



COUNTY OF HUNTERDON NEW JERSEY

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MENTAL HEALTH BOARD



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REFERENCE:

- Council
- Mental Health
- Youth
- Disability Services
- Substance
- Use Disorder
- Transportation

Draft to be approved June 2, 2022

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Regular Meeting

DRAFT

Thursday, May 5, 2022 5:30 p.m.
Via Webex

MEMBERS PRESENT

W. Dudzinski
R. Walker

MEMBERS ABSENT

M. Deo
L. Hartman

EX-OFFICIO

STAFF

M. O'Reilly
S. Nekola

GUESTS

S. Carew
M. Eichorn
D. Schappert
J. Verney

*PAC-PACADA Liaison - M. Margulies

I. CONVENE: OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT:

“This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21. Notice of this meeting has been provided in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News. A public notice announcing this meeting has also been placed in the lobbies of the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, the first floor of the Main Street County Complex, 71 Main Street Building #1, Flemington, NJ; the first floor of the Route 12 County Complex, Building #3, 314 State Route 12, Flemington, NJ and County Clerk’s Office.”

ROLL CALL:

The regular public meeting was opened at 5:30 p.m. Introductions were made.

Due to the recent public health crisis, COVID-19, this meeting was call in and Webex ONLY

M. O'Reilly stated she is the Human Services Administrator in Hunterdon County.

M. Margulies stated he is with Summit Oaks Hospital and the liaison for the MHB and PAC/PACADA Chair.

R. Walker stated she is with Genpsych.

D. Schappert stated she is with NORWESCAP, as well as Broad Step Behavioral Health and is in the process of becoming a Board member for Sussex County.

M. Eichorn stated she is the Executive Director of the Family Guidance Center in Warren County and is also attending as a resident of Hunterdon County.

J. Verney is the Regional Coordinator for the Northern Region for the Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services and is filling in for D. Davis.

S. Nekola stated she is the Division Head of Social Work Services for the county.

W. Dudzinski stated he is the Chairman of the Mental Health Board and CFO of NewBridge Services, Inc.

II. *A. MINUTES: Due to a lack of a quorum, the meeting minutes of April 7, 2022 will be tabled for the next Mental Health Board meeting.

B. CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence at this time.

III. REPORTS:

A. County Update: M. O'Reilly was happy to announce May is Mental Health Awareness Month and is pleased to share any related events in the community. She encouraged all to forward any event material to herself or S. Becker so it may be shared among the county groups.

She also wanted to recognize that it is 50th anniversary of the Senior, Disability and Veteran's Services in Hunterdon County.

There are two surveys available now. One is a 60-second survey that is on the Senior Center webpage; she will put in the Chat Box for everyone. This is a quick update of what is happening in the community with the senior programs. Additionally, a housing survey was put together by the Human Services Advisory Council Housing Committee. The housing survey is looking for input from Social Service providers, landlords and renters to address Hunterdon County specific housing issues.

M. O'Reilly stated she is happy to announce that the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services was awarded a grant for Communication access through The Deaf and Hard of Hearing under the state Department of Human Services in the amount of \$75,000 which will provide funding to support the installation of hearing loops in three county meeting locations, portable hearing loops for use at reception areas and funds to develop county programming in American Sign Language.

The State Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services has awarded funding to Rutgers for Early Intervention Support Services or (EISS), which will bring urgent care mental health treatment to Hunterdon County. The county currently does not have these services.

The Division of Housing hosted a successful event on April 25, 2022 to provide community outreach. Applications for some of the low-income housing projects in the area were made available. It had been reported that almost 40 people attended. This is very exciting! M. O'Reilly conveyed that talks about hosting another event such as this will take place most likely in the Fall.

Tri County CoC plans to release a letter of intent for FY22 in May 2022 with a June 2022 return date. More information will be shared soon via email.

- B. State Update:** On D. Davis' behalf, J. Verney reported a Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) for creation of the Early Intervention Support Services (EISS) in the following ten (10) counties: Passaic, Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon, Union, Salem, Gloucester, Burlington, Somerset, Cape May.

EISS programs provide rapid access to short term, recovery oriented, crisis intervention services. EISS serves persons who are 18 years of age or older, who are experiencing exacerbated symptoms of a mental illness. Services include assessment, psychiatric evaluation, pharmacologic interventions, short-term counseling and psychotherapy, psycho-education, time-limited case management, referral and linkage. EISS has routine "after-office" hours (e.g. weekends), accommodates "walk-ins" and offers quick access to staff with psychiatric prescriber privileges, when needed. The length of stay would be 30-days or so.

Total annualized funding for each of the counties is one (1) million from the \$10 Million total funding amount available, which is subject to State appropriations.

