

**OCEAN COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 25, 2009**

This meeting was called to order at 2:45 pm by, Sarah Gelwachs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Barbara Barr  
Roberto Flecha  
Sarah Gelwachs  
Jarrett Lynn  
Andrew Repetti

Jon Baum  
Gwen Forte  
Paul Kozak  
Mary Fran McFadden  
Bill Sette

Enrico DeGironimo  
Rabbi Sruli Fried  
Freeholder Little  
Kathleen Patrick

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Vivian Bartkus  
Susan Kelly  
Christine Lill  
Rev. Gary Stiegler

Joyce Brda  
Maria LaFace  
Dominick Magliaro  
Lorie Travaglino

Rev. Peter Hartney  
Carol Latif  
Rev. Jacquelyn Rowe  
Tonya Woodland

**ALTERNATE MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Rebecca Germann  
Lindsay Wood  
Nancy McCorry  
Carmen Pagan

attending for Maria LaFace  
attending for Camille Lopez  
attending for Lorie Travaglino  
attending for Tonya Woodland

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES STAFF**

Jamie Hart  
Susan Mascola

Pat Leahey  
Jill Perez

Tracy Maksel  
Ryan Reilly

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

Arnold Hamm – State DHS  
Greg Karlin – Monmouth/Ocean Medicaid  
Craig Shelley – Boy Scouts of America  
William VanSchoick - DYFS

Peter Hausman – Boy Scouts of America  
Linda Murtagh – BOSS  
Paul Valverde – Salvation Army

**Statement of Compliance** with the Open Public Meeting Act.

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Roberto Flecha and seconded by Gwen Forte to approve the minutes of April 23, 2009, with a voice vote the motion carried. A motion was made by Jon Baum and seconded by Barbara Barr to approve the minutes of May 28, 2009, with a voice vote the motion carried.

**Presentation Vicki Berlenbach, Grant and Program Development Manager, Ocean Health Initiatives** – Vicki Berlenbach informed the Council that Ocean Health Initiatives provides primary healthcare to low income, the undocumented and the uninsured. With the current state of the

economy and the increasing unemployment rate there is a shift in the clientele being served to more and more middle class. With every percentage point increase in the unemployment rate there are one million more people without healthcare benefits in New Jersey. Ocean Health Initiatives has two service sites, 101 Second Street in Lakewood and 301 Lakehurst Road in Toms River. They also have a Mobile Health Unit in which health care and dental services are offered. For more information regarding the Mobile Health Unit call 732-363-6655. Handouts were distributed and there was a brief DVD presentation. Currently there are four dental chairs and a three-month waiting list; they are looking to expand this service.

Freeholder Little announced that dollars have been appropriated in the current budget for two additional dental chairs at Ocean Health Initiatives. This will bring the total up to six dental chairs at the facility.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee Report** – Tracy Maksel informed the Council there was a letter in the packets to Commissioner Heather Howard, Department of Health and Senior Services from Reverend Peter Hartney regarding cuts to Respite funding in Ocean County. The letter highlights the funding formula utilized with antiquated data regarding Ocean County’s demographics that is outdated. There is more current data available that would be more appropriate to use. Ocean County lost over \$100,000 in funding. The Committee will advocate for a change in the formula and the reinstatement of the funds. The Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders has adopted a Resolution supporting the effort to reinstate the funding. Mary Fran McFadden informed the Council that the cuts were effective immediately and retroactive to the beginning of the January 1, 2009 calendar year contract. In order to meet the funding cut, clients will have to be terminated from the program. There is no reduction in the statewide allocation; this is a redistribution of the funds based on data prior to 2004.

**By-Laws Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**CEAS Committee Report** – Linda Murtagh reported that the Continuum of Care Committee met on June 8<sup>th</sup> and completed the prioritization and ranking of the new and renewal project for the 2009 CoC application process. In addition to the five renewal projects there will be one new project and will be applying for the Samaritan Bonus dollars to serve the Chronically Homeless. The Rapid Re-housing subcommittee of the CoC has continued to meet in preparation for the anticipated Stimulus Plan, Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-housing RFP from the Department of Community Affairs. The RFP is due to be released in mid July. The next CEAS meeting will be July 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30.

Pat Leahey reported that one agency from the Rapid Re-housing Committee has agreed to be the contracting agency. The RFP is due out on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The Rapid Re-housing Committee will meet again on July 6<sup>th</sup> to design the program model.

**Nominating Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Planning Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Proposal Review Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**WIB / WorkFirst NJ** – Pat Leahey reported that the ARRA Workforce Plan was submitted on time to the SECT and has been up on the website since May 29<sup>th</sup> for a 30 day comment period.

The GED Testing Status Report for 2008 was included in the meeting packet. In the past three years 1,373 students have been tested and 1,083 have received high school diplomas. Ocean County’s GED testing center has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest pass rate in New Jersey. A satellite office has been established in Manahawkin through support from the board of Chosen Freeholders. Currently GED recipients are not included in the NJ STARS program and there is currently a push to have individuals

scoring 3,000 or above in the NJ STARS program. The NJ STARS program pays the tuition of the top 5% of high school graduates in the Community College system and recently expanded into the four-year State universities.

Information was provided on Census 2010. It is crucial that there is a complete and accurate count with the 2010 census, because of the impact the numbers have on voting districts, representation on a federal level as well as funding.

**Mental Health Board Report** – Tracy Maksiel reported that the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Project Team has successfully drafted a cross training calendar for fiscal year 2010. Jarrett Lynn will be presenting the calendar to the Full PAC in July for approval. The first session will be August 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30; the location has yet to be determined. The Ocean County Veterans Service Bureau has been invited to speak regarding services and benefits for veterans and their families. Also being looked into is a universal consumer information form for providers to share.

The Jail Diversion Team engaged 35 Assistant Prosecutors in Ocean County, in a session highlighting mental illness, its prevalence in Ocean County, the Acute Care Process and Jail Diversion. A meeting is scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup> with Prosecutor Ford, Assistant Prosecutor Maureen O'Brian from Union County and Chief Garrity from Collingswood to discuss the Crisis Intervention Team Program which trains police officers regarding mental illness, community resources and how to intervene appropriately to reduce the number of unfortunate inappropriate incarcerations for individuals needing mental health treatment. Looking into bringing the program into Ocean County.

An article was provided in the meeting packets regarding a lawsuit pertaining to Dover Woods. The Mental Health Board and the Department of Human Services is not involved in the lawsuit. Jill Perez however was successful in outreaching the owner of Dover Woods to speak with her and her administration regarding some ideas that the Division of Mental Health Services, the County Mental Health Board and the Systems Review Committee have in how they might be able to provide some additional supports to the consumers in and around the facility.

The number of State Psychiatric hospitalizations has decreased significantly in Ocean County. Due to Preferred Behavioral Health's Intensive Outpatient Treatment Services and Ocean Mental Health's Crisis Diversion.

**Legislative Advocacy Committee Report** - Jon Baum reported that the LAC championed three causes this year that would have eliminated or drastically reduced public input; the FSO/CMO merger, Municipal Alliances/Governors Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA), which is currently under the Treasury Department being placed under The Department of Human Services, Division of Addiction Services (DAS) and the elimination of State HSAC funding. The State decided not to merge the FSO/CMO. The Governors Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse will not be placed under DAS. A Resolution by the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders to keep the Municipal Alliances /GCADA from moving under DAS was included in the meeting packet. Jill Perez stated that at a meeting she had with Commissioner Velez (DHS) and Commission Ricketts (DCF) they said that \$700,000 of the \$1.4 million in funding for the HSAC's has been identified. Jill is part of a Budget Contract Task Force that will meet to review all the budgets and State contracts to locate inefficiencies and funding that may be redirected to help make up the other half of the funding. Commissioner Ricketts stated that the HSAC funding is still only committed until the end of 2009.

Jon Baum informed the Council that he read on Reuters, the Cyber Command Mission, that was on hold by the federal government will be a total military mission and will probably be awarded to Maryland. Jon has placed a call to Emil Kaunitz to see if there is any chance of New Jersey being awarded the mission. The next LAC meeting will be Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM.

## COMMUNITY BOARD REPORTS

**Child Care Committee Report** – The Child Care Committee will meet July 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.

**CIACC** – Jamie Hart reported that CIACC received written notification that the \$50,000 in funding is available through the Division of Child Behavioral Health Services to implement or expand evidence based programs (EBP) and requested each county CIACC to submit a spending plan indicating which evidence based programs they would like to use the funding for. The CIACC would like to submit the spending plan asking an agency to implement one of the three EBP that were recommended in the Needs Assessment.

The CMO Community Resource Development Fund has been cut from \$75,000 to \$25,000.

**Office for Individuals with Disabilities (OID)** – Ryan Reilly reported that the Commission for Individuals With Disabilities sent a letter to Commissioner Howard regarding the cut in respite funding.

