

**Passaic County CIACC**  
**401 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505**

**Chair: Kelly Hart**

**Vice-Chair: Ana Maria Rivera**

**January 12, 2022**

**Attendance**

Present

Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC  
Ana Maria Rivera, Parent  
Fanny Ochoa, Parent  
Cynthia Heller, CMO  
Denise Nausedas, DCF  
Diahan DeRuggiero, McKinney Vento  
Jaime Jackett, NJDOE  
Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO  
Kathi Champagne, FSO  
Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro, CFFS  
Paulette Mader, Rutgers Univ. PPS 2.0  
Sybil Schreiber, MHCoP  
Laurie Lieberman, JFS of Northern NJ  
Donna Glinkin, MRSS  
Stephanie Drag, Center for Alcohol & Drug  
Iyana Anderson, Region Pract Spec PPS 2.0  
James Lane, Passaic PD

Cindy Merced, Supreme Consultants  
Jeena Williams, DCP  
Nicole Digiore, St. Mary's Hosp Adol PHP  
Nancy Estrada, Community  
Joanna O'Rourke, Up in PC  
James Sawyer, FSO  
Victoria, SNAP-Ed  
Marie Lopez, SNAP-Ed  
Jo Ponticello, Children's Aid  
Kayra Aponte, 4Cs  
Nancy Garra, Parent  
Natalie Contreras, CFFS  
Caroline  
LT, Summit Oaks  
Le'Var Starr, PC YSC  
Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health

Excused

Bart Chou, PC Mental Health & Addiction  
Francine Vince, PC Human Services

Berenice Lopez, S&N Family Success Ctr  
Amanda Compton-Dover, JJC

Absent

Gabriel Montero, M&S  
Duwan Bogert, WIB  
Dawn Moody, Probation  
Lisa Vainieri-Marshall, Paterson Schools  
Abire Sibbagh, Palestinian American Ctr

Daisy Carrera, Jewish Family Service  
Rosy Messineo, Haledon Public Schools  
Jenny Sierra, DCP  
JacQueline Mestre, New Destiny

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.*

- I. **Minutes:** On a motion by Sybil Schreiber and seconded by Ana Maria Rivera, December 2021 minutes were approved.

## II. System Partner Updates:

- Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO, reported having seen an increase in referrals, they reported 923 active youth, 82 new referrals, and 76 transitions. Juvenile Detention Alternative (JDAI) Family Partnership is partnering with Penn Medicine to provide a Mental Health First Aid training targeted to the community on how to address mental health crisis. There are 30 spots available, it is free, and is virtual.  
-Cynthia Heller is meeting with the statewide CMO Directors, one of the topics they are discussing is getting feedback on what happens when a caregiver calls for services from PerformCare. What can be done to streamline access to services. One response; PerformCare expects families to know what to ask for. Second response; families don't have the correct language to ask for the specific services. Ana Marie Rivera will bring this topic to Community Voice Committee. Cynthia Heller provided the group with her email [cheller@cocucmo.org](mailto:cheller@cocucmo.org)
- Kathi Champagne, FSO, reported total of referred was 82, 10 initial visits with Care Manager, 14 without Care Manager, and total 143 face to face visits in the month of December. A highlight was their contract with a grant called Project Feed where they partnered with community restaurants, they had a total of 325 hot meals and were able to deliver over 200 meals to families. There were 109 total participants in the support groups, 7 support groups, and the Youth Group has their meetings on an in-person & hybrid schedule. They were able to work with Frosty and Friends, they contracted with Jersey Cares and were able to provide over 125 gifts to families. They had their virtual Holiday event with CMO, which was successful. FSO is looking for 2 Full Time Peer Support Partners, one bi-lingual.
- Donna Glinkin, CMRSS, had 266 new requests for dispatches and are currently working with 350 families, and no petitions or shelter placements. Continuing to offer telehealth or in-person. Were able to give 150 gifts to families over the holidays. They have some staff openings and 2 supervisory positions open.
- Jeena Williams DCPD – reported on intakes for the month of December. Central Passaic received 170 referrals, and Northern Passaic had 150 referrals. Update on Request for Proposals (RFPs); 1. Adaptation of Coaching Boys into Men, prevention of sexual violence curriculum due January 12, 2022, closes today; 2. Consultants to help DCF Implement a universal Home Visitation Program closes on January 31, 2022. DCPD office is primarily working from home, with some staff in office.

