

Passaic County CIACC
401 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505

Chair: Gino Arevalo
Vice-Chair: Kelly Hart

June 9, 2021

Attendance

Present

Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC	Nancy Estrada, Community
Gino Arevalo, PC CASA for Children	Nancy G, Community
Ana Maria Rivera, Parent	Emma Ojeda, Parent
Fanny Ochoa, Parent	Kathi Champagne, FSO
Diahann DeRuggiero, McKinney-Vento	Joanna O'Rourke, Up in PC
Sybil Schreiber, MHCop	Jeena Williams, DCP&P
Daisy Carrera, Jewish Family Services	Donna Glinkin, MRSS
Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO	Marian Golan, PC CASA for Children
Tatiana Rodriguez, DCP	Lt. James Lane, Passaic PD
Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro, FIS/CFSS	Cynthia Heller, CMO
Ambar Ramirez, CMO	Denise Nausedas, DCF
Monica Lozano, EDNI	Stephanie Drag, Center for Alcohol & Drug
Jaime Jackett, Dept. of Education	Nicole Digiore, St. Mary's, AWARE
Natalie Contreras, FIS/CFSS	Vanessa Castaneda, Care Plus
Amanda Compton-Dover, JJC	Le'Var Starr, PC YSC
Davetta Ford, Safe Babies	Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health

Excused

Francine Vince, PC Human Services	Brenda Browne, Division of MH&AS
Abire Sabbagh, Palestinian American Community Ctr	

Absent

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

The monthly meeting of the Passaic County CIACC was called to order at 9:35am. The meeting was held via videoconference. *Minutes, agenda, and meeting link is available on the Passaic County website.*

Kelly Hart Thanked Gino Arevalo for his service on the CIACC. He has been a partner, collaborating with the many systems and providers with the same goal of improving the lives of youth and families in their community. Good luck in the future

I. **Minutes:** On a motion by Sybil Schreiber and seconded by Cynthia Heller the May 2021 minutes were unanimously approved.

II. **Joanna O'Rourke, Up in PC, presentation on Adverse Childhood Experiences:** Joanna gave a description of ACES, how to identify early childhood trauma, and the effects on health due to trauma. Further described how childhood trauma is measured by ACES, and its effects on emotional and physical health. In NJ, the Governor launched its first ACES Action Plan, to try to reduce and prevent childhood trauma. Includes five Action goals, including reaching youth potential through healthy relationships, reducing ACES/ risks, developing resources, community building, and increasing online availability of resources.

III. **System Partner Updates:**

- Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO, reported that they are currently working with 910 youth and families, 68 new referrals. They are working on a virtual/ hybrid model, seeing families in person when requested. RFP for Community Development Funds are in the amount of \$125,00, details are on the website and deadline is June 25th. The Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds event will start up again, this will be the 11th year. JDAI, Family and Community Engagement Committee, will be restarting the Community Conversations. On June 16th Jimmy Richardson, who is a Paterson Historian, will be presenting on the importance of Juneteenth.
- Kathi Champagne, FSO, reported they had 80 referred families, 27 initial meetings with CMO, 18 initial meetings with Peer Support Workers, and 198 face to face virtual visits with families. They are starting to go meet with families in person on request. They have 15 unduplicated youth meeting with the Youth Partnership monthly, with 12 in-person meetings (total of 30 youth participating). They are having their first live support group in West Milford. There have been 126 participants in all the support groups held.
- Donna Glinkin, CMRSS, reported they had 217 new requests for dispatch. They are open with 420 families through telehealth or face to face visits. On July 1st, they will start working with youth ages 0 to 5. Training for MRSS staff are taking place to prepare them for working with that age range.
- Jeena Williams, DCP, In May Central Passaic had 181 new referrals (3rd highest in the state), Northern Passaic had 167 new referrals (6th in the state). There is a Request for Quotations, they are working on an initiative staff health and wellness and is available on the DCF website. Looking for recommendations and quotes to assist in the identification of Healing Centered Opportunities that promote healthy activities to support the well-being of DCF employees. The grant is up to \$44,000 and is due by June 28th. Jeena introduced Tatiana Rodriguez as the new Resource Development Specialist for Central Passaic.

IV. **Committee Reports:**

- Racial Equity: Marian Golan reported that the group is meeting weekly. They will not be meeting on 7-6. They have been talking about bringing in an ongoing youth council to Passaic County. Currently they are partnered with Camden County as a model that is being explored for our county. Cynthia Heller added

that with Juneteenth approaching, The Governor has announced it is now a National Holiday. There are events throughout the county celebrating the end of slavery.

- PFS II – SOAR: Joanna O'Rourke, reported that in 2 weeks they will be meeting with NJPN to discuss next steps, which is the logic model to be completed in September 2021.
- Lt. James Lane reported that Systems Partner Committee had a presentation from Hudson County CMO on the program they are using, Credible Messenger.
- Community Voice: Ana Maria Rivera thanked Gino Arevalo for all his ongoing support to the family and community voice. They continue to meet on Tuesdays at 6:30pm. The committee is increasing, and Ana shared the topics that were raised. Families brought up issues with CMO. It was stated that CMO has great workers and provides great services, and they are highlighting some of the concerns care managers have not relayed the correct information on resources for families. Topics raised were: how families can apply for DD under the age of 18/ transition Services; how to apply for Individual Support Services (ISS); simultaneous services from IIC and ISS; no follow up with the therapist on recommendations for the Plan; and listening to the family voice. Cynthia Heller would like to further address these concerns to make sure families are receiving the resources they need.
 - Another concern raised was with DVRS. Families are having trouble reaching people in the office to follow up with services. Youth need job readiness skills after COVID. There are families waiting more than 1 year waiting for an IPE (Individual Plan of Employment). Even though a young adult has disability they can also apply for DVRS. DVRS does not provide an assessment which is needed to apply for services.
 - Early Intervention, families are not aware of how to transition to school setting. They are looking for more information.
 - They participated in a State Public Hearing for the Department of Human Services. Family Testimonies were compiled on the three concerns on childcare. 1. Three-month window where families can benefit from childcare while they go to work, 2. Provide childcare with providers that understand children with Special Needs, and 3. Consider income brackets that don't qualify are still struggling to meet their needs.
- By-Laws & Membership: Jenny Vuksic reported that the Passaic County Mental Health Board Approved CIACC membership at their last meeting.
- Elections: The slate presented was Kelly Hart for Chair, and Ana Maria Rivera for Vice-Chair for the term of 7-1-21 through 6-30-23. On a motion by Lt. James Lane and seconded by Marian Golan, the slate was approved. Congratulations!!
- Planning/Education Committee: The committee met June 7th. There was a great turnout, and the group begin to talk about future topics for trainings. DCF is looking to expand the expectations of the number of trainings per year, which would include access to CSOC. Also, discussion on how to guide families for youth returning to school in September. Hopefully in July since Child Study Teams would still be available in July, not August. It was suggested that Diahann

DeRuggiero attend one of the Community Voice meeting to talk about McKinney-Vento. Looking to have trainings twice a month through December.

V. **Youth Services Commission:** Jenny Vuksic reported that they are working on monitoring the programs funded through YSC, Le'Var Starr, YSC Administrator, added [Impact Passaic - Connecting People and Programs](#) is a resource site and notification for rental assistance program. The Youth Service Conference is scheduled for December 2nd & 3rd. They have a space reserved but will have a hybrid option.

VI. **Staff Report:** No report.

VII. **Announcements:** No report.

The CIACC meeting was adjourned at 11:00am. Next meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2021 at **9:30am**. *Will be held virtually*. Please note the time of meeting.

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*