The DDD Family Forum is still in the planning process and is due to begin July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ryan testified before the Casino Revenue Advisory Fund Commission regarding the reductions in funding and the impact it has on the residents of Ocean County.

**Woman's Commission** – No report at this time.

**LACADA Report** – Gary Abraham reported that the DUII and SJI funding would be restored as of July 1<sup>st</sup> at the same funding levels, however there are limits on the number of services an individual can access.

There is an open RFP for the IDRC to provide the County 12 hour educational screening and referral service. The closing date for this RFP is July 1<sup>st</sup>. All postings going forward will be posted on the Ocean County Health Department website.

The Comprehensive Grant funding has been set for 2010, there is a \$5,000 increase over last year. The Municipal Alliance programs are funded at the same levels as last year.

**Youth Services Commission Report** – Jill Perez reported for Rick Seitz stating that the Proposal Review Committee reviewed eight proposals. Three proposals were chosen to share in the \$43,000 of funding available. They were, The YETS Mentoring Program, Ocean Mental Health's In-home Counseling and New Hope, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program.

**State Child Care Advisory Council Report** – Gwen Forte reported that the waiting list for subsidized child care is up to 210, this is due to the need for summer care. One of the mandates with the reauthorization of Head Start was to form a State Early Childhood Advisory Council. This has not yet been done. The State Child Care Advisory Council is advocating and reaching out to Commissioner Velez to have the Governor move on forming the Early Childhood Advisory Council to serve not only children 0 through 5 but also school aged children. The Council would advise the State how to best spend Federal Stimulus dollars.

**State Department of Human Services Report** – Arnold Hamm reported that the Commissioner announced at the State Human Service Advisory Council meeting that funding for the Governors Council will remain within the Department of Treasury in the fiscal 2010 budget. A power point presentation was distributed with relevant information regarding the Division of Addiction Services.

Information regarding fiscal year 2010 budget; co-pays relevant to Medicaid and the AIDS Drug Distribution program have been eliminated, the deductions to Vocational Rehab will stand, the additional funding for the waiting list of 100 people and the Olmstead has been maintained.

**State Department of Children and Families** – No report at this time.

**Announcements**

Jill Perez announced that the Food Voucher Program has begun. Food Pantries have started pick up the vouchers, which are for emergent needs. The County is contracting with Foodtowns, Shoprites and NPGS (Non-profit Grocery Store). All three agencies have given a discount, Foodtown and Shoprite was 4% and NPGS was 8%. This will allow more vouchers to be purchased.

Jarrett Lynn announced that a Goodwill store opened in Bayville on Route 9.

**New Business**

**Adjournment** – With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Respectively Submitted

Roberto Flecha, HSAC Secretary

Minutes prepared by Susan Mascola

**OCEAN COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 28, 2009**

This meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm by, Reverend Peter Hartney, Chair.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Barbara Barr  
Roberto Flecha  
Rev. Peter Hartney  
Kathleen Patrick

Jon Baum  
Gwen Forte  
Maria LaFace

Joyce Brda  
Freeholder Little  
Camille Lopez

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Vivian Bartkus  
Rabbi Sruli Fried  
Carol Latif  
Mary Fran McFadden  
Rev. Gary Stiegler

Enrico DeGironimo  
Sarah Gelbwachs  
Christine Lill  
Andrew Repetti  
Lorie Travaglino

Gerald Feddersen  
Susan Kelly  
Dominick Magliaro  
Rev. Jacquelyn Rowe

**ALTERNATE MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Richard Biolsi  
Linda Murtagh

attending for Carol Latif  
attending for Mary Fran McFadden

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES STAFF**

Jamie Hart  
Jill Perez

Susan Mascola  
Ryan Reilly

Kelly Mitchell

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

Gary Abraham – OCHD/Alcohol & Drug Unit  
Marge Caldwell-Wilson – State DCF  
Greg Karlin – Monmouth/Ocean Medicaid

Kathi Callaghan – DYFS  
Arnold Hamm – State DHS

**Statement of Compliance** with the Open Public Meeting Act.

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of April 23, 2009 were held until the June 25, 2009 meeting, as there was no quorum.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee Report** – Jill Perez updated the Council regarding the proposed amendment to the HSAC Regulations concerning the RFP process. Included in the meeting packets were copies of an e-mail from Frederick Cohen, Assistant Commissioner, Legal Regulatory and Guardianship Services, suggested language from the Human Services Director's Association and the language the State Agreed to use for the regulation concerning the RFP process. Jill explained that the changes accepted by the State broadened the definition of *State Employees* to include county and municipal employees and increase the number of votes from three (3) to five (5). The concern of accessibility to

time sensitive information has been alleviated by the State agreeing to send out a mass e-mail alerting to view information on the website. Arnold Hamm stated that this would reappear in the July registry, and will be open for comments at that time. Roberto Flecha stated that when it is open for comments, even if the Council is comfortable with the wording, the Council should reinforce their position on this matter.

**By-Laws Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**CEAS Committee Report** – Linda Murtagh reported that at the May 11<sup>th</sup> CEAS meeting, the Committee reviewed the 2008 Continuum of Care (CoC) application debriefing summary. Ocean County received a total score of 91.75 out of 100. The highest score nationwide was 92. Letters of interest and APRs have been received in preparation for this years CoC application. A guest speaker from the US Census Bureau discussed efforts being made to count the “undercounted”, such as seniors, homeless and undocumented individuals.

A subcommittee for Rapid Re-housing has continued to meet and prepare for the RFP process for the Stimulus Plan – Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-housing dollars. The RFP is expected to be released mid July. The next CoC meeting will be June 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am with the Rapid Re-housing committee to meet directly afterward.

**Nominating Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Planning Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Proposal Review Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**WIB / WorkFirst NJ** – Jill Perez reported for Pat Leahey stating that the WIB is working on spending down the Stimulus dollars for dislocated workers and the youth programs that will be implemented this summer. The allocation for the youth summer program is approximately \$362,000 and the approximately \$190,000 for dislocated worker programs.

## **COMMUNITY BOARD REPORTS**

**Child Care Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Legislative Advocacy Committee Report** - Jon Baum informed the Council that the Legislative Breakfast was cancelled. Current issues of concern have been presented to each Legislative District separately. The Committee discussed the upcoming Essex County Legislative Breakfast, which is very large and includes municipal, county and state legislators from throughout the State. The LAC is considering expanding Ocean County’s Legislative Breakfast for next year to something more like Essex County. Bill Sette stated that Essex County’s Legislative Breakfast is held in October and that when the invitations are sent that perhaps a group from Ocean County could attend. The LAC is also working on a new format for information presented to the Legislators consisting of an overview page including information regarding all issues presented in the packet. The detailed individual issue information will still be included, but the legislators will obtain a basic understanding of the issues from the overview page.

**CIACC** – Jamie Hart reported the CIACC completed the last step in the annual County Service Needs Assessment. A report has been drafted and will be sent to the Mental Health Board and the Board of Chosen Freeholders and then on to the State Division of Child Behavioral Health (DCBHS). The Aging Out/Aging In Committee, a joint committee with the Mental Health Board and CIACC, has been working with DCBHS to apply for The Healthy Transitions Initiative Federal Grant. This is a five (5) year grant of almost \$500,000 per year. The purpose of the grant would be to create a system of care for children as they are transitioning from the children’s system of care into the adult mental health system. An application was sent to the federal government last week and awards will be

announced in September. DCBHS announced this morning that Perform Care would hold the new Contracted Systems Administrator contract. There may be some overlap between Perform Care and the current provider Value Options initially to make the transition run smooth. The transition will be complete in September.

**Office for Individuals with Disabilities (OID)** – Ryan Reilly reported that the update for the Housing Resource Guide should be complete and sent to printing the end of July or beginning of August. The Commission is still working on the Ocean County Recreation Program Information. This has turned into quite an extensive project to identify all the recreation programs within the County that create accessible options available for the disability populations.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) will be holding Regional Family Forums for Ocean County this summer. The Planning Forum will be held in early July and the Family Forum will be held in mid August. DDD is looking for ways to address their waiting list and wants input from the top 500 individuals on the list, to assist families in addressing the situation and make planning steps for the future of their family member.

Ryan will attend the Casino Revenue Fund Advisory Committee meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> to advocate on behalf of Ocean County and Ocean Ride. With reduced revenues affecting the economy, Ocean County faces decreases at least equal to last year. Jon Baum inquired to the possibility of Atlantic City implementing Sports Betting in an effort to increase revenue. Freeholder Little informed the Council that the Casino Revenue Fund that funds various disabled and senior citizen programs including Ocean Ride is generated by the 8% tax on the Casinos. This year Ocean Ride experienced a \$350,000 dollar cut, which was made up by the Ocean County Budget, next year there will be a minimum of \$211,000 cut, the Ocean County Budget will not be able to make up the difference. Due to the current state of the economy revenue at the casinos is considerably down. The Governor of Delaware has authorized sports betting for his state and expects to be up and running by fall 2009. As per the Atlantic City Press, the casino experts believe that this will impact Atlantic City by 10 to 25% of its current business, due to individuals who want to participate in sports betting as well as gaming. New Jersey is barred from sports betting by federal law. Back in the mid 1970s individual states had the opportunity to apply for sports betting, any state not applying by the deadline would be banned forever unless the federal law is changed. Nevada, Delaware, Montana and one other western state took the steps necessary to amend their state laws to permit sports betting.