## III. Committee Reports:

- Paulina Dutton gave a brief year in review from the Racial Equity Committee. They meet weekly, every Tuesday going on year 2. The vision and mission remains the same, to identify barriers, advocate for change to achieve racial equity in the community. The mission started as partners gathered after the death of George Floyd to see how to go about making change. They developed a commitment letter for agencies/providers to assist in make change in office settings. Tracy Salmon came and gave a presentation on racial bias, which she presented to the committee and to CIACC. Lastly, we held 2 Youth Forums spoke on racial biases, through their experiences and poems. Planning for the next conference on March 1, 2022.

- Joanna O'Rourke, PFS II, reported there are no new updates. YPSs are meeting next week to discuss next steps in the logic model that we are still building for Passaic County.
- Ana Marie Rivera reported that Community Voice committee is meeting twice a month, on the second & last Tuesday at 6:30pm. The parents have discussed how families will function if schools return to remote learning. To provide supports for families to stay home, are the counties thinking about supporting families in that situation? What are the resources/ support—being pro-active. Housing was also discussed. Affordable Housing website, Passaic County does not have many housing options available. Wait lists for renting/ownership/utilities/food insecurities are increasing. DCF has an Office of Housing now. Also reach out to Family Success Centers. Currently there are a number of families needing to quarantine under school requirements.

Jaime Jackett added the following in chat: <https://casetext.com/regulation/new-jersey-administrative-code/title-6a-education/chapter-16-programs-to-support-student-development/subchapter-10-home-or-out-of-school-instruction/section-6a16-101-home-or-out-of-school-instruction-due-to-a-temporary-or-chronic-health-condition>

-They continue to have issues with DVRS only offering summer employment, not transitional services/ job skills. Families are not seeing work pre-employment services at 14 years old. Being told of situations where youth are being placed in employment without a job coach. This issue needs to be addressed, and parents need to share their stories. Discussed the racial bias within getting services. More oversight and training on cultural competence & cultural humility.

- Planning/Education Committee: Education Committee is working on finalizing presenters for the February 4, 2022, 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Keynote speaker to discuss Sexuality especially youth with the special needs; Lunchtime speaker on technology resources available to school staff; Breakout Sessions will include sexting/social media and immigration.  
-Planning Committee will meet right after the CIACC meeting on the same link. Looking at Bergen County's model to deal with decreasing numbers in the Emergency Services. Reach out to St. Mary's Hospital and Chilton for more information. Also discussed school reporting to DCP/ Institutional Abuse.

IV. **Youth Services Commission:** Le'Var, reported the Youth Service Commission will meet on January 19th at 12:30 virtually via teams. A schedule and link to our meeting can be located on the Passaic County Website. The Youth Service Commission currently has one Request for Proposal for an after-school prevention program in the city of Passaic, the closing date for this RFP is January 19th. Please check the county website under purchasing to review this funding opportunity.

V. **Staff Report:** No report

VI. **Announcements:**

-Fanny Ochoa shared that SPAN has started trainings discussed at last month's meeting. Families that have youth in the juvenile justice or child welfare system, teaching/supporting

families on their rights in disciplinary action held in education. Then they will host 1-hour IEP clinics around special education. (Monique Dujue [-mdujue@spanadvocacy.org](mailto:mdujue@spanadvocacy.org))  
- Jo Ponticello, Children's Aid, discussed a grant they have applied for. It was discussed that the model aims to reduce aggression & violence towards woman supported through DCF Division of Women. Program was designed to work with athletic coaches and are looking for volunteers in the community to work with young boys between the ages of 10 and 24 old. They will train coaches in the model, targeting the cities of Passaic, Paterson and Clifton.  
- Maria Senior Nutrition Educator for NJ SNAP-Ed at CFBNJ. If you are interested in SNAP enrollment, Food Access, Free grant funds for Policy, System, and Environmental change for schools, after school programs, and pantries, and free nutrition workshops for kid's, seniors, and families. Feel free to contact Maria at [908-908-324-3418/mlopez@cfbnj.org](tel:908-908-324-3418) or Victoria at [valizo@cfbnj.org](mailto:valizo@cfbnj.org)

**VII. New Business:**

-- *Increase of children/youth involved in our system going to Emergency Room for services.*

The CIACC meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am. Next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2022 at **6:30pm**. *Will be held virtually.* Please note the time of meeting.

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*