

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
Christine Myers

Deputy Director
Stephen H. Shaw

Douglas R. Cabana
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Division Director
Amy Archer
973-285-6852

MENTAL HEALTH ADDICTION SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (MHASAB)
Thursday, January 11, 2024, 5:15 PM-Webex Meeting ONLY
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order and Attendance

Ms. Archer called the meeting to order at 5:17 PM. A quorum was not established, and attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Gregg Benson, Citizen Representative
Chris Chernick, Citizen Representative
Linda Csengeto, Citizen Representative
Victor DeVito, Citizen Representative
Jullian Hill Esq., Morris County Prosecutor's Office
Alton Robinson, Citizen Representative
LaJuan Tucker, Esq., Morris County Prosecutor's Office
Amy Villano, Acenda Integrated Health
Barbara Ward, Citizen Representative
Chelsea Whiting, Morris County Sheriff's Office

Morris County Commissioner:

Christine Myers, Morris County Commissioner, Director

Board Liaisons:

Michelle Borden, NewBridge Services
Rose Brown, Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris
Cynthia Gatica, NJ DHS Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services

Morris County Staff:

Amy Archer, Division of Community & Behavioral Health Services
Kasey Errico, Director of the Department of Human Services
Anamika Fnu, Division of Community & Behavioral Health Services

Maria Fodali, Office of Temporary Assistance
Mackensie Fosko, Division of Community & Behavioral Health Services
Anna Marie Hess, Division of Community & Behavioral Health Services
Rosalyn Suarez, Division of Community & Behavioral Health Services

- II. **2024 Slate of Officers -No quorum was established so this was** tabled for the next meeting on February 8, 2024.
- III. **Approval of September 14, October 12, and November 16, 2023, Minutes**
Approval of the minutes was tabled due to a lack of quorum.
- IV. **Committee Orientation**
Ms. Archer gave a brief orientation on the MHASAB, which included a PowerPoint presentation. This PowerPoint will be posted on the County website.
<https://www.morriscountynj.gov/Departments/Human-Services/Human-Services-Boards-Committees/Mental-Health-Addictions-Services-Advisory-Board>
- V. **Open to Public** – no comment
- VI. **Chair Report** – no report
- VII. **State Liaison Report:**
Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services – Ms. Gatica
 - A. **Funding Opportunities**
 - 1. Nurse Care Management in Ambulatory Care Treatment
 - a) 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 embed Nurse Care Managers (NCMs) into ambulatory substance use disorder (SUD) treatment agencies including Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), licensed outpatient, licensed intensive outpatient, and partial care to manage physical health services, including hepatitis C, for individuals being served at the agency. This RFP is funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) State Opioid Response (SOR) grant. The SOR grant period is from September 30, 2023, to September 29, 2024. Total annualized funding is up to \$1,660,000, with up to \$415,000 in annualized funding for each award; however, the contracts will be prorated for six (6) months, subject to federal appropriations. The goal of services is to focus on those who are at risk for or who have been diagnosed with hepatitis C. The NCM is expected to coordinate this treatment into the full array of services offered to each client served by the OTP. Successful bidders shall add nurse care management, case management, and health coaching to assist people with improving their overall health and well-being with an emphasis on hepatitis C and integration of their behavioral and medical healthcare.

- b)** Proposals are due January 12, 2024; the Final award announcement is March 1, 2024.
- 2.** Implementation of Coordinated Specialty Care & Community Integration Services for Early Serious Mental Illness
- a)** This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) for implementing Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) programs for the population with Early Serious Mental Illness (ESMI) in New Jersey. In addition, the DMHAS will implement a Community Integration Program designed to address the ESMI population's needs along the continuum of care. DMHAS anticipates making up to six (6) awards for six provider agencies. The two programs will center on serving youths and adults ages 15 and older who have experienced psychotic symptoms. The CSC program will serve clients aged 15-35 for up to two years. The CSC-CI program will serve clients 15 years and older and allow patients to remain as long as needed based on the “Stepped Care treatment model”. The New Jersey CSC and CSCCI programs will cover all 21 counties.
- b)** Proposals were due December 13, 2024; Final award announcement is February 8, 2024
- 3.** More information on these Division funding opportunities is available at: <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/provider/funding/>