Reverend Hartney stated that this is the year the Transportation Infrastructure Act is up for review and revision; which comes up every six (6) years and this would be a good time for the LAC to address the federal legislators to see if a shift in federal funding to public transportation like Ocean Ride is possible.

**LACADA Report** – Jon Baum reported for Gary Abraham stating that the South Jersey Initiative funds have run out and do not know if they will be replenished on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Roberto Flecha stated that funding is due to be replenished on July 1<sup>st</sup>, however it is unsure as to the level of funding. LACADA has developed its own letterhead to accelerate the process of correspondence. Gary Abraham has completed site visits to all the providers.

**Mental Health Board Report** – Jamie Hart reported for Tracy Maksel stating that Jon Pough, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Mental Health Services spoke about the FY 2010 Budget as well as the status of the Olmstead Lawsuit.

The Mental Health Board sponsored an Ethics and Crisis Response Training for the Emergency Response Team responders this week.

The Mental Health Board is currently working through the FY 2010 contract renewal process for the State funded Mental Health Services. The Professional Advisory Committee will be resuming its

meeting schedule in July. The Project Team will meet in mid June to consider how to restructure PAC inline with the Mental Health Plan.

**Youth Services Commission Report** – No report at this time.

**State Child Care Advisory Council Report** – Gwen Forte reported that the waiting list for subsidized child care is up to 185, possibly due to individuals looking for summer care. Pre-School expansion is out of the FY 2010 Budget. The Child Care Resource and Referral Agency Contract through the Division of Family Development went out for bid for the first time in twelve years and The Children’s Home Society of NJ again received the contract.

**State Department of Human Services Report** – Arnold Hamm informed the Council that Family Care has sent out express lane applications to 11,200 households on May 8th and thus far has received 227 applications back. They will be mailing out express lane applications to an additional 269,000 potential households.

The Division of Addiction Services in conjunction with DYFS and the Administrative Office of the Courts are the recipients of a grant entitled In-depth Technical Assistance. The three agencies will explore implementing a statewide coordinated plan to work with families involved with the child welfare system and who are affected by substance abuse disorders.

DDD in conjunction with NJIT and the Developmental Disabilities Planning Institute will conduct a telephone survey to determine the preferences of families, guardians and/or individuals as to whether they prefer to continue residing in a State Developmental Center or to move into a community placement.

**State Department of Children and Families** – Marge Caldwell-Wilson reported that New Jersey finalized over 4,200 adoptions between 2006 and 2008; there were nearly 1,400 in 2008 alone. There had been a decrease in the number of children awaiting adoption from over 2,300 in 2006 to 1,300 in 2009. Over 5,200 new foster and adoptive families have been recruited and licensed in the last three years. Caseloads have been reduced. The number of children being sent out of state has been reduced by over 75%. There are 37 Family Success Centers across the State and over 15,000 families were served last year alone.

**Announcements**

Jill stated that there is nothing new regarding the HSAC funding and we are still funded until the end of 2009. A taskforce will begin in June to review all State budgets and contracts to see where funding redirections could be made. Jill will submit some names from the Human Service Directors Association to work with the State.

Jon Baum announced that Homes for All is building 82 homes in Manito Park.

**New Business**

**Adjournment** – With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Respectively Submitted

Roberto Flecha, HSAC Secretary

**OCEAN COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 23, 2009**

This meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm by, Reverend Peter Hartney, Chair.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Vivian Bartkus	Jon Baum	Joyce Brda
Enrico DeGironimo	Roberto Flecha	Gwen Forte
Freeholder Little	Sarah Gelbwachs	Rev. Peter Hartney
Christine Lill	Camille Lopez	Dominick Magliaro
Mary Fran McFadden	Rev. Gary Stiegler	

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Barbara Barr	Gerald Feddersen	Rabbi Sruli Fried
Susan Kelly	Maria LaFace	Carol Latif
Kathleen Patrick	Andrew Repetti	Rev. Jacquelyn Rowe
Lorie Travaglino		

**ALTERNATE MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Rebecca Germann	attending for Maria LaFace
Richard Biolsi	attending for Carol Latif

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES STAFF**

Willow Damato	Jamie Hart	Kathy Jaworski
Tracy Maksel	Susan Mascola	Kelly Mitchell
Jill Perez	Ryan Reilly	

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

Gary Abraham – OCHD/Alcohol & Drug Unit	Kathi Callaghan – DYFS
Mordechai Gobioff	Arnold Hamm – State DHS
Richard Hughes – DDD	Greg Karlin – Monmouth/Ocean Medicaid
Justice Mascola	Linda Murtagh – BOSS
Steve Reinman – LCSC	Richard Seitz – Youth Service Commission

**Statement of Compliance** with the Open Public Meeting Act.

**Roll Call** - Justice Mascola performed the Roll Call in honor of *Take Your Child to Work Day*, under the supervision of Susan Mascola, HSAC Clerk Typist.

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Vivian Bartkus and seconded by Chris Lill to approve the minutes of February 26, 2009 and March 26, 2009, with a voice vote the motion carried.

**Presentation by Ann Keever, Director of Health and Education Outreach, Family Planning Center of Ocean County** - Ann Keever informed the Council that the Family Planning Center of

Ocean County is the only Family Planning agency in the County. They are a licensed medical care facility, providing ambulatory care for women and have been in existence since 1971. The Center provides high quality low cost gynecological care. The Center is located in downtown Lakewood, one block from Kimball Medical Center. Ann Keever explained the services offered by the Family Planning Center of Ocean County. Approximately four thousand women per year are seen for medical services. Educational services are also provided. They are active in all the schools throughout the County. There are two school based LPN educators. One is based in Lakewood High School and the other works in Brick Memorial High School, Brick Township High School and Brick Veterans Middle School. Ann herself covers the rest of the County by invitation. A variety of payment sources are accepted including; Medicaid, sliding fee scales and private insurance. There are special rate reductions of up to 75% or 80% for high school and college students. No one is denied services due to inability to pay arrangements can always be made. The Center is open Monday through Friday with evening hours four nights per week and two sessions per month on Saturdays.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee Report** – Jill Perez informed the Council that there is a proposed change to the HSAC rules and regulations. The primary concern is over the RFP process, local community input would be taken away from and decisions would be made at the State level by three (3) public employees. There is the possibility of an advisory body, where we could give feedback, however it will not be mandatory. The current RFP process, in the case of Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) funding for example; allows the Counties to determine where the funds need to be directed, reviews applications for the funding through the HSAC Proposal Review Committee, then forwards a recommendation to the State and the contract is put in place by the State. Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for comments on this proposed rule change. It was the consensus of the Executive Committee to send a letter expressing Ocean County's opposition to this change, as it affects the local voice of the service care providers and receivers in this process and it centralizes the process in a narrow core of State government. A discussion regarding this issue ensued. A motion was made by Jon Baum and seconded by Reverend Gary Stiegler to send a letter stating Ocean County's opposition to this rule change.

**By-Laws Committee Report** – Currently there is no Chair for this Committee and a volunteer was requested. There were no volunteers at this time.

**CEAS Committee Report** – Linda Murtagh reported that the CoC Committee met on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The planning process for the submission of the 2009 CoC application is underway. We are awaiting HUD's release of last year's scores, the information will assist in this years planning. The NOFA is due to be released in May. A Rapid Re-Housing Committee meeting followed the CoC meeting for interested parties to participate and prepare for the RFP process for the Homeless Prevention Stimulus dollars. The Rapid Re-Housing Committee will meet again on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm at the House of Hope. The next CEAS meeting will be held May 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

**Nominating Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Planning Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Proposal Review Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**WIB / WorkFirst NJ** – Jill Perez informed the Council that there has been some renegotiation on the allotment of Stimulus dollars to the counties. The State used a different formula than previously applied, which will bring less funding into Ocean County.

## **COMMUNITY BOARD REPORTS**

**Child Care Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Legislative Advocacy Committee Report** - Jon Baum reported that the annual Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 am in the Department of Human Services Conference Room. Sub-committees of the LAC have met with the Legislative District offices pertaining to the HSAC/DCF issue, FSO (Family Support Organization)/CMO (Care Management Organization) issue and Municipal Alliances/DAS issue. Included in the meeting packets were copies of letters sent to the State regarding Ocean County’s position regarding these issues. Commissioner Ricketts, Department of Children and Families (DCF) has postponed any decisions regarding the funding for the HSAC’s until the end of the year. Jill Perez stated that there will be lobbying to move the funding for HSAC’s out of DCF and back into the Department of Human Services. Rick DeGironimo stated that the FSO/CMO merger has been put on a “long pause” as per Dr. Nadezhda Robinson, Director, Division of Child Behavioral Health Services.

