

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

Director
Tayfun Selen

Deputy Director
John Krickus

Douglas R. Cabana
Kathryn A. DeFillippo
Thomas J. Mastrangelo
Stephen H. Shaw
Deborah Smith



County Administrator
John Bonanni

Department Director
Katharine A. Errico
973.285.6863

Deputy Director
Gary L. Denamen
973326.7240

Division Director
Amy Archer
973-285-6852

MENTAL HEALTH ADDICTION SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (MHASAB)
Thursday, August 11, 2022, 5:15 pm – In-Person/Webex Meeting
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order and Attendance

Mr. Chris Chernick, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:25 pm. A quorum was established, and attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Andrew Agliata, Citizen Representative
Caroline Bailey, Morris County Prevention is Key
Freddie Bicknese, Citizen Representative
Chris Chernick, Citizen Representative – Chair
Linda Csengeto, Citizen Representative
Heather Diamond, Center for Evaluation and Counseling
Cheryl Garodnick, Therapy Resources of Morris County – Vice-Chair
Julian Hill, Esq., Morris County Prosecutor's Office
Tracey McGuire, Citizen Representative
Robert Peluso, Citizen Representative
Alton Robinson, Community Recovery Center of Morris County
LaJuan Tucker, Esq., Morris County Prosecutor's Office
Erica Valvano, Morris County Sheriff's Office
Amy Villano, Acenda Integrated Health
Barbara Ward, Citizen Representative
Chelsea Whiting, Morris County Sheriff's Office

Board Liaisons:

Theresa Wilson, NJ DHS Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services
Michelle Borden, NewBridge Services

Others in Attendance:

Rose Brown, Mental Health Association

Morris County Staff:

Amy Archer, Morris County Human Services

Kasey Errico, Morris County Director of Human Services

Maria Fodali, Morris County Office of Temporary Assistance

Anna Marie Hess, Morris County Human Services

Stephen Nebesni, Morris County Juvenile Detention Center

Rosalyn Suarez, Morris County Human Services

II. Approval of June 9, 2022, Minutes

Mr. Chernick, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the June 9th meeting minutes distributed before the meeting. Ms. Csengeto made the motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. Hill seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no abstentions and no opposition. Motion passed.

III. Chair Report

The 2023 Grant In Aid, Chapter 51 Funding Review meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022. We are asking for as many of our Advisory Committee members to participate. We will need to know if you would like to meet in person or virtual.

An email was sent out to the Advisory Committee about the Site Monitoring schedule. Each time slot is one Site Monitoring Meeting, and all meetings are virtual. Please email Ms. Suarez at rsuarez@co.morris.nj.us and Ms. Archer at aarcher@co.morris.nj.us with the dates and times you are available to participate.

National Overdose Awareness Day Event is Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at 10:00 am. And it will be held at 1 Medical Drive. We encourage attendance from as many Advisory Board members as possible.

IV. State Liaison Report**Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services – Ms. Theresa Wilson****RFP Announcements:**

Expanded Hours for SUD Outpatient Programs-This Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) for the development of Expanded Hours for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Outpatient Programs. This RFP is funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) American Rescue Plan Act. The Expanded Hours for SUD Outpatient Programs is intended to be a one (1) year program. Total annualized funding is \$2,000,000. Funding is available to September 30, 2023. These expanded services create access to treatment by removing traditional barriers such as service hours. DMHAS anticipates making up to ten (10) awards in the amount of \$200,000 for each award for one (1) year.

The Expanded Hours for SUD Outpatient Programs will provide increased access to outpatient treatment for individuals with an SUD. The purpose of outpatient services is to support, enhance and encourage the emotional development and the development of client's life skills to maximize their individual functioning during alternate times from standard business hours (after hours and weekends). These services are designed to preserve or improve current functioning, strengths, and resources. In outpatient services clients and staff work together to plan and implement effective treatment. Services will include outpatient hours of operation for individual, group and/or family sessions, medication monitoring, education, and administration hours. These services create increased access to care by removing traditional barriers to engagement and ongoing treatment.

No Mandatory Bidders Conference.

