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

August 19, 2016

In attendance: Randie Yeager, Sam Priego, Daniel Eisenhauer, Paul Boyer, Fred Lighty, Robert Burns, Todd Singer, Annmarie Kaiser, April Rudick, Darrel Reinford, Rocco Cambria, Ron Sharp, Beth McCallister, Currin Haines-Yoder, Diane Reed, Judy Vercher, Kacey Crown and Paula Ruane.

Randie Yeager, Director of Human Services, opened the meeting and welcomed all. She discussed the possibility of moving the location of our quarterly meetings to increase participation. Committee discussed potentially coinciding with Categorical Advisory Board meetings, potential location at Community Action Commission or Hamilton Health. We will discuss further.

The County’s primary focus areas remain Housing and Drugs & Alcohol.

The Capital Area Coalition on Homeless (CACH) is revising their 10-year plan at end of October 2016.

Human Services Development Fund update provided by Randie Yeager:

The Agency has finalized and completed all contracts; with ¾ of monitoring completed and progressing well. We are collecting quarterly data at the Northern Dauphin Food Bank with a quarterly household survey that has 4 questions.

The County is advancing its goal of Inter-agency integration. We recognize it will be a multi-year process. To that end, the County conducted a site visit to Allegheny County on June 3 to evaluate their progress of the same. It has been a 19-year undertaking in Allegheny County and it remains a work in process. One of their agencies (Drug and Alcohol) is contracted out. The County believes that more coordination can only accomplish a more cost effective and more consumer friendly delivery.

Children and Youth update provided by Annmarie Kaiser and Currin Haines-Yoder:

Efforts to fill vacancies has been a top priority. The Agency has filled vacancies in senior leadership such as Assistant Administrator, Directors and Supervisors. The agency still has 5 caseworker vacancies.

The Agency is ramping up for Back to School, referrals go up (truancy.)

Currently have $45,000 in budget for foster care recruitment, to include advertising such as newspaper, web, TV, etc. We increased PRIDE spending, we are under $30,000.

MST numbers are down; last time was over $75,000.
Drug & Alcohol Services update provided by April Rudick:

The Agency is pursuing a grant opportunity for a jail diversion pilot program to include Vivotrol.

The Agency is planning a Town Hall style meeting in Hummelstown to be held in October.

All treatment and prevention contracts are done.

A new staffing model was approved by the Commissioners for “Mobile Case Managers”.

Recovery Day is September 24 and the event will be held at Harrisburg Mall.

MH/ID update provided by Dan Eisenhauer:

Agency priority has been to fill staffing vacancies in the Crisis Unit. The agency has 15 interviews scheduled. They currently have three full time vacancies and two-part time vacancy.

We received $50,000 for the grant to OMSHAS in which they would work with the PA Psychiatric Institute (PPI), the CMU and Harrisburg YWCA, to help identify teens and young adults as prospective beneficiaries of an evidence based program targeted to persons experiencing a “First Episode Psychosis.” The program includes psycho - education for the person and their family, blended case management, and evidence based supported employment.

Sunflower Housing is moving fast and expect 5 units in January, settled in May.

State budget increased funds for ID program but not much new capacity to take people off waiting list.

MATP-all changes must be implemented by October 1, 2016 but no clarity.

BLOCK GRANT PLAN UPDATE

Randie Yeager reported that the plan was submitted in June. Feedback was received from the State and the County made the necessary changes. We hope for approval of plan shortly.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS RECEIVED.

Meeting was adjourned.