

Passaic County CIACC
401 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
Chair: Kelly Hart
Vice-Chair: Ana Maria Rivera
September 14, 2022

Attendance

Present

Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC
Ana Maria Rivera, Parent
Kathi Champagne, FSO
Cynthia Heller, Circle of Care CMO
Diahann DeRuggiero, McKinney Vento
Jenny Sierra, DCP
Jeena Williams, DCP
Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO
Massiel Sanabria, McKinney Vento
Loren T., Rutgers School of SW. PPS2
Jaime Jackett, NJDOE
Narine Kaprelian, St Joseph Health

Davetta Ford, BGC
Jill Rebeor, CASA
Jo Ponticello, Children's Aid
Paulina Vargas,
Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid & Family Serv
Sybil Schreiber, MHCoP
Jim Walsh, Oasis
Alyssa Juntilla
Maria Lopez
Le`Var Starr, PC YSC
Jenny Vuksic, PC Mental Health

Excused

Marion Golan, CASA
Francine Vince, PC Human Services
Nicole Digiore, St. Mary's

Amanda Compton-Dover, JJC
Donna Glinkin, MRSS

Absent

Bart Chou, PC Mental Health & Addiction
Duwan Bogert, WIB

Berenice Lopez, S&N Family Success Ctr

The monthly meeting of the Passaic County CIACC was called to order at 9:30am. The meeting was held via videoconference. *Minutes, agenda, and meeting link is available on the Passaic County website.*

- I. **Minutes:** On a motion by Jenny Sierra and seconded by Kathi Champagne, the June 15, 2022 minutes were approved.
- II. **System Partner Updates:**
 - Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO, in May reported working with 1,005 youth, in August there were 75 new referrals, and 95 transitions. Actively hiring for Care Manager Support Specialist & Community Resource Support Specialist. Their summer was busy.. In July they were able to award the funds for Community Resource Development: Oasis Afterschool Academy, Children's Aid & Family Services, Jewish Family Services were awarded. CMO was able to provide afterschool supplies/ backpacks for over 150 youth, thanks to all who supported their drive. They are also planning for a Halloween costume Drive and are collecting new or gently used costumes. Circle of Care has just signed a

- lease in the Paterson Mall to hold a Youth Center, will be for meetings, groups, activities, etc., will be called “The Circle”.
- Kathi Champagne, FSO, reported that they are fully staffed. For the month of August, they had 83 new families referred, total of 151 hours face to face visits. They held 9 Support Groups in the month of August and 8 in July, totaling 169 participants, and also 5 community action events. Had their Annual Summer Picnic 180 individuals showed up, they partnered with Sheriff Department and SNAP to assist with having the event in Woodland Park. Youth Partnership has 22 unduplicated youth participating. 9 meetings, over 18 hours services for the youth. They have a new Logo.
 - Jeena Williams, DCP, Passaic County Leadership Team is in transition. Former Area Director Sue Jones retired in August. Awaiting word on replacement to be named. Newly appointed Assistant Area Director Bill Nazaro. Keven Beli is the covering Manager at Passaic Northern office in Wayne. Jeena reported Passaic Central Office received 10 Child Welfare Assessments, and received 108 Child Protective Service Investigations, which is a total 118 referrals in August. Passaic Northern Office received 16 Child Welfare Assessments, and received 128 Child Protective Service Investigations, which is a total 144 referrals in August.
 - Donna Glinkin, CMRSS, sent a report.... in July 115 & in August 108 requests for dispatches and are currently working with 200 families. Starting to pick up in September. They currently have 3 staff openings. Also, their Outpatient has openings for English and Spanish speaking families for in person, telehealth or hybrid and that are able to work with non-medicaid individuals. Contact 862-270-6164 for referrals.

Committee Reports:

- Paulina Dutton reported that the Racial Equity has been meeting weekly since June 2020. Since then they developed the Anti-Racist Agency Commitment Statement, provided the CIACC with Resources & Tools for anti-racism workspace/community, arranged an Unconscious Bias presentation by Tracy Salmon, and have had 5 Youth forums..3 in-person and 2 virtual. RE is meeting every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the 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
- Community Voice No report. Jenny mentioned attending an upcoming committee meeting. Regarding the Promise grant the Committee provided the flyers to promote family engagement, and also making presentations to the 3 Family Success Centers on CIACC and their committees.
- Planning/Education Committee: Jenny reported that Planning Committee is meeting today. Will discuss the upcoming annual conference, updates on Promise 2.0 grant, and the meeting to discuss Clearance Letters required for youth to return to school.
- By-Laws & Membership: Members had an opportunity to review the By-Laws that were forwarded for review. On a motion by Sybil Schreiber and seconded by Cynthia Heller, the CIACC approved the CIACC By-Laws. Mental Health Board has approved CIACC membership. Letters of approved membership will be sent shortly.

- III. **Youth Services Commission:** Le`Var Starr reported that YSC meeting is scheduled for next week, September 21st. In June, they had the Youth Leadership Retreat at Camp Hope, over 20 youth throughout the county attended for a 3-night 4-day camp retreat. The 8th Annual Youth Service Conference is scheduled for December 2, 2022, which they are planning to host in-person at the Wanaque PCCC. Would like to have a more robust resource group, please reach

out to Jenny Vuksic or Le`Var Starr if interested in providing resources at the conference. Restorative Transformative Justice pilot program for the City of Paterson RFP closed yesterday, will begin the review process shortly. State Community Partnership grant, looking to receive opportunities and proposals from youth serving agencies. YSC has been awarded an additional amount of funds to partner and widen the scope of services.

IV. **Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services:** No report

V. **Stakeholder Updates:** Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC, updated members that they are having a Wellness Family Festival, a collaboration between the Highlands FSC, West Milford Health Department, and other local partners on September 24th from 10am to 2pm. Festival with a focus on wellness, flyer will be forwarded.

-Loren Toto, Rutgers School of Social Work Center for Prevention Science, contracted through DCF to work on the Promising Pathways to Success 2 initiative. Would like to recruit participants for virtual interviews, 20 questions on CIACC membership, changes you have seen over time, changes to youth and family engagement over time. Looking to recruit 2 people from each CIACC please contact Loren if you are interested in participating. Loren Toto, Senior Project Coordinator Center for Prevention Science, Rutgers School of Social Work, lg410@ssw.rutgers.edu, (732) 991-2117. They will be starting interviews in November 2022.

VI. **Announcements:** Kelly Hart, Highlands FSC, announced they are hiring a Full Time Family Partner.

-Cynthia Heller, Circle of Care CMO, also looking to hire Support Specialists, entry level Care Managers who will eventually grow into Care Management positions. Also looking for a Care Manager Supervisor & looking for someone PT to assist in Policy Modification. It is posted on the website to apply

-Passaic County CASA also has some open positions. Volunteer recruitment/outreach coordinator, Chief Storyteller/Director of Communications, Donor & Prospect Research Associate. This can be found on their website.

-It was recommended that CIACC look into posting open positions. Also, sharing with local universities, especially for the entry level positions. Utilizing Link Tree was suggested

-Kelly Hart mentioned that it was posted on the DCF website, that it is National Child Welfare Workforce Appreciation Week, all are appreciated.. Thank you

VII. **Old Business:** Would like to revisit starting the Intellectual Developmental Disability (IDD) Committee.

On a motion by Le`Var Starr and seconded by Diahann DeRuggiero, the CIACC meeting was adjourned at 10:50am. Next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2022. *Will be held virtually.*

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*