EISS awardees:

- *Catholic Charities-Burlington County*
- *Bridgeway-Union County*
- *Rutgers UBHC-Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*
- *Acenda -Cape May and Gloucester Counties*
- *Health Care Commons Inc. -Salem County*
- *St Clare's -Warren County*
- *CBH Care -Passaic County*
- *Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris -Sussex County*

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services will be hosting a Medicaid Provider Training that is called Useful Tools for a Compliant Medicaid Provider -A presentation for Partial Care Providers that will take place via Zoom Webinar on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

Program Description: The following state agencies -- the Medicaid Fraud Division (MFD) of the Office of the State Comptroller, the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) and the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), both within the Department of Human Services, and the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) in the Attorney General's Office -- work together with New Jersey's Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to identify and recover overpaid funds due to fraud, waste and abuse in the Medicaid program (often referred to as NJ FamilyCare). This session is designed to provide stakeholders, specifically Medicaid partial care providers, a better understanding of best practices to prevent, avoid, and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicaid program.

Goals of This Presentation – To Help Attendees Understand:

- *The Medicaid program regulatory oversight structure*
- *The Medicaid regulatory framework and compliance requirements*
- *Medicaid documentation requirements for providers*
- *Third Party Liability (TPL) requirements*
- *Fraud, waste and abuse obligations of providers (prevention and reporting)*
- *The consequences for non-compliance by providers*

Speakers:

Representatives from the Medicaid State government agencies listed above, and New Jersey's MCOs - Aetna Better Health of New Jersey, Amerigroup NJ, Horizon NJ Health, United Healthcare Community Plan, and Wellcare.

Registration:

Registration is required and is limited to 500 participants.

For more information, please email provider-education@osc.nj.gov.

Announcement:

Assistant Commissioner Valerie Mielke received the Partnership Award from Acenda Integrated Health this month. Below is the YouTube link. It is 30 minutes in length – Assistant Commissioner Mielke's acceptance speech is towards the end. <https://youtu.be/Caclk4OtBnE>

W. Dudzinski inquired regarding the 1115 Waiver related to the five MCOs requirements that had been raised at last month's meeting. This is instituting lots of extra work, potential risk and lost finances if you cannot get credentialed. There will be providers who no longer can provide services because of the MCOs requirements. J. Verney will bring this concern to the attention of his colleagues and medical assistants to further review and discussion.

- C. **NAMI Hunterdon, Update:** W. Dudzinski stated NAMI Hunterdon submitted their 2-minute video and hopefully it will be posted on one of the county sites. He explained it is intended as an awareness of what NAMI Hunterdon is about and the services they offer. With the help of the county, NAMI Hunterdon rolled out a mental health awareness challenge to all of the high schools in Hunterdon County. It is an expressive arts challenge that has anything to do with mental health awareness which is offering a \$2,000.00 award. It is expected to present this challenge year-after-year. The winner will be awarded in September after the holiday.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Amy Villiano – Acenda Integrated Behavioral Health Presentation:** To be re-scheduled.
- B. **NORWESCAP Aces Funding** – D. Schappert stated her position fulfilling dual roles with both organizations including the title of grant coordinator for the Adverse Childhood Experiences (Aces). Acenda Integrated Behavioral Health is also involved in this effort. She explained one of the reasons she is in attendance at as many board meetings is each collaborative has seven counties and a \$1M to work with the different communities to distribute these funds over the course of the next year. It is a very limited time period to release these funds and to work on different community projects. This initial stage is a call for ideas and a need to work on larger funds. As soon as the initial announcement is made with their partners, Acenda Integrated Behavioral Health. In the next couple of weeks, a flyer with information will be distributed. Discussion ensued.
- C. **988 Legislation** https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2022/A2500/2036_I1.PDF: On July 16, 2022, 988 will become the nationwide 3-digit dialing code for crisis and suicide prevention. It will replace the 1-800 number currently used by the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. On this date, when someone calls 988 all phones in the U.S. (mobile and landline) will connect with the crisis/suicide prevention system. This will allow anyone in the U.S. to call 988 and

get help designed specifically for someone dealing with a mental health crisis. These links take you to Assistant Commissioner Mielke's presentation: <https://youtu.be/ZuKhq-VPVjU> and <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/initiatives/988/988%20Overview%20Powerpoint.pdf>. Any questions, feedback or comments, please forward them to S. Becker or M. O'Reilly. As a follow up to the questions on 988, there is information and two URLs for a power point and a video at: <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/initiatives/988/>. J. Verney also announced a \$3.7M request for Letters of Interest that will be awarded within the next few weeks. This was only open to the five existing National Suicide Lifeline Prevention Centers that are certified in New Jersey. Through those dollars they are trying to increase the infrastructure there so those entities can bring on more staff and volunteers to take calls. There will be an uptick in the calls once 988 goes live in July.

A motion was made by R. Walker and seconded by W. Dudzinski. All were in favor. The motion passed. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m. The next meeting will be on June 2, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.