

Passaic County CIACC
401 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
Chair: Kelly Hart
Vice-Chair: Ana Maria Rivera
October 12, 2022

Attendance

Present

Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC
Ana Maria Rivera, Parent
Nancy La Torre, Parent
Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid & Family Serv
Sybil Schreiber, MHCoP
Kathi Champagne, FSO
Donna Glinkin, MRSS
Cynthia Heller, Circle of Care CMO

Carolina Suarez, St. Mary's Hosp
Bart Chou, PC Mental Health & Addiction
Paulette Mader, Rutgers Univ PPS 2
Carolina Suarez, SMHP
Maria Lopez, Community Food Bank of NJ
Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO
Le`Var Starr, PC YSC
Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health

Excused

Marion Golan, CASA
Francine Vince, PC Human Services
Diahann DeRuggiero, McKinney Vento
Jaime Jackett, NJDOE

Amanda Compton-Dover, JJC
Davetta Ford, BGC
Jeena Williams, DCPD

Absent

Berenice Lopez, S&N Family Success Ctr
Duwan Bogert, WIB

Narine Kaprelian, St Joseph Health

The monthly meeting of the Passaic County CIACC was called to order at 6:30pm. 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 Paulina Dutton, the September 14, 2022 minutes were approved.

- II. **Presentation:** Giselle Henriquez, Prosecutor's Office, discussed the Do's & Dont's to Reporting Abuse. Special Victim's Unit investigates cases of child maltreatment, especially those under 12 years old. Giselle's role is to interview kids and the majority cases are sexual abuse allegations. They have a Child Advocacy Center in Totowa, which is more family friendly than the Prosecutor's Office. They get direct referrals from the Community, DCPD, Police Departments, and Hospitals.
Reporting Do's: When abuse is suspected, call DCPD immediately, next call the Prosecutor's Office. Anytime you call the Division, you call the Prosecutor's office as well. Keep the child comfortable, be attentive..
Reporting Dont's: Don't interview the child, don't cut the child off when they do speak, do not contact the parent/caretaker.

It was raised that abuse of child on child is no longer be investigated by DCPD, and the impact it's had on the Prosecutor's Office. Also, whether they still have access to Audrey Hepburn Diagnostic Center.

Discussed the Victim Witness Advocacy Unit .. and they have access to Victims of Crime Compensation Organization for the reimbursement funds through the State.

Giselle was invited to speak to the Community Voice Committee.

III. **System Partner Updates:**

- Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO, reported working with 1,008 youth. In September there were 50 new referrals, and 65 transitions. October is already starting to pick up. They are hosting their first Trunk or Treat for Halloween on October 25 at 5:30pm. Also starting their Food Drive in partnership with FSO, flyers will be sent. They have received word of the availability of Community Development Funds, which is a little over \$67,000. Will send out the RFP notice. Also requested participation on the Proposal review committee.
- Kathi Champagne, FSO, reported in the month of September, they had 54 new families referred, 10 initial visits with CMs and 9 without, total of 116 face to face meetings. They had some staff changes, lost a PT bilingual staff, but one of their Bilingual Peer Support Partner became FT, and she has been trained in Nurtured Heart Approach. All of their Support Groups are still hybrid. They held 9 Support Groups in the month of September, totaling 177 participants. Youth Partnership Groups are on a hybrid schedule every other week. Have had 4 groups, with 22 unduplicated youth. In November they will host events for Autism IDs...anticipated dates are 11/1 & 11/3. Ana Rivera would like to partner with Kathi in engaging parents.
- DCPD No report
- Donna Glinkin, CMRSS, sent a report..... For September they had 197 requests for dispatches. They had their bookbag drive. They have expanded and have 9 Crisis Intervention Specialists positions open. No petitions or shelter placements, they are starting their Thanksgiving drive and Holiday Drive.

Committee Reports:

- Champagne, FSO, reported that the Racial Equity is still working on setting a date for the next Youth Forum scheduled for November. Working with the Al Moody Program and will work with the same group of kids. Still meeting every other month from 3 to 4pm via Zoom. If you are interested in joining the committee please forward an email to Jenny, jennyv@passaiccountynj.org
- PFS II No report
- Ana Rivera reported that Community Voice started meeting again in September. Had Legal Services from Passaic County present to the Committee. They learned that they provide more services than just Court Services & Child Support. Next presentation will be on ABA services through Medicaid.
- Planning/Education Committee: Jenny reported that Planning Committee met today, planning for the Annual Conference taking place on February 3rd, in -person at the Passaic County Safety Committee. Presenter from Rutgers to speak on the layers of trauma throughout the journey of immigration. They talked about making accommodations for family members such as language. When folks register to the conference questions, ask questions around language.

- By-Laws & Membership: The By-Laws will be shared with the Passaic County Mental Health Board for discussion at their November meeting.

IV. **Youth Services Commission:** No report

V. **Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services:** St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center applied for a Special Population Grant which will give them the funding to hire a clinician to focus on youth & the LGBTQ Populations. MHB is currently reviewing the project. The Division is reviewing all the existing contracts for addiction and mental health. The position is to renew most or all contracts, if contracts are scheduled for the audit please do so they can be completed and recommendations are made to the PACADA and MHB. To honor Domestic Violence Wellness Month, DHS hosting a training titled "Seeking Safety". Lastly, the Division's Health Education has been Certified as a Mental Health First Aid trainer.

VI. **Stakeholder Updates:** No report

VII. **Announcements:** Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid & Family Serv, announced on November 10th they are having their Annual Tree of Addiction Conference. This year the conference is LGBTQ themed.
-Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC, announced that the Wellness Family Festival in partnership with West Milford Health Department was successful.

VIII. **Old/New Business:** No report

On a motion by Cynthia Heller and seconded by Ana Maria Rivera, the CIACC meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm. Next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2022. *Will be held virtually.*

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*