**CIACC** – Jamie Hart reported that Dr. Nadezhda Robinson, Director, Division of Child Behavioral Health Services (DCBHS) was present at this morning’s CIACC meeting. The majority of the meeting was pertaining to the proposal to integrate the FSO with the CMO. This proposal was temporarily taken off the table on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Nadezhda Robinson stated that the proposed merger was based on three guiding principals and the intention was to “elevate the Family Voice into the practice of the CMO”, to “elevate the Youth Voice” independently and to “strengthen the business capability of the FSO’s in preparation for reimbursement from the federal government”. DCBHS and the Division of Mental Health Services (DMHS) are looking to amend their State Mental Health Plan and ask for federal reimbursement of Peer Support and Peer Specialist positions. Dr. Robinson felt it might be a burden on FSO’s as independent organizations to go through the additional billing responsibility, as DCBHS would not be able to support them in the additional billing process. The CIACC shared its concerns regarding the integration. The integration is currently “on pause”. DCBHS’s focus over the next few months will be on a new contract for the Statewide Contract Assistance Administrator. Currently Value Options holds the contract. Notice of what organization will have the new contract will be out in the next couple days.

**Office for Individuals with Disabilities (OID)** – Ryan Reilly reported that the Commission is looking at recreation activities in the County to identify locations and availability to the population.

**LACADA Report** – Gary Abraham reported that everything is quite a flux. There is a move to bring the Governor’s Council on Drug and Alcoholism (GCDA), which is currently under the Treasury Department and is the overseer of the Municipal Alliances, to be moved under the Division of Addiction Services (DAS). By doing this a prevention arm may be lost. The Municipal Alliance funding is dedicated money, which is derived from fines and penalties of individuals who have been convicted of substance abuse crimes. The Legislature states that these funds will be used solely for prevention. The Comprehensive Treatment Grant, based on an allocation of the booze tax, Ocean County received approximately \$1 million per year from the State to provide treatment. There are three State Initiatives nearing depletion:

- The DUII Fund – generated through fines and penalties from individuals convicted of drunk driving. This fund is to pay for treatment for those offenders who cannot afford it.
- The SJI (South Jersey Initiative) Fund – This fund is for treatment of youth age 13 through 24 years.
- The Drug Court Fund.

These initiatives are scheduled to be reauthorized on July 1<sup>st</sup>, with the Counties not being refunded until January 1<sup>st</sup>. This will have a tremendous impact on the substance abuse population.

**Mental Health Board Report** – Tracy Maksel reported that most of the Board's activity over the last four weeks has been dedicated to the advocacy effort regarding the HSAC funding and the FSO/CMO issue. A copy of a letter to the Governor from the Mental Health Board was included in the meeting packet.

**Youth Services Commission Report** – Rick Seitz reported that the Youth Service Commission (YSC) is writing letters in support of the FSO and HSAC. Rick will attend the State YSC Executive meeting tomorrow and will see what position they can take on these issues. Georgian Court University will host a Youth Services conference on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm. The Conference will be a resource mapping effort for the Lakewood area. The YSC will release a competitive contract RFP April 29<sup>th</sup> in the total amount of \$43,000. Proposals covering very broad terms will be accepted; they must meet at least one of the fifteen items listed in the RFP.

**State Child Care Advisory Council Report** – Gwen Forte reported that the child care subsidy waiting list is up to 147, and for the first time there is a waiting list for Kinship Care. The New Jersey Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies sent a letter to the Governor requesting a temporary reduction in the number of required employment hours for the New Jersey Cares For Kids from 30 hours to 25 hours and an extension in the amount of time a client who loses employment has to regain employment from 30 to 90 days. A memo was received from the Division of Family Development allowing as of 4-1-09 to extend the time a client has to find reemployment to 90 days. The OC Early Learning Council will hold their next community event on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at Mancini Hall in the Toms River Branch of the OC Library from 6:30 until 9:00 PM. The topic is healthy food choices for children and what we can do. There is no charge and a light dinner will be served.

**State Department of Human Services Report** – Arnold Hamm informed the Council that there is still a very large emphasis on NJ Family Care. There is an ACS organization under contract that is available to attend functions and assist in the enrollment. The FY 2010 Budget is online at the Department of Treasury website under OMB Publications. With the exception of direct care and the Human Service Police Department the State DHS will be furloughed on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**State Department of Children and Families** – No report at this time.

### **Announcements**

Mary Fran McFadden announced that effective May 1<sup>st</sup> the State Division of Family Development is expanding the telephone interviewing process for the elderly, persons with disabilities and working families. This will allow these individuals to apply for Food Stamps or be recertified over the phone.

Vivian Bartkus announced that the Family Resource Network in partnership with Community Medical Center is hosting the 2009 Pregnant Pause event, which is a project that promotes substance free pregnancies. This is a free event and prizes are given out to the expectant mothers. There will be

tables available for non-profit agencies wanting to participate; a donation of an item for the gift raffle is requested.

Kelly Mitchell announced that Ocean County would be participating in the National Women's Health Week, which is Mother's Day through May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Women's Commission and the Displaced Homemakers Program of Ocean County will co-sponsor a program Titled Food, Mind and Body Connections. The Women's Commission's advocate of the year for 2009 will be an organization rather than an individual, and is Providence House. The Celebration will be held September 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **New Business**

Jill Perez informed the Council that the Department of Human Services held a meeting regarding the Food Voucher Program for the food pantries throughout the County with a very good turnout; approximately 40 pantries were in attendance. There is a delay in the rollout as there were not enough applicants to cover the whole County so the bid process needed to be redone.

**Adjournment** – With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectively Submitted

Roberto Flecha, HSAC Secretary

Minutes prepared by Susan Mascola

**OCEAN COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 26, 2009**

This meeting was called to order at 2:40 pm by, Ted Gooding, Chair.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Barbara Barr  
Joyce Brda  
Sarah Gelbwachs  
Bruce Greenfield  
Hindy Langer  
Kathleen Patrick

Vivian Bartkus  
Enrico DeGironimo  
Ada Gonzalez  
Rev. Peter Hartney  
Christine Lill  
Sue Sedivec

Jon Baum  
Gwen Forte  
Theodore Gooding  
Maria LaFace  
Mary Fran McFadden

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Harold Creacy  
Roberto Flecha  
Susan Kelly  
Dominick Magliaro  
Rev. Gary Stiegler

Katherine Durante  
Rabbi Sruli Fried  
Carol Latif  
Andrew Repetti  
Evelyn Sullivan

Gerald Feddersen  
Michele Hutchison  
Camille Lopez  
Rev. Jacquelyn Rowe  
Lorie Travaglino

**ALTERNATE MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Barbara Scholz  
Richard Biolsi  
Carmen Lopez  
Jean Mildes-Hennon

attending for Susan Kelly  
attending for Carol Latif  
attending for Camille Lopez  
attending for Evelyn Sullivan

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES STAFF**

Jamie Hart  
Susan Mascola

Kathy Jaworski  
Jill Perez

Tracy Maksel  
Ryan Reilly

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

Arnold Hamm – State DHS  
Paul Kozak – Vetwork  
Jarrett Lynn – OMHS  
Richard Seitz – Youth Service Commission

Richard Hughes – DDD  
Annette LaBarbera - RPCMOC  
Linda Murtagh – BOSS

**Statement of Compliance** with the Open Public Meeting Act.

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of February 26, 2009 were held until the April 23, 2009 meeting, as the copies distributed were incomplete.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee Report** – Ted Gooding welcomed new member Maria LaFace of Ocean Monmouth Legal Services and reported that several of the HSAC voting members have reached the end of their second three-year term and hoped they would still attend as non-voting members.

The Executive Committee discussed proposed changes and funding reductions in State government. Included in the meeting packets were; a copy of the letter to the Governor expressing the HSAC's concerns with the changes and reductions, a chart that identified the use of funding to be eliminated, and the effected programs the HSACs across the State are support. Jill Perez gave an overview of proceedings up to this point in time and shared the impact of the decision of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to eliminate funding for Human Service Advisory Councils (HSAC) throughout the State to cover a \$1.4 million budget cut. The HSACs across the State draw in \$34 million in Continuum of Care dollars, \$4.4 million statewide for Emergency Shelter programs, Social Services for the Homeless funding and more. HSACs have been in effect for about 35 years and are the foundation of Human Services across the State. Most counties will not be able to sustain the Human Service Advisory Councils without State funding. After Commissioner Ricketts heard the vast public outcry regarding the HSACs she informed Jill Perez that she would be willing to look at the total SSBG (Social Services Block Grant) tagged funding (which the HSACs are included in) in total to see where cuts could be made. The SSBG contracts are direct service contracts. Ocean County receives approximately \$2.7 million in SSBG tagged funding, with County matches at over \$500,000. There isn't much, if any room for reductions in these contracts without effecting direct services. Commissioner Ricketts will meet with the Department of Human Services Directors on April 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the matter further. The Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders is going to pass a Resolution to support the HSACs and voice their disagreement with Commissioner Ricketts decision.

