

Dauphin County Human Services Block Grant Planning and Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2019

In attendance: Scott Burford, Randie Yeager, Kacey Crown, David DeSanto, Florence Paige, Rocco Cambria, Fred Lighty, Rick Vukmanic, Todd Singer, Glen Bartlett, Kristin Varner, Robert Burns.

The meeting was opened by Scott Burford.

Randie Yeager noted that the Block Grant was approved on Dec. 5, 2019, at 2:47 p.m. For purposes of community need and prior to receiving state approval, the County contracted with the PA Food Bank and extended the Tri County Community Action Commission contract for the Northern Dauphin Transportation project. With the final approval from the state, we can now finalize other human services contracts.

Randie provided an update on below for FY ending November 30, 2019:

Northern Dauphin Food Pantry 1038 unduplicated individuals and 420 households

The Food Bank does monthly surveys and one questions is “In the last 30 days, how many days were you hungry but didn’t eat because there wasn’t enough money for food?” And another is “In the last 30 days how often did you or others in your household ever NOT eat for a whole day because there wasn’t enough money for food?” We have those surveys in our office.

They have come up with some creative ways to go out once a month to some Housing Projects and deliver food.

David DeSanto provided an update on MH/A/DP

Crisis:

- 2 vacancies – in the process of posting and interviewing etc.

MH

- The transition of programs operated by Wellspan/Philhaven in Dauphin County to Community Services Group was completed as planned on October 28, 2019. We also continue to track persons served by Wellspan/Philhaven’s BHRS program in Dauphin County as all those children and families needed to be referred to other BHRS providers about 30 of the 175 children transferred have not yet been served by their new providers due to lack of staffing capacity.
- County MH, CMU and select providers have collaborated to reopen Double Trouble support meetings. Double Trouble is a support group for persons with dual (MH and D&A) needs for support. A coordinator has been hired to work with Double Trouble facilitators at a few sites in the County. Meetings are currently available at the CMU and Merakey ‘s Windows

location. All Double Trouble groups hosted with County funds will require a clinical support environment and follow Double Trouble curriculum.

A/DP

- The ID Program continues to collaborate with 18 other Counties and the state Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) on a Provider Risk Management Pilot. We have developed a risk management screening tool and have drafted a communication protocol to communicate risk concerns with other Counties and ODP for providers in multiple counties.
- The state Bureau of Support for Autism and Special Populations (BSASP) is working with all Counties to have Counties perform eligibility assessment for individuals on the interest list for the Adult Autism Waiver managed by BSASP. Those persons may also then be eligible for ID/A waivers administered by Counties which has more capacity to serve eligible people than the Adult Autism Waiver which has very limited capacity state wide.

HAP

- We continue to have high demand for our Rental Assistance Program and Bridge Housing.
- Winter Overnight Shelter resources are now available for men at the Safe Haven, and Downtown Daily Bread and when weather conditions are extreme also at Bethesda. CCU is coordinating a women’s Overnight Shelter expected to be operational December 20, 2019.

Randie Yeager discussed Project Search. OVR can not open the wait list until January. We currently have 2 candidates and are working with the National and State Project Search. The OVR wait list issue will affect all Project Search processes. Randie will keep us updated. We are looking at a possible start date of April 2020.

There was discussion on homelessness. There are more homeless men vs. homeless women. There is a need for more transitional housing.

Kristin Varner provided and update on Drug and Alcohol Services

	<u>\$ Spent</u>	<u>Individuals Served</u>
Inpatient NH Detox	\$ 20,615.00	54
Inpatient NH Rehab (ST)	\$ 123,013.00	78
Inpatient NH Rehab (LT)	\$ 9,684.00	5
Halfway House	\$ 10,418.00	5
CM Assessments	\$ 17,848.00	162
	\$ 181,578.00	1045

We filled the Deputy Administrator position. Nitarah Iannocone accepted the position, and she will begin that role on December 16, 2019. We are currently scheduling assessment for SCA Representative position.

CYS Rick Vukmanic

We are working on Safe Plans of Care for mothers with Substance Abuse Disorders and infants born with drugs/alcohol in their system.

We have made 18 referrals to Dauphin Cnty Housing Authority Family Reunification Voucher Program. We are trying for 50 more.

In February 2020, we are working on a Family Engagement pilot project with Aggressive Family Finding practice and will be required to have a Rapid Response Conference.

We have filled most Supervisor positions and are in the process of Second Assistant Administrator position interviews.

Old Business

Randie Yeager discussed the HS Integration. We have a new IT Director, Elizabeth Zeigler Parry, and Brian Hamm has left the County. We regrouped and are back on track and are looking at another entity on this project. We will have a second contract with Deloitte in January 2020. The next integration round will be D&A, CYS then AAA. We have completed Prison, MH/ADP. Kumar will now take the lead.

New Business

Charlie Udit, the Human Services Fiscal Director will be retiring December 27, 2019, after 25 years of service. He will be deeply missed.

Scott Burford announced the 2020 meeting dates:

March 27

June 26

Sept 25

Dec 18

We are open to meeting at other locations, if interested, please discuss with Scott.

Meeting Adjourned.