

Passaic County CIACC
401 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
Chair: Kelly Hart
Vice-Chair: Ana Maria Rivera
January 11, 2023

Attendance

Present

Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC	Jill Martorano, Family Courts
Sybil Schreiber, MHCoP	Jeena Williams, DCPD
Cynthia Heller, Circle of Care CMO	Massiel Sanabria, McKinney-Vento
Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO	Laurna Townsend, Avidd
Bart Chou, PC Mental Health & Addiction	Melissa Blanchard, Avidd
Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid & Family Serv	Kerry McGrath, NJCDD
Diahann DeRuggiero, McKinney Vento	Jeannette Pimentel, DCPD
Jaime Jackett, NJDOE	Nina Reams, FSO
Donna Glinkin, MRSS	Joanna O'Rourke, Up in PC
Amanda Compton-Dover, JJC	Le`Var Starr, PC YSC
Kathi Champagne-Satchell, FSO	Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health

Excused

Nicole Digiore, St Mary's	Francine Vince, PC Human Services
Ana Maria Rivera, Parent	

Absent

Berenice Lopez, S&N Family Success Ctr	Duwan Bogert, WIB
Jocelyn Cuff, CFFS	Daisy Carrera, JFS
Rosy Messineo, Haledon Schools	Gabriel Montero, N&S Psychotherapy
Dawn Moody, Probation	Marian Golan, C.A.S.A.
Davetta Ford, BGC	

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 Paulina Dutton both the November and December 2022 minutes were unanimously approved.

- II. **Presentation:** Presentation by Laurna Townsend and Melissa Blanchard, Avidd. They shared information on their ACTS program (Avidd Career and Transition Services). Primarily serve adults with IDD, but within the last few years they expanded their services to include transition aged youth 14 to 21. They have 17 group homes and supportive apartments; community-based supports; Recreation programs; supported employment; & their ACTS program. ACTS focus on employment, life skills to assist with the transition into adulthood. They have workshops, either take tours or have presenters on careers. They have community partners to provide work experience, job shadowing and job sampling. For more information you can reach out to Melissa Blanchard, 973-664-1770x19, mblanchard@aviddnj.org or Laurna Townsend, 201-572-2541, ltownsend@aviddnj.org.

III. System Partner Updates:

- Paulina Dutton, Care CMO reported they had a total of 1,053 active youth. They had 101 new referrals and 51 transitions. They had a fun night out hosting a Holiday Pajama Night/ Movie in Partnership with the FSO. Thanks was given to Kathi, Nina and the staff at FSO. The event was at the Cinemark Theater in Wayne. Also, they are having a coat drive, if anyone has coats to donate please reach out to Paulina.
- Donna Glinkin, MRSS: There were 218 requests for dispatches, no shelter placements or petitions, still working on a hybrid model, and they have 2 staff openings.
- Jeena Williams DCP: In the month of December, Central Passaic had 169 new referrals, and Northern Passaic had 160. They continue to be in the top 5 in the state for new referrals. There is an RFP for NJ Student Support Service HUBs focusing on student's behavioral health. The RFP is on the DCF website. Jeena introduced Jeannette Pimentel to the group in her new role at DCP.
- Kathi Champagne-Satchell, FSO: Talked about the Holiday event that they partnered with the CMO. They had 241 families, youth and employees sign up to participate, included 115 adults and 126 children. FSO had 101 referrals, 55 face to face visits with family and 9 CFTs. They had over 68 hours of functioning time with families with 51 additional visits. Four support groups were consistent throughout December. They had a total of 139 participants both upper and lower county. Youth groups had 19 unduplicated youth participated, which included 9 activities and the Holiday event. They will be hosting back in person Nurtured Heart Trainings the 21st and 28th of this month at their office in 3 Garrett Plaza.

Committee Reports:

- Kathi Champagne-Satchell and Paulina Dutton gave updates on the Racial Equity Committee. They have missed a few meetings, but they continue to meet to work on race equity endeavors and the youth forums. They made a connection with a Nursery in Passaic and will plan to have conversations with caregivers, primarily Spanish Speaking community, and looking for bilingual CIACC volunteers. We welcome participants to join meetings that will take place on Tuesdays bi-weekly. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17th at 3:00pm. Please reach out to Jenny Vuksic for the link if you are interested in joining the meeting.
- Community Voice: No report
- Planning/Education Committee: They sent out the flyer for their 9th Annual Conference scheduled for February 3, 2023, please reach out to Jenny Vuksic if you need to have a flyer sent. It is a full day conference, keynote speaker from Rutgers speaking on Immigration; and 2 women speaking on their experiences. One woman is in her 80s speaking about her journey from Italy in the 1950s. Another woman from KIND speaking on her experience who has come to the US five years ago. In the afternoon, we have breakout sessions on Immigration (continuing the conversation), KIND, and LGBTQ+.
-Jenny Vuksic added that we continue to discuss how to utilize Promise 2.0 grant funds. We are meeting at 11:00am today. If interested in joining the committee, we meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Please let me know if you need a link to the meeting.
- Intellectual Developmental Disabilities: Jenny Vuksic reported that the committee met last week on the 4th and continue to discuss what the focus of their committee should be. Two items continue to be discussed, which is resources and data. Looking

at data dashboards and state data. Also continue to look for resources and camp opportunities in Passaic County. They meet every 1st Wednesday at 11:00am.

- **By-Laws & Membership:** The revised CIACC By-Laws were shared and have been approved by the Passaic County Mental Health. It was requested that the CIACC membership list is updated and sent out to the CIACC.

- IV. **Youth Services Commission:** Le`Var Starr, reported that the Youth Service Commission is meeting on January 18, 2023. Looking to bolster up their subcommittees and the Youth Service Commission membership. You do not have to be a voting member or attend regularly to be on a subcommittee. Please reach out to Le`Var if you are interested. A thank you to all those who participated in the Annual Youth Service Conference in December. They will be holding YSC meetings quarterly at PCCC in Wanaque. This will be an opportunity to network in person. This is the last year of the triennial plan, so we will be reaching out to our system partners to assist with data collection to be able to fill the gaps and provide resources needed for our youth and families in Passaic County.
- V. **Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services:** Bart Chou, PC DMHAS, thanked those who participated in the Needs Assessment survey. They had a total of 454 responses for the 4-year county comprehensive plan that was submitted to the state on December 31st. All Mental Health and Substance Use contracts are approved to renew by the Advisory Board and the Board of Commissioners. The Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services opened up a new Office of Recovery to focus on recovery support and education. For this year, they have the focus on youth behavioral health services. A new initiative will soon to be announced. The Division has the capacity to provide Mental Health First Aid, if interested please reach out to Bart Chou, Shannon Ferray, or Jenny Vuksic.
- VI. **Stakeholder Updates:** No report
- VII. **Announcements:** Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid & Family Services, announced they have 2 cycles of the Strengthening Families Program. One just started at the Boy's and Girl's Club in Passaic, Monday nights at 6pm. There are still openings. The Boy's and Girl's in Paterson has a cycle beginning on Wednesday nights. For families with youth ages 10-17.
- VIII. **Old/New Business:** No report

On a motion by Paulina Dutton and seconded by Cynthia Heller, the CIACC meeting was adjourned at 10:30am. Next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2023 at 6:30 pm. *The meeting will be virtual.*

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*