Jill also informed the Board that there is a decision by DCF to move the FSO (Family Support Organization) into the CMO (Care Management Organization), which is the service provider. Rick DeGironimo distributed a copy of the letter sent out by DCF stating that beginning July 1, 2009 the Division of Child Behavioral Health Services will no longer contract with the FSOs. This decision is not an initiative driven by the current fiscal climate no is it a cost saving goal. Each CMO will be assuming the staff of the FSO as a part of their organization. Rick explained that the State developed the model of separate FSO and CMO in order to give family voice, case management and flexible flex dollars. Rick stated that the family voice is a very essential element to the children's system of care.

Both of these issues are erosions of community voice. A discussion followed regarding DCF, the contracts for various populations that are administered through them and community input.

**By-Laws Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**CEAS Committee Report** – Linda Murtagh reported that the CEAS committee met on March 9<sup>th</sup>, the agencies at the table were still reporting and increase in service requests. The King of Kings church in Manahawkin has completed construction on the showers for their drop in site. Ocean County will not be receiving a direct allocation of Homeless Prevention dollars from the Stimulus Plan, however interested members of the CEAS/CoC Committees have begun to prepare for the RFP process for the remaining \$10 million received by the State. The planning process has begun for the submission of the 2009 CoC application. The NOFA should be released in May. The CoC will be accepting letters of interest from agencies for this year's application. General information can be found on HUD's website and E-Snaps. The next CoC meeting will be April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Nominating Committee Report** – Kathy Jaworski reported for Andrew Repetti stating that the Nominating Committee met on March 18<sup>th</sup>. There is a new slate of officers to be voted on today. The recommendations of the Nominating Committee are Reverend Peter Hartney for Chair, Chris Lill for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Sarah Gelbwachs for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair and Roberto Flecha for Secretary. A motion was made by Jon Baum and seconded by Rick DeGironimo to accept the recommended slate of officers. With a voice vote the motion passed with none opposed and no abstentions. The new slate of officers will take their chairs as of the April meeting.

**Planning Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Proposal Review Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**WIB / WorkFirst NJ** – Rick DeGironimo informed the Board there was a public announcement notice in yesterdays Asbury Park Press that the Ocean County Private Industry Council is seeking proposals from interested organizations to provide services to at risk youth between the ages of 14 to 24. The article stated that the Ocean County Workforce Investment Board shall approve the selection of the providers. Jill Perez added that this is part of the Stimulus Plan and that Ocean County is due to receive a fair amount of money for employment services due to the fact that we are one of the highest unemployed counties in the State. These funds are for the summer youth programs up to age 24 and for dislocated worker programs. The money needs to be obligated within 120 days from the signing of the Stimulus Plan, which was in February. The Youth funds must be spent by September 30, 2009. The funds will be used to create new jobs and save jobs that already exist. Fact sheets that list where Stimulus money will be applied are listed under each department at the State website [www.state.nj.us](http://www.state.nj.us).

## **COMMUNITY BOARD REPORTS**

**Child Care Committee Report** – Gwen Forte reported the next Child Care Committee meeting is April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the OC Department of Human Services Conference Room.

**Legislative Advocacy Committee Report** - Jon Baum reported that the next Legislative Advocacy Committee meeting would be 8:30 am on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The top issue on the agenda will be the happenings with the HSAC and DCF. Also to be discussed at the upcoming meeting is a similar issue concerning the Municipal Alliances, which fund dollars to each town for prevention purposes. The Division of Addiction Services (DAS), who supplies the providers of services for drug and alcoholism, is trying to have the Municipal Alliances moved under them. There is a concern that if this happens the prevention dollars would be used for treatment instead of prevention.

**CIACC** – Jamie Hart reported that the CIACC met this morning and selected its top five service priorities as part of the Needs Assessment for 2009. Also the Council passed a motion to write letters regarding the HSAC funding cut and FSO/CMO issue.

**Office for Individuals with Disabilities (OID)** – Ryan Reilly reported that the New Jersey Association for County Disability Services met last month and due to the many economic issues throughout the State, the membership has declined. OID has outreached the Brick Township School District, getting information to the teachers, guidance counselors and special education teachers regarding what services are outside the school realm, so when students are in need of things the school is unable to provide they'll have the information. Currently in Ocean County there are 46 individuals in the PASP program. If the remainder of anticipated funding comes through, the waiting list could be cleared and Ocean County would be the highest PSAP participating County in the State.

**LACADA Report** – No report at this time.

**Mental Health Board Report** – Tracy Maksel reported that the Mental Health Plan Update is pending Freeholder Board approval. The Jail Diversion Taskforce successfully submitted its Department of Justice Grant application for re-entry services on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Tracy will attend the Mental Health Administrators Association meeting on Monday March 30<sup>th</sup>, bringing the avocation letters regarding the FSO/CMO and HSAC issues for discussion. MHANJA (Mental Health Association in New Jersey, Inc.) spoke at the last meeting that we were creating a pure workforce project between Ocean, Monmouth and Middlesex Counties. 65 individuals were successfully outreached with a conference on March 31<sup>st</sup>. The topic was how to change the culture in our community and within our mental health agencies to integrate consumer provider individual paraprofessionals in the workforce. Twenty-five agencies were represented in the target area. The final draft of the Mental Health Plan Update is available on the website.

**Youth Services Commission Report** – Rick Seitz reported that with the assistance of Tracy Maksel the Youth Services Commission filed the Juvenile Justice Mental Health Diversion application. The Youth Service Commission's Three Year Comprehensive Plan and application with the State was approved.

The County Prosecutor contacted Georgian Court University regarding a Gang Intervention/Gang Prevention Initiative for Ocean County in addition to what the County already has in place. This was the first step in getting Georgian Court University onboard and becoming a lead agency in the initiative. The initial goal is to map the resources in Ocean County, starting with resources within the schools. Rick thanked Bruce Greenfield, Ocean County Superintendent of Schools for his support and assistance on this issue. Mayor Singer of Lakewood has also approached Georgian Court and asked them to do something similar for Lakewood Township. As State Chairperson of the County Youth Services Commission Administrators, Rick stated that the Commission would reach out to the State Department of Human Services in opposition of the move to remove the Human Service Advisory Councils funding.

**State Child Care Advisory Council Report** – Gwen Forte reported that the Child Care Advisory Council is defunct. The members are working with the Department of Education to reform a State Committee regarding children from birth to age 6. The waiting list for subsidized child care is down to 102 due to families being terminated because of work hours being cut or job loss. The New Jersey Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies has made recommendations to the Governor's office.

- Temporarily reduce the number of required employment hours to participate in the program from 30 hours to 25 hours per week.
- Extend the amount of time a client who loses a job has to regain employment from 30 days to not less than 90 days.

**State Department of Human Services Report** – Arnold Hamm informed the Council that the State DHS welcomed a new Deputy Commissioner, Janine Bender who will oversee Medicaid, Disability Services and Legislative Services. Arnold presented Talking Points with respect to the Governor's proposed Fiscal 2010 Budget.

- Medicaid premiums for FamilyCare children between 150-200% Federal Poverty Level will be eliminated.
- Enhanced federal funding for legal alien children.
- Approximately \$1.1 Billion in Federal Medical Assistance Percentage Enhancement relief negating deeper cuts to programs and recipients in Medicaid programs.
- No Medicaid optional services will be eliminated.
- 2.5% reduction to hospital funding; Charity Care funding will be held harmless.
- Approximately \$21 million in Olmstead funding has been included to further deinstitutionalize individuals and place them into the community.
- Funding of \$8 million continues for the DMHS for supporting outpatient hospital and community based psychiatric services for individuals 22 years of age and over.
- Over \$12 million of Community Services Waiting List funding has been included to place individual off of the waiting list.
- The FY 2010 Budget assumes 5 closures of cottages yielding overtime savings of \$1.3 million.
- Under DFD no service of programmatic reductions for clients in the General Assistance programs.
- Approximately \$9 million in funding for expanding categorical eligibility from 135% to 185% of the Federal Poverty Level allowing more families to qualify for the State's TANF program.
- Over \$41 million in funding to recognize caseload increases in the General Assistance and Social Security Income populations.
- No programmatic reductions impacting clients or services in DDS, CBVI, DAS and Deaf divisions.

