

Passaic County CIACC
401Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
Chair: Gino Arevalo
Vice-Chair: Kelly Hart
January 13, 2021

Attendance

Present

Gino Arevalo, FIS /CFS	Angelo Ragonesi, NJDMHAS
Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC	Fanny Ochoa, Community
Sybil Schreiber, MHCOP	Steve Radke, DCP&P
Cynthia Heller, CMO	Brenda Browne, Division of MH&AS
Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO	Kathi Champagne, FSO
Jeena Williams, DCP&P	Daisy Carrera, Jewish Family Services
Ana Rivera, Community	Jeff Steigman, FIS /CFS
Davetta Ford, CASA	Natalie Contreras, FIS /CFS
Rosemary Pino, CASA	James Sawyer, FSO
Yolanda Cobos, PCMHA	Donna Glinkin, MRSS
Sherrine Schudlt, Up in PC	Nicole Digiore, St. Mary's, AWARE
Denise Nausads, DCF	Le'Var Starr, PC YSC
Stephanie Dragg, McKinney-Vento	Diahann DeRuggiero, McKinney-Vento
Rachel Kinne, BBBS	Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health

Excused

Belli Arce, PC Mental Health	Marian Golan, PC CASA for Children
Francine Vince, PC Human Services	

Absent

Lisa Vainieri-Marshall, Paterson Public Schools	Santa Dastidar, St. Mary's Hospital PCH
Rosy Messineo, Haledon Public Schools	Duwan Bogert, WIB
Gabriel Montero, M&S	

The monthly meeting of the Passaic County CIACC was called to order at 9:35am. The meeting was held via videoconference.

- I. **Previous Minutes:** On a motion by Le'Var Starr and seconded by Brenda Browne, the December 9, 2020 CIACC minutes were approved.

- II. **System Partner Update:**
 - Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO, reported that they are currently working with 852 youth and families, 80 new youth in December. They held a virtual holiday party for families involved with CMO and FSO. The numbers were lower than live events in the past, but still successful.

- Kathi Champagne reported on the virtual Holiday meal for their families which was for families involved with CMO and FSO. As a virtual event they were still able to have food, contests, and special guests. They are currently working with 207 families. They had 85 new families in November, 20 initial meetings with CMO, 11 initial meetings without the CMO. They had 130 virtual face to face visits and 46 CFTs. They collaborate with Jersey Cares, which has a program with Frosty and Friends, and were able to give 125 children gifts. Support groups are meeting virtually, over 50 individual family members in attendance. The Youth group is meeting virtually with 9 youth weekly. They also had a trip to DC to hand out safety supplies, like gloves and masks.
- CMRSS reported they had 155 requests for dispatch. They are currently working with 315 families. There were 0 petitions and 0 placements. They have 2 staff openings.
- Jeena Williams, DCP&P, reported in December, Central Passaic had 108 new referrals, and Northern Passaic received 119 referrals. These numbers are lower than the pre-pandemic days. There is currently a Request for Quotation through DCF. This is for consulting services to assist the dept with its Adverse Childhood Experience Action Plan, and there is funding up to \$125,000 although the deadline is tomorrow (1-14-21).

III. Committee Reports:

- Race Equity: Jeff Steigman, FIS /CFS, no additional report. They continue to work on upcoming presentation to CIACC next month from one of their committee members.
- PFS II – SOAR: Sherrine Schudlt, Up in PC, announced a new staff person filled the position, Joanna O'Rourke, and she will attend the next CIACC meeting. The next PFS II committee meeting will take place on January 21, 2021 at 10:00am. At this meeting we will look at the Passaic County Municipal Alliance assessments. The committee is looking for a commitment from members to join the group. Angelo Ragonesi, NJDMHAS, reported that they had their quarterly PFS II meeting.
- Systems Review: Donna Glinkin, MRSS, reported the committee will meet next Tuesday.
- Family Voice: Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health, reported on attending one of the Parent support groups in December. CIACC information was shared and received information from the group. They shared topics that may be of interest for the Education Committee for the training: *How to support teenage students (1st year HS/MS) with special needs... during pandemic; When quarantined, needed coping skills for youth with dealing with depression, mental illness, grieving; How to reacclimate when school opens again. What are the expectations. How do we support youth going back to a full time/ at school schedule? How to prepare students going back to a regular school schedule.*
-Gino Arevalo, FIS /CFS, reported that he had an opportunity to talk to parents about CIACC, and how hearing from parents/ family members is an important part of the process. Fanny Ochoa, Community, further explained that they have heard of the CIACC, but was not aware of the purpose and how to get involved. Also, how families usually get to know the system when they are in crisis. Parents need to know how to get resources and information. How can the family voice can be maximized, parents are the experts in their families. How to make sure families get all the information needed. It is good to hear the numbers of youth served at CIACC meetings, but also need to look at the number of families not being served. Possibly distribute a survey to gather information. Look to more ways we get information out to everyone. Ana Rivera,

Community, shared that a goal should be how to guide families, support them in navigating the system, translation and offer meeting flexibility. Discussed an outreach to the community so we are all aware of resources available.

- IV. **Youth Services Commission:** Le'Var Starr, YSC Administrator, reported that there will be a Human Services Annual Provider meeting will be held on January 21st at 9:00am. There was a Re-Bid an Afterschool Program for the City of Passaic or Upper Passaic County in the amount of \$45,000, and for a Teen Court Program for \$50,000. It was posted in the Herald News and is due by February 5th at 10:30am. The next Youth Service Commission meeting will be held on January 20, 2021 at 12:30pm.

- V. **Staff Report:** Brenda Browne, County Division of Mental Health & Addiction, shared that the Department has hired new staff. Jenna Atmeh as the Municipal Coordinator, and Cindy Mercado as the Addiction & Mental Health Educator. The County Freeholders have changed their names to County Commissioners, please make note of the change. The Hope One Van, community addiction outreach, has engaged 733 individuals, gave out 204 harm reduction kits, and navigated 54 people to treatment. The agency that has the grant is Prevention is Key. -Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health, reported that she has a meeting with Ringwood School District. They questioned whether service providers are currently virtual or in person.

- VI. **Stakeholder Updates:** No report.

- VII. **Announcements:** Sybil Schreiber pointed out that in the CIACC Executive meeting it was raised that we would have alternating CIACC meetings in the evening to meet the needs of the community. Meetings would alternate from morning to evening on a monthly basis. A schedule will be sent to members when details are finalized. We have a presentation scheduled in the morning of February's meeting, therefore no changes will take place until March. Ana Rivera, Community, asked the providers regarding afterschool respite and education advocacy (which is described in the November Data Dashboards report). It was questioned who provides these services, and how can families access them. There is a lack of resources in Passaic County. It was requested this is explored through CMO and/or PerformCare. It was also recommended to invite a representative from the Family Support Planning Council to the CIACC meetings.

The CIACC meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am. Next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2021.

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*