Questions on RFP Due Date – no later than 4:00 p.m. EST on August 15, 2022

Proposal Due Date – no later than 4:00 p.m. EST on September 6, 2022

Notify Date – October 7, 2022

Center of Excellence for Recovery Oriented Cognitive Therapy

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to establish a sustainable Center of Excellence (COE) in Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Therapy (CTR). One awardee will be chosen for the state-wide program and will receive total funding in the amount of \$500,000 (including a \$150,000 allocation for incentives specifically for agency clients to support program goals), subject to available appropriations. The initiative is supported by the Mental Health Block Grant supplemental fund dollars. All funds must be expended by March 15, 2023. The COE CT-R will train and provide ongoing consultation and mentoring on CT-R to New Jersey's behavioral health workforce. Through this initiative, agency staff will develop the expertise to improve the care that will result in meaningful outcomes for persons with serious mental health and other co-occurring challenges such as addiction and/or medical issues, especially those who have not yet been adequately served well by the system.

The following summarizes the RFP schedule:

- August 15, 2022, Questions on RFP due – no later than 4pm EST
- August 29, 2022, Deadline for written intent to apply and request for DHS secure file transfer protocol (SFTP) site login credentials
- September 6, 2022, Deadline for receipt of proposals – no later than 4pm EST
- October 12, 2022, Preliminary award announcement
- October 26, 2022, Final award announcement

Supporting Students in Recovery

The New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) is issuing this **Request for Proposals (RFP) for Supporting Students in Recovery to provide supportive, substance-free living environments and services for college students in recovery. The total amount of funds available through this RFP is \$2,250,000.** This RFP is funded through Federal

Substance Abuse Block Grant COVID-19 Supplement funding ending on March 14, 2023. DMHAS will make up to seven (7) awards to two- or four- year public institutions of higher education to provide recovery housing and/or recovery support services. **It is anticipated up to three (3) awards to two-year institutions shall not exceed \$250,000 for each award; and up to four (4) awards to four-year institutions shall not exceed \$375,000 for each award. This RFP does not support capital costs.**

Institutions that already have designated housing for students in recovery may still apply for funding for recovery programs and related services. Each college or university awardee will be required to: provide individual and group substance abuse recovery-oriented programs and services, implement campus-wide environmental prevention strategies, provide assessment, academic, and relapse prevention services to students, and other appropriate services. Note that designated recovery housing may include a dorm, floor, wing or other designated area within an existing residential building or other student housing and does not require that an entire dormitory be substance-free. Project oversight will be provided by the DMHAS. **The funding available is one-time only and not renewable.**

- **No Mandatory Bidders Conference**
- **Questions on RFP Due Date** – no later than 4:00 p.m. EST on July 13, 2022
- **Proposal Due Date** – no later than 4:00 p.m. EST on August 3, 2022
- **Notify Date** – August 26, 2022

988 Update:

New Jerseyans are now able to use the new, three-digit number 988 to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. 988 will be available for call, text, or chat on July 16 for those experiencing a mental health-related or suicidal crisis, or those looking to help a loved one through a crisis. The aim of 988 is to improve access to crisis services in a way that meets the country's growing suicide and mental health related crisis care needs. A 988-tool kit with promotional materials was created to help spread the word about 988. The tool kit includes is in English and Spanish: social media posts and graphics, flyers, a brochure, and a wallet card.

V. Staff Reports

Municipal Alliance Coordinator – Mr. Nebesni

We are in the process of closing out Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. We have half of the Alliances completed and working on the paperwork for the remaining ones.

We are hoping to have the funding recommendations ready for the Supplemental Funding for the next MHASAB meeting, as well as the DMHAS Grant recommendations.

Addiction Services Coordinator – Ms. Suarez

The Department of Human Services is having their annual Overdose Awareness Day on Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at 10:00 am. The event will be held at 1 Medical Drive, Morris Plains. This is a memorial/awareness event honoring the loved ones of Morris County taken by the drug epidemic and fentanyl crisis, their grieving loved ones, those who continue to fight for recovery and to bring awareness to the community. Our guest

speakers will be Senator Anthony Bucco, Assemblywoman Aura Dunn, Morris County Commissioner Director, Tayfun Selen, Sheriff James Gannon, and Morris County Prosecutor Brad Seabury. We will have speakers from the community share their stories on their long-term recovery or someone they lost to an overdose.

2022 Addiction GIA & Chapter 51 Site Monitoring meetings will begin next week. We are encouraging all Advisory members to sign up for at least two virtual meetings. This is a great way to learn about individual programs and the provider agencies.

We still have not received the Letter of Intent from Chapter 51 for the 2023 funding but should receive this soon.

The FDA bans JUUL and other popular companies from selling E-Cigarettes, a popular brand blamed for the teenage vaping crisis.

Prevention is Key is having their Overdose Awareness Day event on August 27th at 10:00am in Donatoni Community Park in Rockaway, New Jersey. There will be guest speakers and a butterfly release.