Mary Fran McFadden, Director, OC Board of Social Services, commented that it is the Food Stamp program their expanding the eligibility from 135% to 185% of the Federal Poverty Level not the TANF program. Arnold Hamm stated that it is listed as the TANF program in the Governor's release.

**State Department of Children and Families** – No report at this time.

## **Announcements**

Freeholder Little distributed various news articles from around the country and Canada regarding homeless tent cities.

Jill Perez announced that the County is in the process of starting up the Food Voucher program. A meeting was held with all interested food pantries earlier in the week. Request for competitive bids has gone out.

Gwen Forte announced that The Children's Home Society of New Jersey is having a fundraiser, Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> in their lobby. They will be selling roses by the dozen for \$19.99 each. Pre-orders will be accepted via e-mail or phone and delivery is available. All proceeds go to the Infant Foster Care program.

## **New Business**

Ted Gooding stated that there is a lot of funding coming in with the Stimulus Package, which is labeled for various issues. The State has suggested that counties develop innovative programs encouraging people to reenter the workforce, possibly in different careers than they were in before. Ted would like to set up and participate in a subcommittee to discuss programs that Ocean County might be able to work in conjunction with the vocational schools, community college or other entities to help get individuals retrained and back into the workforce. Jill Perez stated that this subcommittee should be a combination of HSAC and WIB. A motion was made by Jon Baum and seconded by Bruce Greenfield to set up this subcommittee. With a voice vote the motion passed with none opposed and no abstentions. Jill Perez stated that she would discuss this issue with Pat Leahey of the WIB.

**Adjournment** – With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectively Submitted

Roberto Flecha, HSAC Secretary

Minutes prepared by Susan Mascola

**OCEAN COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 26, 2009**

This meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm by, Ted Gooding, Chair.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Barbara Barr  
Roberto Flecha  
Theodore Gooding  
Camille Lopez  
Kathleen Patrick

Vivian Bartkus  
Sarah Gelbwachs  
Rev. Peter Hartney  
Dominick Magliaro  
Sue Sedivec

Jon Baum  
Ada Gonzalez  
Christine Lill  
Mary Fran McFadden

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Joyce Brda  
Katherine Durante  
Bruce Greenfield  
Debbie Klaus  
Andrew Repetti  
Evelyn Sullivan

Harold Creacy  
Gerald Feddersen  
Michele Hutchison  
Hindy Langer  
Rev. Jacquelyn Rowe  
Lorie Travaglino

Enrico DeGironimo  
Rabbi Sruli Fried  
Susan Kelly  
Carol Latif  
Rev. Gary Stiegler

**ALTERNATE MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Wanda Alfaro  
Barbara Scholz  
Gwen Forte  
Richard Bilosi

attending for Harold Creacy  
attending for Susan Kelly  
attending for Debbie Klaus  
attending for Carol Latif

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES STAFF**

Jamie Hart  
Tracy Maksel

Kathy Jaworski  
Susan Mascola

Pat Leahey  
Kelly Mitchell

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

Amanda Curchin – Pediatric Day Health Center at Manchester  
Carol Folander - Pediatric Day Health Center at Manchester  
Arnold Hamm – State DHS  
Eileen Jarvis - Pediatric Day Health Center at Manchester  
Annette LaBarbera – RPCMOC  
Nancy McCorry – Salvation Army  
Kelly Trangone – Contact of OC  
Shelby Warner – Youth Services Commission

Bob Coughlin – Christ Episcopal Church  
Jenny Gustavsen – Ocean Partnership for Children  
Richard Hughes – DDD  
Paul Kozak – Vetwork  
Maria Laface – Ocean/Monmouth Legal Services  
Linda Murtagh – BOSS  
William VanSchoick – DYFS

**Statement of Compliance** with the Open Public Meeting Act.

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Jon Baum and seconded by Peter Hartney to accept the minutes of January 22, 2009, with a voice vote the motion carried.

**Presentation by Amanda Curchin, The Pediatric Day Health Center At Manchester** – Amanda Curchin informed the Council that The Pediatric Day Health Center At Manchester has been open for two years. The Center is attached to Manchester Manor Nursing Home and shares some common services, such as food preparation. A need was seen for a medical day care program to serve children that because of their specific medical needs were unable to attend a regular day care facility. The Center serves children from birth through age six and is licensed for 27 children. The medical needs faced by the children range from severe respiratory distress and illness with need for respiratory medication to children on ventilators and G-tubes. The staff at the Center is always willing and eager to be trained on any medical condition they have not yet experienced in order to better serve the children of the community. The center has three classrooms, one each - infant, toddler and preschool. There is a 3 to 1 staff to child ratio. Each classroom has one to three nurses present at any given time. The Center is open for 10 hours per day, from 7 am until 5 pm. The program is completely funded by Medicaid, which requires children be enrolled for 6 hours per day. Children must be receiving Medicaid to utilize this program and there is no cost to the family. Children must live within certain catchment areas due to the travel time. Parents may drive their child if they don't wish for them to be bused.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee Report** – Ted Gooding reported that the Executive Board reviewed the Level of Service (LOS) required of County HSAC and 10.21, which is the By-Laws and rules for the State County Advisory Councils. Ocean County is in Compliance.

**By-Laws Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**CEAS Committee Report** – Linda Murtagh reported that the Continuum of Care met on February 9<sup>th</sup>. A letter was read from Roberto Flecha, Executive Director of Seashore Family Services stating that the Growth Program, their transitional housing program will be closing as of August 31, 2009 due to the ongoing loss of funding.

The Point in Time Survey and Project Homeless Connect took place on January 28<sup>th</sup>. There were three sites for Project Homeless Connect, Lakewood, Toms River and Seaside Heights. Clothing, coats, food, flu shots and social service information was provided. When the numbers from the Point in Time Count are available the information will be distributed.

HUD has announced the 2008 Continuum of Care awards and Ocean County was awarded three new projects and all existing projects were renewed. The total coming into Ocean County is \$714,917. All information pertaining to this can be accessed through [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov).

The next CEAS meeting will be on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Nominating Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Planning Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Proposal Review Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**WIB / WorkFirst NJ** – Pat Leahey reported that the WIB continued to be involved in a number of regional initiatives.

- The Ready Program, which is researching a green talent network for jobs projected to be part of the economic recovery package.
- The Fort Monmouth Re-employment Committee – about 30% of Fort Monmouth's garrison workforce are Ocean County residents. The State has received a grant for just over \$3 million to provide retraining services to workers at Fort Monmouth. As the September 15, 2011 closing date approaches, how these dollars will be utilized will be examined.

- An initiative with Southern Ocean County Hospital for the development of a training center or institute for Health Care Professions. Representatives of Ocean County College (OCC) and Pat Leahey visited Atlantic/Cape Community College to look at their Health Professionals Institute and the OCC Foundation has received a \$12,000 grant to move from planning to implementation of a center.

Ocean County WIB is currently waiting news on how much Stimulus money the workforce system will receive. Preliminary, draft and confidential figures show there is potential for a nice infusion of funding for both the adult dislocated workers and youth programs. 50% of the funding may have to be obligated within 120 days and the youth dollars spent by the end of September. Clarification on timeframes has been requested. Any money coming out of the Stimulus package must be spent by June 2010.

There should be enough funding received to almost double the number of individuals served with the Summer Youth Program. Funds from the Stimulus package can serve youth up to age 24.

The State of New Jersey along with Connecticut and New York applied to the US Department of Labor for the National Emergency Grant and were approved. Ocean County is in the ten County footprint of those counties included in the grant. New Jersey will be getting \$7 million.

The unemployment system is currently inundated. If your claim gets pended it will take 6 to 8 weeks before you can get a review. Unemployment has been extended from 59 weeks to 72 weeks however not every worker will be eligible for this extension.

## **COMMUNITY BOARD REPORTS**

**Child Care Committee Report** – Gwen Forte reported the next Child Care Committee meeting is April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the OC Department of Human Services Conference Room.

**Legislative Advocacy Committee Report** - Jon Baum reported that the Committee is reaching out to Congressman Adler, Congressman Smith, Senator Menendez and Senator Lautenberg. Letters have been sent to the nine Ocean County Legislators regarding the new regulations for indoor air quality testing at Child Care Centers and the exorbitant cost to the centers. The LAC has decided to call together the Housing sub-committee in an effort to educate municipalities and mayors regarding affordable and supportive housing. The next LAC meeting is scheduled for Monday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am.

**CIACC** – Jamie Hart informed the Board that last month she reported on the availability of funds through the Division of Child Behavioral Health Services to implement or expand evidence based programs and these funds were no longer available. This month information states that it is back on and the funding is available. This is one time funding of approximately \$50,000 with no indication that it is annualized in any way. An RFP will be released by the State. The CIACC will be beginning its Needs Assessment process in order to select which evidence-based program they would like to see brought to the County. The on going Education Partnership will be hosting a session on welfare and homelessness on March 13<sup>th</sup> at Lacey High School. The majority of the half-day session will be a presentation by the New Jersey Department of Education on education for homeless students and the Board of Social Services on the services that are available for families.

