis, FTG Wellness
Joseph Pawelczyk, Citizen Representative – Vice-Chair
Rebecca Sherrod, Child & Family Resources – Chair

Board Liaisons:

Allison Delcalzo, Atlantic Health
Sean McGinnis, MC Division of Child Protection & Permanency
Nelson Troche, NJ Department of Human Services

Morris County Staff:

Amy Archer, Division of Community & Behavioral Health
Anna Marie Hess, Division of Community & Behavioral Health

Community Members:

Shayne Daly, Township of Long Hill

II. Approval of June 27, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Ms. Bjornson motioned to approve the June 27th meeting minutes, and Ms. Martins seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no opposition and one abstention. Motion Carried.

Approval of September 26, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Ms. Sherrod motioned to approve the September 26th meeting minutes, and Ms. Bjornson seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no opposition and no abstentions. Motion carried.

III. Open to the Public

Ms. Daly, Community Services Township of Long Hill, wanted to extend my appreciation on behalf of the Township to Ms. Hellyer and MAPS. We recently lost our transportation driver, which provides our seniors and persons with disabilities to central shopping, monthly nutrition programs, and a few other things. MAPS provided a bus and a driver to keep us up and running in a matter of days.

IV. Chair Report – no report

V. New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJ DHS) – Mr. Troche

The Commissioner is reminding everyone that our Mental Health is essential during these uncertain times in the Middle East.

VI. New Jersey Department of Children & Families – no report Division of Child Protection & Permanency

Morris East Local Office

Criteria	September 2023
Children <5-years old, Mother <30 -years old	9
Substance abuse affected newborn cases aka Safe Care	2
New	40
Reopens	43
Active	10
CPS	93
CWS	9
Domestic Violence	23
Sex Abuse	10
Homelessness	7
SPRU	26
Spanish Speaking	14
< 90 Day Re-opens	9

Substance abuse	26
Child on Child Sex Abuse	1
Unaccompanied Minors	0

Morris West Local Office

Criteria	September 2023
Children <5-years old, Mother <30 -years old	6
Substance abuse affected newborn cases aka Safe Care	0
New	23
Reopens	70
Active	4
CPS	75
CWS	20
Domestic Violence	15
Sex Abuse	4
Homelessness	1
SPRU	25
Spanish Speaking	5
< 90 Day Re-opens	4
Substance abuse	17
Child on Child Sex Abuse	1
Unaccompanied Minors	0

VII. Staff Reports

A. Human Services – Ms. Hess

1. We will have a presentation from the United Way on the ALICE Program at our November 28th in-person meeting.
2. The Morris County Prosecutor's Office has partnered with the Morris County Sheriff's Office, the Hanover Township Police Department, the Morris Plains Borough Police Department, the Morris Township Police Department, and the Randolph Township Police Department in this effort to reduce abuse and misuse of pharmaceutical drugs. At its conclusion, the Morris County Prosecutor's

Office and Morris County Sheriff's Office will collect the discarded prescription drugs and properly destroy them safely and non-hazardous.

The goal of Operation Take Back is to encourage the public to anonymously turn over unused, unwanted, or expired prescription medicine for proper disposal.

During this event, satellite collection sites will be established at the following locations in Morris County from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.:

- ACME Supermarket 690 Millbrook Ave. Randolph, NJ 07869
- Shoprite of Greater Morristown 178 East Hanover Ave, Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927
- Stop and Shop Supermarket 245 Littleton Rd./US 202, Morris Plains, NJ 07950

3. Dover Preschool officially opened with a ribbon-cutting Ceremony on October 12, 2023. This is a collaboration between Cornerstone Family Programs and the Dover School District. The program is in Wharton's St. Mary's Church on Main Street. The new program offers preschool education for 60 children aged 2 ½ to 5 years. Teachers are credentialed and bi-lingual; four bright and newly furnished classrooms, a large gym, green space, and playground on site, and will offer free transportation,
4. The State is redoing its bylaws, which will affect ours. Please consider joining the bylaws subcommittee next year since changes must be made.

B. Human Services - Ms. Archer

1. The division is still working through our 2024 funding process. Our award and declination letters will be sent out in November, and then contracts will be sent out in late December.
2. Community Development is preparing for the Program Year 2024 Funding, which will be July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Applications will be posted soon.

C. Council on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans – no report

D. Workforce Development Board – see attached flyer

VIII. Old Business

- A. Ms. O'Reilly-Stanzilis asked when the HSAC get notified of the awarded 2024 GIA Funding. Ms. Archer stated, "The HSAC is not notified at this point. Suppose someone was excused from the funding review due to a conflict of interest. In that case, they will not be able to learn of the award and declinations until the information becomes public through resolution expected to be published in late November or early December."