Mental Health Administrator – Ms. Archer

The rollout of 988, discussed earlier by Theresa Wilson and over the past few MHASAB meetings, has been going well and we have not received any concerns from Morris County residents. We have ordered materials from the State to be handed during Outreach.

We are continuing to work on the MHASAB resource pamphlet from the division. Rosalyn has completed the Addiction information and I have started working on the Mental Health updates. Once we have completed the updates we will circulate.

We will hold our Mental Health Forum in 2023. The Planning Subcommittee will start meeting toward the end of the year to discuss possible dates, topics, locations, and speakers. More information to follow.

During our last meeting it was requested that a second Orientation meeting be held for new members that were appointed after the original orientation meeting in February. This meeting was held today at 3:00 pm. Tracey McGuire, Lorena Inestroza, and Robert Peluso were in attendance. The same presentation given to the full Advisory was presented at this meeting.

We do have three new staff members in our Community Development Division. They are beginning to work and reach out to our municipalities and organizations. Our Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2022 is still pending with HUD. The conditional commitment letters have not gone out yet and cannot go out until we receive approval of that Action Plan.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

Funding – moved to Closed Session for voting on Addiction Subgrant Modifications

Planning – Ms. Suarez

Overdose Awareness Day event: We are in the process of ordering purple pins for all that attend the event, ordering purple flags to symbolize those that have been lost in Morris County from an overdose, flyer circulation and confirming the guest speakers.

Legislative/Advocacy – no report

County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (CASS) – Mr. Nebesni

We are going to meet later this month and prepare the recommendations for this group for September.

VII. Joint PAC Report – Ms. Borden

Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital census is 363 patients, of which, 79 are Morris County residents.

988 was also discussed and there may have been some confusion as to who is called when a mobile outreach is needed.

There was a discussion about the Telehealth Regulations that are in place now and the ability for master's level interns to perform telehealth services. This will be investigated, and additional information will be provided.

- **Agency Announcements**

- Center for Family Services through Caring Partners will be providing LBGTQ youth Drop-In Services for residents of Morris and Sussex Counties ages 13 to 18.

- **EDGE NJ** will provide a presentation at the next PAC meeting.

VIII. HSAC Report – no meeting since last MHASAB meeting.

IX. Old Business – No comment

X. New Business

Ms. Rose Brown, Mental Health Association, announced they have received their licenses for their Substance Use Treatment, Outpatient Treatment, and Early Intervention Services for their Sussex County facility and are accepting referrals.

Mr. Bicknese asked what the Site Monitoring was about. Ms. Archer stated each year we do program monitoring for agencies that have funded programs through GIA and/or Chapter 51. This gives MHASAB the chance to review the programs progress, how it has impacted the community and how the funds are being used.

Ms. McGuire asked if there were outpatient programs that handle the mental illness component only. She has only been able to find programs that are cooccurring. Ms. McGuire stated that someone close to her was dealing with mental illness only not substance use and was unable to find an outpatient program. Ms. Diamond suggested contacting Immediate Care Psychiatric Center in Parsippany. Ms. Villano stated the ACENDA does offer an IOP program that keeps the addiction component separate from the mental illness. Discussion ensued.

XI. Open to the Public – no comment

XII. Funding Closed Session (moved to the end of the meeting) – Review & vote on GIA & Chapter 51 Funding Priorities

Mr. Chernick asked that anyone in conflict with GIA and Chapter 51 Funding and anyone from the public leave the call. Ms. Wilson, Ms. Borden, Ms. Brown, and Ms. Fodali left the call. Motion made by Ms. Tucker and seconded by Ms. Csengeto to begin the closed session of the meeting. There were four abstentions and no opposition. Motion Carried.

The board closed the open portion of the meeting pursuant to P.L. 1975 Ch. 231 of the Open Public Meetings Act at 6:12 p.m.

Return to Meeting

The meeting reopened at 6:26 p.m. No one reentered the call.

Actions Resulting from Closed Session

Mr. Chernick stated the Funding Review Committee met, reviewed, and provided GIA and Chapter 51 Funding Modification recommendations. Let the record reflect that the board voted to approve the requests in the closed session. We need a motion to open a session of the same.

Mr. Peluso motioned to approve the recommendations as discussed in the closed session. Ms. Garodnick seconded the motion. All were in favor with four abstentions and no opposition. Motion carried.

XIII. Adjourn

Ms. Csengeto made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Marie Hess
Clerk II