



**Passaic County Local Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
January 4th, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

I. Roll Call:

Members Present: Paula Tedesco, Jeanette Pimentel, Robert Nolan, Evan Covello, Le'Var Starr, Vito Andrisani, Andrea Ramalho, Natalie Palmer

Others in attendance: Bart Chou, Shannon Ferray, Erin Short, Jean McMurray, Justin Winfrey, Matt Bialkowski, Neyjla Ata

Members Excused: Ronna Bouton, Michele Shell

Members Absent: Linda Doering, Jennifer Castaneda-Addrizone, Patrick Breen

II. Open Public Meetings Act Notice:

a. Announcement of the Open Public Meetings Act

b. Public Portion of the Meeting

i. Public portion of the meeting was closed. Motion made by Evan Covello and seconded by Robert Nolan

III. Approval of Minutes:

a. October 5th minutes approved.

IV. Report of Mental Health and Addiction Services Director:

a) Office of Recovery, Vito Andrisani, Program Manager

a. Utilize Opioid Settlement funds for Office of Recovery

b. IDRC is being facilitated under Passaic County Human Services department

b) New member appointments to be sent to Passaic County Commissioners

a. Debbie O'Brien and Neyjla Ata

c) 2024-2027 Comprehensive Plan submitted to state

d) Renewed all approved contracts

e) Start Universal Screening services from Innovation Grant

f) Continue working with Paterson Core for Hope One Project

g) At least once a year, bring all committee members together (MHB, LACADA, CIACC, PAC, PACADA, etc.)

V. Report of Standing Committees: None Report

VI. Report of Special Committees: None Report

VII. Report of Department of Health Services (OFRT Report, Justin Winfrey)

- a. No meeting this month
- b. Working on a recruitment effort for OFRT as well as other projects and collaborations to put into motion in the future.
- c. Per discussed in December, procedures need to be put into place in the event, another pandemic occurs again and that the implementation of recovery specialists/social workers in St. Joseph's is a great step. Also, we should think about pushing these efforts more and ensuring that the information and awareness info we know is known and heard at the street/public level.
- d. Planning on educating our health educators to be able to share harm reduction information to the public as part of their health programs

VIII. Old Business: 2023 Meeting Dates approved

IX. New Business:

- a. Goal to join Municipal Alliance and Stigma Free, working with Municipal Alliance coordinators and Stigma Free committees
- b. Received 444 responses on the Needs Assessment
- c. Group Chat for meeting reminders and additional form of communications

X. Correspondence: None Reported

XI. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn meeting made by Robert Nolan, seconded by Andrea Ramalho. Meeting was adjourned at 5:23 PM

Submitted by Jean McMurray

***All meetings will be held via videoconference until further notice. Please contact Shannon Ferray at shannonf@passaiccountynj.org for details on attending a meeting.**