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Michelle Dufour, NJ Div. of Child Protection &
Permanency, Somerset Local Office

If you wish to learn more about the HSAC,
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Or visit our website at www.co.somerset.nj.us

SOMERSET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES OFFICE OF OPERATIONS & PLANNING

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Human Services Director

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2/1/2019



**SOMERSET
COUNTY**



Human

Services

Advisory

Council



WHAT IS THE SOMERSET COUNTY HSAC?

The Somerset County Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) was appointed in Somerset in 1983 by the Board of Chosen Freeholders in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Human Services guidelines.

The HSAC is organized to provide a mechanism through which representatives of government, voluntary agencies, providers, consumers, consumer advocates and municipal representatives can coordinate their efforts to improve the quality of human services for residents of Somerset County.

The Somerset County Human Services Advisory Council, through the effort of its various subcommittees, serves the community in a variety of ways, such as:

- Serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of Chosen Freeholders with respect to the coordination of comprehensive social service planning in Somerset County.
- Assists the Somerset County Department of Human Services in identifying, collecting, and analyzing data on the Human Services delivery system in Somerset County.
- Makes recommendations to the Board of Chosen Freeholders and State Department of Human Services as to the allocation of funds for new services based on the outcome of planning efforts with regard to service priorities.
- Advocates for unmet and under met needs in Somerset County.
- Conducts countywide needs assessments and continuously updates planning documents.

- Provides an open forum to foster communication, education and information concerning human services.
- Assists agencies in pursuing all state and federal sources of human services funding available to constituents of Somerset County.
- Performs contract program monitoring on an annual basis, or more frequently if necessary, to assure that target populations are adequately served and that County plan priorities are addressed.

OVERALL PLANNING

The Comprehensive Human Services planning effort is one of the main purposes of the Human Services Advisory Council.

The Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders approved the current Somerset County Comprehensive Human Services Plan. This five-year plan was the result of an eighteen-month effort, which incorporated extensive participation by Human Services consumers and providers in Somerset County and included:

- A broad-based community needs assessment to determine target problem priorities.
- Development of service priorities for vulnerable target populations.
- Development of major initiatives/ recommendations for improving service delivery and/or coordination efforts.
- Development of recommendations for the allocation of resources.

A Human Services Plan Update provides future recommendations for improving human services.

COMMITTEES

The following Committees are designated as standing advisory committees to the Human Services Advisory Council:

- Executive/Advocacy/Legislative Committee
- By-Laws Committee
- Planning Committee
- Proposal Review Committee
- Program Monitoring Committee
- Nominating Committee

In addition to these standing committees, special and/or ad-hoc committees shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the HSAC when necessary to implement the aims and purposes of the Council.

The Somerset County Human Services Advisory Council meets the fourth Wednesday of each month (except for August & December - no meetings) at 1:30 p.m. at 27 Warren Street, Somerville. These meetings are open to the public.

Department Mission: To coordinate and facilitate the provision of services and programs, which work to address economic self-sufficiency and promote social wellbeing of county residents