IX. New Business – no comment

X. Subcommittee Reports

- A. Program Review – no report
- B. Planning – no report
- C. Bylaws – no report
- D. Legislative – no report

E. Nominating – Mr. Pawelczyk

1. We met on October 16th. We discussed candidates for the 2024 Chair and Vice-Chair. Please contact me at jpawelczyk@gmail.com if you are interested in being nominated or would like to nominate someone. Ms. Sherrod and Ms. Bjornson have agreed to accept their nomination as Chair and Vice-Chair. Please be advised that you can only serve three consecutive years as Chair or Vice-Chair for the HSAC. That said, Ms. Sherrod will be stepping down at the end of 2024. The full slate of nominees will be presented and voted on at the January 2024 meeting.

XI. Advisory Committee Reports

A. Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV Advisory – no report

B. Mental Health Addiction Services Advisory Committee – Ms. Archer

1. Our last meeting was on October 12, 2023, and all of our meetings for 2024 will be held in person.
2. We approved the 2024 GIA & Chapter 51 funding recommendation, and they will be presented to the Commissioners for their approval.
3. The State has issued an RFP for a 988 Mobile Crisis Outreach Response Team. The goal of the Mobile Crisis Outreach Response Team is to provide access to timely crisis intervention services, de-escalate and stabilize consumers, prevent hospitalizations, rehospitalization, incarceration, and intervention by law enforcement whenever it's safe to do so and deliver equitable behavioral crisis services to all New Jersey residents. The State will make nine awards and break them down by region. The deadline to apply is Friday, November 3rd. The MHASAB will review those applications and provide the State with a letter of recommendation and feedback. The RFP can be found on the website <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmhas/initiatives/988/>.
4. There's an exciting initiative within the Prosecutor's Office, Arrive Together. The Prosecutor's Office is looking to partner with an organization to provide mental health services for 911 calls that are police involved. The initiative pairs a law enforcement officer, trained in crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques, with a mental health professional to respond to 911 calls involving individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. Discussion ensued, and additional information will be provided when available.
5. The Community & Behavioral Health Services Division has applied for and was awarded the Disaster Response Crisis Counselors (DRCC) funding. The grant ensures a robust number of Crisis Counselors that can respond to natural and man-made disasters. The DMHAS will issue a total of up to 21 awards. Each county in NJ is eligible for one \$30,000 award. The funds benefit pre-existing DRCC Programs for recruitment, exercise drills, training activities, and engagement efforts for Crisis Counselors.

C. Advisory Committee on Women – no report

D. Youth Services Advisory Committee – no report

XII. Partnership Announcements

A. Child Care – Ms. Sherrod

1. The number of registered FCC Providers for October was 37, with two prospects.
2. **NJ DHS DFD Initiatives**
Continuing to help eligible families by covering the additional amount they may owe for fees or the difference between what the state pays and the provider charges. This assistance began in September and is now extended to December 2023. These additional payments provide up to \$300 for full-time care or \$150 for part-time care per eligible child per month on top of the childcare assistance rate paid by the state on behalf of the family:
 - a. Waiving co-payments in the state's childcare subsidy.
 - i. Increase income eligibility for the Child Care Assistance Program.
 - ii. Increase in the childcare payment rates for Family Child Care Providers and licensed Child Care Centers
3. **Thrive by Three Grant**
It will help support the development and creation of childcare, infant and toddler slots, and provide technical assistance to providers to expand childcare spaces.
4. **2023 NJ Child Care Market Rate Survey is Open**
It will help inform policy recommendations for setting provider payment rates for the Child Care Assistance Program.

B. Continuum of Care (CoC) – Ms. Delcalzo

1. We have gone through a policy review this year. There have been a number of edits, and we expect to have our final review and approvals done by November so we can start January 2024 with a strong infrastructure.
2. We are in the process of looking at the Strategic Plan Renewal for 2024 and 2025. We are trying to get this plan to the HSAC for review and feedback before it goes to the Executive Committee for final approval.
3. We will review nominations for membership to the Executive Committee at the November Meeting. We are actively recruiting for an unexpected vacancy. If anyone is interested, please email me at allison.delcalzo@atlantichhealth.org.

XIII. Adjournment

Mr. Pawelczyk made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Sherrod seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Marie Hess
Human Services Coordinator