**Office for Individuals with Disabilities** – Jamie Hart reported for Ryan Reilly stating that the statistical report on the information and referral calls received by the Office for Individuals with Disabilities for 2008 was included in the meeting packet. The majority of callers were women between the ages of 41 and 60.

**LACADA Report** – Jon Baum reported for Gary Abraham stating that site visits have been completed. Barbara Barr added that there were two major issues of discussion.

- Implications of legislation that if the Governors Counsel on Alcoholism is transferred to the Department of Addiction Services the Municipal Alliance funding may be in jeopardy.
- Medical Marijuana Bill.

**Mental Health Board Report** – Tracy Maksel reported Preferred Behavioral Health Services received their final award notification for \$500,000 from the Division of Mental Health Services to implement intensive outpatient treatment and support services as well as supported education services. These programs are set to begin in mid to late spring.

The Jail Diversion Taskforce secured permission through the Board of Chosen Freeholders to apply for the US Department of Justice, Criminal Justice and Mental Health Services Collaboration Grant program. The grant application will be submitted on March 10<sup>th</sup> and will be to expand the existing Jail Diversion program to implement a re-entry piece. The grant is \$250,000 over a thirty-month period. The Jail Diversion Taskforce is also going to engage with the Division of Mental Health Services Criminal Justice and Mental Health Coordinator to conduct a sequential intercept mapping process for the Jail Diversion program in the community. This can be added to the Mental Health Plan as an addendum.

Notification was received through the Disaster and Terrorism Branch of the Division that Ocean County would continue to receive the ERC Grant of \$2,500 to fund training and support of the ERC volunteers.

Kevin Martone has been moved from Assistant Commissioner of Mental Health Services to a Deputy Commissioner position with DHS replacing Jim Smith's position and John Poag is currently the Acting Commissioner of Mental Health Services.

**Youth Services Commission Report** – Shelby Warner reported that the Youth Service Commission has completed its Three Year Comprehensive Plan for the Juvenile Justice Commission. The Plan was submitted in November and approval has been received from the Juvenile Justice Commission. The Plan is now awaiting final approval in the Attorney General's Office. The Youth Services Commission has formed a Truancy Reduction Committee, which meets the last Monday of the month. The Committee will be proactive in assisting the schools in truancy issues utilizing the services already available in Ocean County to relieve the burden on the schools.

**State Child Care Advisory Council Report** – Gwen Forte reported that the waiting list for subsidized child care is down to 119, one of the reasons it has gone down is because people are losing their jobs or having their hours reduced and no longer qualify for the program.

As a result of the Head Start reauthorization, the Governor's office is looking to create a mandated State Early Learning Counsel. There appears to be many similarities to the already existing State Child Care Advisory Counsel.

The CUNA program is ready to go, it will be at the Pentecostal Church on 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Lakewood. The program will be able to serve 45 women and will be a six-week program, two days per week. A flyer will be forthcoming.

**State Department of Human Services Report** – Arnold Hamm reported that the Governor's top initiative deals with Family Care. The current goal is to get 220,000 children enrolled into the program. A speaker is available upon request to assist with enrolling children into the Family Care Program. If interested please contact Arnold Hamm at 609-731-5013 or by e-mail at [arnold.hamm@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:arnold.hamm@dhs.state.nj.us).

**State Department of Children and Families** – Arnold Hamm reported for Marge Caldwell-Wilson stating that there are currently 500 individuals registered for New Jersey's Taskforce On Child Abuse and Neglect Conference that will be held Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton in East Brunswick.

**Announcements**

Ted Gooding announced that Ocean County's First Time Home Buyer Program will close on thirty homes this year. O.C.E.A.N., Inc. is doing counseling for foreclosure. O.C.E.A.N., Inc also received a grant to do court mandated mediations to assist clients in saving their homes.

O.C.E.A.N., Inc will be opening a satellite office in Lakewood at 507 River Road in mid-March to do LEHEAP and NJ SHARES. Chris Lill added that St. Francis Center could process the paper work for NJ SHARES for the southern part of the county.

Kathy Jaworski informed the Council that the Census is now hiring and will be run through the Ocean County Planning Department. Anyone interested information can be obtained at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

**Adjournment** – With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.

Respectively Submitted

Roberto Flecha, HSAC Secretary

Minutes prepared by Susan Mascola

**OCEAN COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 22, 2009**

This meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm by, Ted Gooding, Chair.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Barbara Barr  
Enrico DeGironimo  
Sarah Gelbwachs  
Rev. Peter Hartney  
Camille Lopez  
Kathleen Patrick  
Lorie Travaglino

Vivian Bartkus  
Gerald Feddersen  
Ada Gonzalez  
Christine Lill  
Dominick Magliaro  
Rev. Jacquelyn Rowe

Jon Baum  
Roberto Flecha  
Theodore Gooding  
Freeholder Gerry Little  
Mary Fran McFadden  
Sue Sedivec

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Joyce Brda  
Rabbi Sruli Fried  
Susan Kelly  
Carol Latif  
Evelyn Sullivan

Harold Creacy  
Bruce Greenfield  
Debbie Klaus  
Andrew Repetti

Katherine Durante  
Michele Hutchison  
Hindy Langer  
Rev. Gary Stiegler

**ALTERNATE MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Barbara Scholz  
Gwen Forte  
Jean Mildes-Hennon

attending for Susan Kelly  
attending for Debbie Klaus  
attending for Evelyn Sullivan

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES STAFF**

Jamie Hart  
Susan Mascola  
Ryan Reilly

Kathy Jaworski  
Kelly Mitchell

Tracy Maksel  
Jill Perez

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

Kathi Callaghan – DYFS  
Nancy Enrico – Dottie's House  
Kathleen Holton – DYFS  
Linda Murtagh – BOSS  
Mario Tommasi – CTS

Chris Daugaard – Family Promise  
Arnold Hamm – NJ DHS  
Maria Laface – Ocean/Monmouth Legal Services  
Lisa Ojibway – State DHS  
Kathryn Van Ness - DYFS

**Statement of Compliance** with the Open Public Meeting Act.

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Mary Fran McFadden and seconded by Barbara Barr to accept the minutes of November 20, 2008, with a voice vote the motion carried.

**Presentation by Kathy Holton and Kathy Van Ness, Department of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), Resource Care** – Kathy Van Ness gave a brief overview of the DYFS Resource Unit. The Resource Unit is responsible for the recruitment of new foster and adoptive homes, licensing of

resource homes including relative placements and supervision of all existing licensed DYFS placement homes. Kathy Holton holds an informational group engagement presentation twice a month for all potential resource parents.

Kathy Holton informed the Council the types of families needed are relatives, family friends, foster homes and adoptive homes. If possible DYFS prefers to keep children in the county and township they are originally from, as it is an easier transition for the child to be in familiar surroundings. Presently in Ocean County there are 1,364 open DYFS cases, with 2,541 children under the care and supervision of DYFS, 567 or 25% are in out of home placements. Last year 358 children were placed out of home.

Currently the State of New Jersey is rolling out a new program, "The Sibs Program" which is looking for foster homes that will take sibling groups of five or more children. Last year the State had 60 instances of sibling groups of five or more that were put into placement and they had to be separated. Ocean County had a sibling group of nine children. The main goal is to keep siblings together when ever possible.

Reunification with the birth parents is always the primary permanency goal, however if this is not possible the foster parent is asked first if they want to adopt the child. Concurrent planning is done. DYFS plans for the child to be reunited with the birth family and at the same time are also planning for the child to be adopted incase the original plan can not be completed in the best interest of the child. When a child is in placement for twelve months a permanency hearing is held in court. DYFS gives their recommendation as to if the child should be reunited with the family or if parental rights terminated. If reunification cannot be achieved within fifteen months the permanency goal is changed from reunification to another appropriate goal, usually adoption.

Foster and resource parents adopt 80% of the children adopted in New Jersey. A resource parent must be at least eighteen years old, married or single, own a home or rent, must provide personal, employment and medical references, must undergo State, Federal and fingerprint back round checks, and must take part in twenty-seven hours of resource training. To become a resource parent an individual needs to fill out an application, participate in the pre-service training, participate in a home study, which is a mutual assessment consisting of interviews and back round information and home is inspected by the DYFS office of licensing. The process takes about five month. Support services are available for resource families. Monthly board payments are made for each child in placement and Medicaid is provided for children in placement. Last year there were 1,361 adoptions in New Jersey.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**By-Laws Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**CEAS Committee Report** – Linda Murtagh reported that at the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, the majority of the agencies around the table recorded and overall increase in service requests in 2008 ranging from 25% to 30%.

A letter of interest was sent to OceanFirst Foundation by the CoC applicants to assist in replacing some of the service dollars lost in the past two years applications processes.