B. Announcements:

- 1.** Zero Suicide Institute Academies
- a)** There is an opportunity for mental health and substance use disorder treatment agencies to apply to attend one of two upcoming free, virtual Zero Suicide Institute Academies. These are two-day training courses for senior leaders of organizations that seek to prevent deaths by suicide among patients in their care. Using the Zero Suicide framework, you will learn how to incorporate best and promising practices into your organization’s processes to improve care and safety for individuals at risk and to have the opportunity for follow-up consultation and technical assistance as your agency incorporates the practices. The Zero Suicide faculty will provide interactive presentations and small group sessions, collaborating with participants to develop organization-specific action plans.
- b)** Due to the holidays and an abbreviated time for recruitment, the New Jersey DHS-sponsored Zero Suicide December Academies were postponed and moved into early 2024. The first academy will take place on January 23-24 and the second on February 6-7. You do not need to resubmit if you have already applied to the previous dates. If you have any questions, please contact Allison.Kusznikow@dhs.nj.gov and info@zerosuicideinstitute.com

2. Statewide PACT Director Meeting
 - a) Friday, February 2, 2024, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada). This meeting will be virtual. Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting.

VIII. Staff Reports

- A. **Municipal Alliance Coordinator** -Ms. Fosko
 1. Ms. Fosko reported that she is working to close out Fiscal Year 2023 funding by the end of the month.
 2. The next Countywide Alliance Meeting will be held on February 13, 2024, at 5:00 PM
- B. **Addiction Services Coordinator** – Ms. Surez
 1. The Morris County Opioid Advisory Council reviewed funding applications for the Opioid Funding Settlement funds and recommended programs that focus on treatment, prevention, and other strategies to combat the opioid epidemic. The Morris County Commissioners approved the following programs:
 - a) Milestone House for recovery housing.
 - b) NewBridge Services for outreach and case management
 - c) Prevention is Key for a harm reduction program
 - d) Prevention is Key for
 - e) Morris County Sheriff’s Office for Hope One
 2. Governor Murphy announced on January 8, 2024, that he designed a bill to expand access to life-saving harm reduction services in New Jersey. The bill aims to provide more resources to harm reduction centers in the state that will be able to distribute Narcan, fentanyl test strips, etc.
- C. **Mental Health Administrator** – Ms. Archer
 1. The Point-in-Time (PIT) planning team is working to organize the PIT activities in Morris County for 2024. The goal is to have 3 outreach events and recruit volunteers to participate during the count.
 2. The Office of Community Development is hosting an annual public hearing for HOME, ESG, and CDBG funding. More information is available on the county website.

IX. Subcommittee Report:

- A. **Funding**
Tabled for next meeting in February due to lack of quorum.
- B. **Planning** -no report
- C. **Legislative** - no report
- D. **County Alliance Steering Subcommittee** – Ms. Fosko
 1. The next CASS meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, at 5:00 pm.

X. Joint PAC Report – Ms. Borden

- A. Last Meeting was held on Friday, January 5, 2024.
- B. DCF reports for Morris Office
 - a) The Morris East office received 93 calls; 13 were from child welfare, and the remaining 80 were from child protective services.
 - b) The Morris West office received 95 calls, 13 of which were child welfare and 82 of which were child protection.
 - c) Project Homeless Connect will occur on Friday, January 26, 2024, at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in Morristown. Project Homeless Connect aims to provide immediate help and support to the homeless community while fostering community and collaboration. There will be access to healthcare, housing, employment assistance, financial and legal aid, and more.

XI. HSAC Report – Ms. Hess

- A. The New Jersey Department of Health (DOH) and the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS) held the virtual budget listening session on November 29th, 2023.
- B. During the session, county representatives gave verbal and written testimonies for funding. The testimonies highlighted the need for additional funds for the upcoming year and funding for programs across the state.
- C. The next HSAC meeting is on January 23, 2024, at 5:15 PM.

XII. Old Business – no comment

XIII. New Business - no comment

XIV. Closed Session – Tabled to next meeting due to lack of quorum.

XV. Adjourn – Ms. Archer adjourned the meeting at 6:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Anamika, Administrative Professional