

Passaic County CIACC
401 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
Chair: Kelly Hart
Vice-Chair: Ana Maria Rivera
April 13, 2022

Attendance

Present

Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC	James Sawyer, FSO of Passaic County
Donna Glinkin, MRSS	Bart Chou, PC Mental Health & Addiction
Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid and Family Serv	Jocelyn Cuff - Passaic and Essex, CFFS
Davetta Ford, BGC	Sybil Schreiber, MHCoP
Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO	Daisy Carrera, Jewish Family Service
Tina Miles, St. Joseph's Health	Carolina Suarez, St. Mary's Adolescent Resid
Rachel Kinne, BBBS of Coastal and Northern NJ	Danielle Granados, St. Joseph's Health
Kathi Champagne, FSO	Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health

Excused

Ana Maria Rivera, Parent	Marion Golan, CASA
Jaime Jackett, NJDOE	Diahann DeRuggiero, McKinneyVento
Francine Vince, PC Human Services	Amanda Compton-Dover, JJC
Joanna O'Rourke, Up in PC	Le'Var Starr, PC YSC

Absent

Gabriel Montero, M&S	Fanny Ochoa, Parent
Duwan Bogert, WIB	Rosy Messineo, Haledon Public Schools
Lisa Vainieri-Marshall, Paterson Schools	JacQueline Mestre, New Destiny
Abire Sibbagh, Palestinian American Ctr	Berenice Lopez, S&N Family Success Ctr
Xiomara Gonell, DVRS	

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 Sybil Schreiber and seconded by Paulina Dutton, the March 9, 2022 minutes were approved.

II. **System Partner Updates:**

- Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO, reported 971 active youth, 80 new referrals, and 54 transitions. Paulina thanked members who participated in the Community Development Funds Process, results will be forwarded shortly. Passaic County CMO in collaboration with Hudson will have their Annual Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds walk in Lincoln Park, Jersey City on May 21st.
- Kathi Champagne, FSO, reported a total of 90 referred, 13 visits with CMO, 27 without CMO, total 167 total face to face visits, 225 hours with families, and 38 FANS. The support groups continue virtually & hybrid, one a month in person in Upper Passaic County/Woodland Park. Youth Partnership continues a hybrid schedule, 19 unduplicated

- youth, 5 meetings in March. They have added two bilingual support partners to their staff. Nurtured Heart Approach training will be held on 4-23 & 4-30 from 10am to 12pm. Passaic County Surrogate Court Judge will present in the support groups to meet with families and to talk about guardianship and building trust funds.
- Donna Glinkin, CMRSS, handed in her report. They had 316 dispatches and are currently working with 400 families, they can choose between in person or telehealth. Numbers have been high, and they have already received 100 referrals in the month of April. They currently have staff openings.
 - DCCP- No report

III. **Committee Reports:**

- Paulina Dutton reported that the Racial Equity Committee had their first in person Youth Forum at the Al Moody Academy on March 22nd. A power point was presented to showcase the event. At the forum there was a discussion around the incident that occurred at Bridgewater Mall, where police responded drastically different between the Black and White youth. Youth responded well and gave good feedback for future forums. Thought it was important to bring to CIACC in order to further engage youth. Future topics that they suggested included community violence, sexual harassment, learn your rights, gang violence, schools and racism, police brutality, and internalized racism/oppression. If you would like to join (link will be sent) or to learn about the Racial Equity Committee please reach out to Jenny Vuksic jennyv@passaiccountynj.org.
- PFS II – No updates. Joanna O'Rourke will give updates in May.
- Ana Maria Rivera was unable to attend but forwarded the Community Voice committee report. Ana and CIACC volunteers met with the coordinator of DVRS to discuss some of the challenges that parents pointed out, she explained how the process works after the child is referred to that service, she was persistent that any parent contact her directly if there are any concerns about services. They requested a list of social workers assigned to each high school to better understand whom the parents should contact; she claimed they change often, and the best way to resolve would be contacting her directly.
 - They are working on reaching out more parents and Ana personally participated in a community workshop with Jenny Sierra from DCCP, with " El Mundo de Colores" preschool families and shared their mission.
 - A letter was sent to Mollie Greene regarding the same concerns families are having with DVRS. She provided contact information for an individual from DVRS to work on challenges accessing services.
- Planning/Education Committee: Continued discussion on the Promising Path to Success Funds, and how to spend funds. Discussed hybrid options to continue to make meetings accessible to the community. Community Voice provided flyers to invite families to join their committee and CIACC. Jenny sent the flyer to the county media person to make it county approved. She included a Spanish copy but thought we should also provide flyers in Arabic.
 - Discussed alternating meeting locations when we start to meet in person. A location in Upper Passaic County will be determined.

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

V. **Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services:** Bart Chou discussed they completed the grant process, agencies should receive contracts shortly. They awarded contracts to CFFS for

Outpatient services, Collaborative Support Program for Case Management, Jewish Family Services of Northern NJ for Outpatient and Case Management, Jewish Family Services Clifton/Passaic for Case Management, Mental Health Association for Outpatient, Mental Health Center of Passaic for Outpatient & Partial Care, NewBridge for Outpatient, WAFFA House for Mental Health Case Management. Discussed collaboration when services unable to bill for services without a diagnosis. Discussed how the county can help with un-reimbursable services, possibly reimburse next day assessments for schools. Can be added to the county grant.

-Awarded New Hope short term residential services. William Paterson University has the grant for the Teen Summit, and they will be held twice a year. CFFS for Safe Place Program along with Straight & Narrow & Eva's Village.

VI. **Stakeholder Updates:** No report

VII. **Announcements:** Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid and Family Services announced, they are working with United for Prevention in Passaic to run a Strengthening Families Program for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Will be held at the Boy's & Girl's Club in Paterson starting on May 9th. Children's Aid has a new CEO to start in May.

-Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC is hosting an Earth Day Event next Friday. In May they will have a Mental Health Awareness/ Stigma Free week, and will have events for the week, including Yoga for the Parent Support Group at the FSO, Mindful Painting, Couples Counseling event, Learning the Signs for Mental Health Help, and the annual Fun Run.

-Sybil Schreiber, MHCOP, looking to hire for their Day Treatment Program. Please reach out to Sybil. Applicants should have a BA and experience with youth.

-Jenny Vuksic, PCHS, raised discussions around families accessing PerformCare. This was asked of CIACC coordinators throughout the state. Looks like 5 other counties have the same issues, and will be addressed.

VIII. **Old Business:** CIACC continued discussions on youth entering the ER when other options could be used. School requiring clearance letters, some youth do not meet the need, some need the ER, issues around billable service/ school contracts. Jenny will form a committee to work on this issue and minimize those numbers. Difficult for ER to get information from individuals other than the parents... hard to reach clinicians/ school counselors after hours for additional information. Bergen County has a program to assist in this need. Also, discussed whether services are billable or contracted with schools.

The CIACC meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm. Next meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2022 at **9:30am**. *Will be held virtually*. Please note the time of meeting.

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*