The Point In Time (PIT) Survey Committee is gearing up for the January 28<sup>th</sup> PIT count and Project Homeless Connect. There will be three sites for Project Homeless Connect they will be in Lakewood, Toms River and Seaside Heights. For more information contact Nancy McCorry of the Salvation Army at 732-270-8393.

Announcements made at the CEAS meeting were:

- O.C.E.A.N., Inc. received a grant to assist persons facing court appointed foreclosures.

- Family Promise of Southern Ocean County will open on January 25<sup>th</sup>. The requirements for this program are you need to have children and transportation; you do not need to currently have a job. The program currently has 14 beds. If anyone knows of a family currently in need of shelter and meets the requirements contact Chris Daugaard at 609-713-7936.
- Harbor House will be closing their Transitional Housing Apartments by the end of March due to loss of funding, they are in the process of transitioning those clients into other programs.
- The Ocean County Department of Human Services will administer the Social Services for the Homeless Food Voucher Program this year and there will be a training in the near future.

The next Continuum of Care meeting will be held February 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

**Nominating Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**Planning Committee Report** – Rick DeGironimo gave an update on the Dental Initiative; the Committee has been meeting regularly and currently has a background paper, a Whitepaper and a research proposal. The Ocean County Department of Health was identified as the lead agency to seek funding and is working closely with Ocean Health Initiatives to help deliver services. The Ocean County Department of Health as well as several other agencies provided letters of support to Ocean Health Initiatives for a Federal Grant to provide dental health services for children age 3 to 5 years.

**Proposal Review Committee Report** – No report at this time.

**WIB / WorkFirst NJ** – No report at this time.

## **COMMUNITY BOARD REPORTS**

**Child Care Committee Report** – Gwen Forte reported the next Child Care Committee meeting is April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the OC Department of Human Services Conference Room.

**Legislative Advocacy Committee Report** - Jon Baum reported that the 30<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Committee met with Assemblyman Ron Dancer. The agenda was the same as the one used at the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Legislative District meetings with one addition; the proposed new rules NJAC 8:50 for center based child care. Assemblyman Dancer requested more statistics defending the Committees stand on the Insurance Parity Bill, was very positive on the DDD budget modification issue and was very interested in the proposed new rules regarding indoor air quality testing for child care centers.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Municipal Housing Trust fund.

The Committee has reached out to the Federal Legislators; no meeting date has been set yet.

**CIACC** – Jamie Hart reported that in November 2008 the Division of Child Behavioral Health Services reported to all CIACCs they were expecting the availability of about \$50,000 for each county to implement an Evidence Based Practice, however this morning it was discovered that this funding was no longer available. Jill Perez stated that the Safe Haven dollars are also gone; this funding was for educating the community on the program.

**Office for Individuals with Disabilities** – Ryan Reilly reported that Jill Perez, Tracy Maksel, Kathy Jaworski and himself met with the managers of the Ocean County Simon Mall in mid-December. They were very receptive to the concept of bringing in motorized scooters for their patrons, however there is no funding to do so at this time. Kathy gave them contact information for OceanFirst Foundation and explained the Foundation has different funding opportunities for community based activities.

The updated OCDHS Office for Individuals with Disabilities Resource Guide was included with the meeting packets and is also available online through the County website.

**LACADA Report** – Jon Baum reported for Gary Abraham stating that a new program overseer was hired. A Bill was entered to transfer the administration of the Alliances from PACADA to DAS. If

combined it would save approximately \$600,000. This should not effect the Alliances themselves because they were legislated. Jon requested a copy of the Bill and is awaiting its receipt.

**Mental Health Board Report** – Tracy Maksel reported that notification was received last week that Preferred Behavioral Health Services of New Jersey received a preliminary award from the Division of Mental Health Services to develop Intensive Outpatient Treatment and Support Services. Just under \$500,000 is expected to come in for this program. An appeals process is currently underway and it is anticipated that a final award notification will be received on or about February 2<sup>nd</sup>. This service is promising and will have a positive impact on Ocean County and is a result of the pending Olmstead lawsuit. Notification was also received from the Division of Mental Health Services that Preferred Behavioral Health Services received an award for a Supportive Education Services program that will serve Ocean, Atlantic and Monmouth Counties. This will enhance the supported employment program they currently have. The phase-in period is March through June.

Ocean, Monmouth and Middlesex Counties have partnered with the Mental Health Association of New Jersey and will hold a conference for providers who are integrating peer specialists into their workforce on March 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. There is a \$30 fee; more details will be sent via e-mail shortly.

The Mental Health Board is in the final phases of the Plan Update process. The Plan is in draft format for preliminary review and after the Planning Team has reviewed it, it will be posted on the website for community feedback. Plan approval is anticipated in March at which time it will be forwarded to the Board of Chosen Freeholders for their consideration.

**Youth Services Commission Report** – No report at this time.

**State Child Care Advisory Council Report** – Gwen Forte reported that the waiting list for subsidized child care is at 153.

Two focus group meetings have been held for the CUNA program. The program will begin in March, meeting twice a week from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm for six weeks. Classes will be held in the Pentacostal Church located at 155 E. Fourth Street in Lakewood. Referral will be accepted. The next CUNA meeting will be March 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at CHS.

There are new regulations for child care centers regarding immunization and two new vaccines that children need to obtain in order to attend a child care center or preschool. They are the flu shot and pneumonia shot. The deadline was December 31<sup>st</sup> however they have extended the deadline to January 31<sup>st</sup>. Child Care Centers can be fined for allowing a child to attend who has not received all immunizations and if a parent refuses to have the child receive the flu and pneumonia shot the child must be removed from the center until the end of March. There are medical and religious exemptions pertaining to these regulations. Lisa Ojibway suggested that anyone wishing to express their concerns on this issue should write to the State Department of Health. Ted Gooding stated that the Legislative Advocacy Committee should address the issue, Jon Baum concurred.

Approval for a RFP was received from the Department of Family Development to begin an Infant/Toddler Training program; The Children's Home Society of New Jersey is providing 70 hours of free training in Ocean County, with 15 hours of on site training. Brochures were distributed.

Regarding the salmonella in peanut butter, Gwen stated that there have already been 19 cases in New Jersey with 2 cases in Ocean County. Information on items involved can be acquired on the FDA website.

**State Department of Human Services Report** – Arnold Hamm informed the Council that included in the meeting packets was the most current State Department of Human Services Fact Sheet, which gives a brief outline of all the divisions and a better level of specificity in terms of what each division provides to the community.

Deputy Commissioner Jim Smith has retired after 28 years of service. He will now be vice president of Children's Future in Trenton.

State DHS is preparing to sit down with the Treasury Department next month who will look at the DHS budget line by line, which may result in more adjustments. There will be a special State HSAC meeting on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

**State Department of Children and Families** – No report at this time.

### **New Business**

Freeholder Little addressed the Council and informed them that the Board of Chosen Freeholders had their reorganization meeting. Freeholder John Bartlett, Jr. is the Freeholder Director and Freeholder Gerry Little is the Freeholder Deputy Director this year. Freeholder Little assured the Council there would be no tax increases this year. It is expected that Ocean County will be able to sustain and maintain all programs and services currently in place due to the cuts and adjustments made last year. However Ocean County will not be adding any new programs this year.

Two days prior to the recent extreme frigid temperatures, coordination was made by Freeholder Little and Alan Avery, County Administrator with Jill Perez of the Ocean County Department of Human Services (DHS) and Mary Fran McFadden of the Ocean County Board of Social Services (BOSS) to visit the unsheltered homeless sites and emphasize that Ocean County does have Emergency Shelter available. Staff members from DHS and BOSS accompanied by officers from the Ocean County Sheriffs Department visited the sites and distributed information in English and Spanish. Records show that no one from the unsheltered homeless sites exercised the option of obtaining emergency shelter during the extreme frigid temperatures or since. A copy of the information given to individuals and posted at the sites was distributed to the Council members.

Freeholder Little distributed "Services For Needy Families, Individual and the Homeless in Ocean County" booklet to the Council. The information in the booklet was comprised by the Board of Chosen Freeholders staff through the input of the OC BOSS, DHS and Health Department and lists available services in Ocean County for this population as well as the 2008 Point in Time Count Comparison by County.

### **Announcements**

Kathy Patrick informed the Council that she has received word that the Division of Developmental Disabilities will be making cuts to contracts for day programs; this represents a cut of about \$60 thousand to Easter Seals. Official word has not yet come from Trenton. Also CHIMES a multi-state organization formally known here as Developmental Services of New Jersey that has operated four group homes and one day program in Ocean County will no longer be operating those services.

Sue Sedivec announced that January is National Mentoring Month and Big Brothers/Big Sisters is having an open house Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 pm until 7:00 pm.

**Adjournment** – With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Respectively Submitted

Michele Hutchison, HSAC Secretary