



**Passaic County Local Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
March 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Members present:

1. Paula Tedesco
2. Evan Covello
3. Linda Doering
4. Jeanette Pimentel
5. Gabrielle McQueen

Members absent:

1. Humberto Maravi
2. Ronna Batten
3. Jenny Sierra
4. Michele Shell
5. Jennifer Hernandez

Also present was Brenda Browne, Director Passaic County Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Nataly Balah, Passaic County Mental Health and Addiction Services Administrative Assistant and Jenna Atmeh, Passaic County Municipal Alliance Coordinator.

Meeting was called to order at 5:08 PM by Ms. Tedesco, Chair of the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (LACADA). The meeting was held via videoconference.

A motion was made by Mr. Covello and second by Ms. McQueen to open the Public Portion of the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Browne made the announcement of the Open Public Meeting Act. Present from the public were Jennifer Haggis (Care Plus Co.) who informed the committee of the news that "Care Plus" hired a bilingual care coordinator - Vanessa Castaneda, who also was present at the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Covello and second by Ms. McQueen to close the public portion of the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The committee had received February 3, 2021 LACADA Report before meeting for their review and Minutes were approved unanimously.

Report of Mental Health & Addiction Services Director--(See Attachment 1)

Report of Standing Committees:

- a. Professional Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse – None.
- b. County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (hereafter “CASS”) Report— (Attachment 2)

Report of Special Committees: None

Old Business: None.

New Business: Ms. Tedesco requested for recruitment of new members to the LACADA Committee.

Correspondence: None

A motion was made by Ms. Doering and second by Ms. McQueen to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm

Attest:

Brenda Browne

Secretary

Nataly Balah

Administrative Assistant

**County Division of Mental Health & Addiction Staff Report
Mental Health & Addictions Updates**

March 2021

- Passaic County Behavioral Health Task Force was formed, next meeting will be held 3/11/2021 to help mitigate Mental Health and Addictions issues within the County.
- A proclamation from NJ State was received, announcing March 2021 Gambling Awareness month.
- “Hope One” van was delivered and in the process of being wrapped with the logo. The supplies for retrofitting are due to be delivered to the company soon. On 3/3/2021, Passaic County Commissioner Director visited the site of the project where Narcan kits and dignity kits were handed out.
- Jail MAT program coordinator resigned which requires the need to hire a replacement.
- Application to the State was submitted by “Prevention is Key” to receive Free Narcan Kits to provide to the appropriate high-risk population.
- The State provided updated OORP-Overdose Recovery Program data.
- IDRC (Intoxicated Driver Recover) program are providing virtual classes.

County Alliance Steering Subcommittee

CASS Report
Municipal Alliances

As of right now, not much is happening with any of the alliances when it comes to programming.

- Many are trying to plan for the Spring by trying to find virtual programs, speakers, and figuring out how and if they are doing the teen summit.

- A couple of the alliances are looking into fundraising and applying for grants or have already started that process.

In regards to funding for FY2022, we should be hearing from GCADA by the end of this week or next week.

- GCADA wished to avoid the alliances doing all of the paperwork twice due to the deduction in funding.