

Passaic County CIACC
401 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
Chair: Kelly Hart
Vice-Chair: Ana Maria Rivera
February 9, 2022

Attendance

Present

Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC
Ana Maria Rivera, Parent
Fanny Ochoa, Parent
Kathi Champagne, FSO
Ingrid Vaca-Bullaro, CFFS
Donna Glinkin, MRSS
Cynthia Heller, CMO
Joanna O'Rourke, Up in PC
Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO
Paulette Mader, Rutgers Univ. PPS 2.0
Maria Lopez, SNAP-Ed
Mark Fischer
Jenny Sierra, DCPD

Charrisa Moulton, NJ Courts
Yvette Ferrer, Probation
Loumarie Vasquez, CFFR Intern
Martha Aykut, CFFR Intern
Stephanie Drag, Center for Alcohol & Drug
Rachel Kinne, BBBS
Diahann DeRuggiero, McKinneyVento
Nancy La Torre,
Ema, Parent
Shannon Ferray, PC Mental Health & Addiction
Bart Chou, PC Mental Health & Addiction
Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health

Excused

Le'Var Starr, PC YSC
Francine Vince, PC Human Services
Jaime Jackett, NJDOE
Marion Golan, CASA

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

Absent

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

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

The monthly meeting of the Passaic County CIACC was called to order at 6:35pm. The meeting was held via videoconference. *Minutes, agenda, and meeting link is available on the Passaic County website.*

- I. **Minutes:** On a motion by Paulina Dutton and seconded by Ana Maria Rivera, January 2022 minutes were approved.
- II. **System Partner Updates:**
 - Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO, reported having seen an increase in referrals, they reported 932 active youth (highest number so far), 93 new referrals, and 57 transitions. They are back in the office/hybrid schedule. They are available to visit with families in person. They have Community Development Funds in the amount of \$68,000. The RFP

will come out on 2-28-22 and is due by 3-22-22. Paulina invited CIACC members to participate in the RFP Review Panel. Please reach out to Paulina if you are interested. pdupton@cocucmo.org

-Paulina shared the CMO explainer video for the community, and is available on YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0k36BKg9WyRXkBSQJe4bQw>
It is available in English & Spanish.

- Kathi Champagne, FSO, reported total of referred was 102, 42 FANS, 31 Team meetings, 187 minutes of face to face visits, 8 Spanish groups, and 10 youth groups. They were able to provide 90 additional meals through Project Feed.
-There was a discussion on how families receive food through pantries and the challenges due to not being culturally appropriate and not knowing how to prepare certain items, so food goes to waste. This information will be shared with Human Service Advisory Council (HSAC).
- Donna Glinkin, CMRSS, had 182 new requests for dispatches and are currently working with 300 families, and no petitions or shelter placements. They have already 100 referrals for the month of February. Continuing to offer telehealth or in-person.
- Jenny Sierra, DCPD – reported that they have been in the office full time since 1-30-22. Central Passaic received 150 referrals for the month of January, and Northern Passaic had 119 referrals. Referrals are increasing, and case managers are screening a little differently, being more resourceful in providing community resources.

III. **Committee Reports:**

- Paulina Dutton reported that the Racial Equity Committee still meets weekly. They are taking the Youth Forum on the road, will be bringing the discussion to the students at the Al Moody Academy in Paterson on March 22nd to address racial and social issues. Also planning a virtual Forum in Partnership with the Boys and Girls Club in Paterson.
- Joanna O'Rourke, PFS II, there are no new updates, there will be new updates in the March meeting.
They will be meeting with the workgroup the end of February to discuss our next steps in forming interventions for our logic model.
- Ana Maria Rivera reported that Community Voice committee is meeting twice a month, on the second & last Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. Only have a Spanish group currently, how to bring more members with diverse cultures. They are preparing a proposal for family engagement to submit to CIACC for review. They are compiling information on parent's experience when they call the PerformCare hotline. Still frustrations with DVRS. They are following up, and still struggle with receiving services. Young children without services, deserve to receive the services they are eligible for. Families are not seeing any improvement since we brought this up with DVRS. These services are important for youth to transition and work on their independence. Discussed having a smaller meeting to address the issues, Kathi, Cynthia, Fanny, Ana, and Jenny volunteered to participate. Are other counties having the same concerns. Draft a letter from CIACC to address concerns and advocate for families. Paulette to reach out to Iyana Anderson, Resource Practice Specialist, her role is to bring back concerns from CIACC to the state. Housing issues and Section 8 discussed in the City of Passaic due to rebuilding/restructuring. Families are being displaced with no notice, just informed they must leave. No information whether they will be given priority for housing. How do we provide supports in regards to housing.

Concerns raised were families having businesses at home/ potential hazards; and young children watching younger children so parents can work/ concerns of bigger issues taking place.

- **Planning/Education Committee:** The 8th Annual Conference was held on February 4, 2022. It was successful with around 80 people in attendance even with weather conditions and school closings. Chief Harding was able to join our presenter on Sexting to talk about legalities. Immigration session was small but were engaged in the discussion. Started to discuss Promising Path to Success Funds, and discussion around engaging families in CIACC. Discussed bring both Iyana Anderson and Paulette Mader to our next meeting to continue our discussions. Racial Equity how to incorporate a CIACC Youth Council. Also looking at how to utilize funds to support family engagement. Also discussed youth and ER clearance letters.

It was discussed that a child could be suspended instead of working on behavior assessment, IEP, or putting services in place to keep kids at home. SPAN offering trainings for parents who have youth with disabilities around juvenile justice, child welfare system.... Encouraging parents to read the disciplinary guidelines for their school district. It was recommended that we reach out to Linda Wieseneck, CAPE Resource Center, works with resources for youth with Special Needs.

- IV. **Youth Services Commission:** Jenny Vuksic reported that YSC meets next week on February 16 at 12:30pm. They continue to work on planning for the Restorative Justice pilot grant. They will start the monitoring of the grant funded programs in April. Please reach out to Jenny or find the link on the county website if you're interested in attending YSC meetings.
- V. **Division of Mental Health & Addition Services:** Bart Chou shared that they received the Addiction Division RFPs and Mental Health RFPs and will be given an update when complete.
- Jenny Vuksic reminded members that they can reach out to Shannon Ferray our Health Educator in the Department if you need resources, prevention, education or support. Shannon further invited members to reach out to her if you need assistance navigating the Impact Passaic Resource, utilizing the platform. ShannonF@passaiccountynj.org
- Bart added that they are working on building a partnership/network with the school system. If you have any contacts, please forward to Shannon or Jenny. Cynthia shared that CMO has a School Liaison Specialist and been working on establishing those connections. Also, Jamie Jackett from our CIACC is a Resource.
- VI. **Announcements:** Kelly Hart Highlands FSC, announced they are working on their Earth Day event, and will update members when confirmed. Hopefully to take place in late April.
- VII. **New Business:** No report

The CIACC meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm. Next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2022 at **9:30am**. *Will be held virtually*. Please note the time of meeting.

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*