



**Passaic County Local Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
February 3, 2021 Meeting Report**

Members present:

1. Paula Tedesco
2. Evan Covello
3. Ronna Bouton
4. Linda Doering
5. Gabrielle McQueen

Members absent:

1. Heather Batten
2. Humberto Maravi
3. Jeanette Pimentel
4. Jenny Sierra
5. Michele Shell
6. 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.

The Chair brought the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.

Discussion was had regarding quorum. It was noted that the following members were absent from the meeting: Heather Batten, Humberto Maravi, Jeanette Pimentel, Jenny Sierra, Michelle Shell, Jennifer Hernandez. There was not a quorum present. It was an informational meeting only.

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

Report of Standing Committees:

- a. Professional Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse – Ms. Browne announced the news about the retirement of Ms. Joanne Green from her position, and Ms. Rebekah Leon taking over the responsibilities of the Executive Director of Mental Health Association Of Passaic.
- b. County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (hereafter “CASS”) Report— (Attachment 2)

Report of Special Committees: None

Old Business: None.

New Business: Ms. Browne announced the official appointment of Jennifer Hernandez to the LACADA and Mental Health Board Committees.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 PM.

Attest:

Brenda Browne

Secretary

Nataly Balah

Administrative Assistant

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

February Notes

- “Hope One Van” will be escorted by the County of Passaic Sheriff’s department. Scheduled dates and locations will be available shortly in February.
- DMHAS announced the eligibility of Behavioral Health employees to receive the Covid-19 vaccine.
- DMHAS announced the start of 988 Suicide Prevention emergency hotline.
- Vaccination sites will have a Disaster Response Crisis Counselor to assist with any emotional distresses.
- NJ State still has the Hope and Healing free emotional support hotline.
- Resolutions on renewing Mental Health RFP’s and grants for CY 2021 were passed.
- State Addictions Grant Application for FY2021 is pending approval.
- Mental Health and Addiction Services Director will share information when available on the Prosecutor’s Office Mental Health Task Force start date.

County Alliance Steering Subcommittee

- No CASS meetings have been conducted yet in 2021 due to no programs being held.
- Quarter 4 from FY2020 has been closed and reimbursements are now in process.
- Quarter 5 from FY2020, final documents are still being sent in from Municipal Alliances now. Hoping to move forward with closing Quarter 5.
- FY2021 will consist of 3 Quarters.
 - Q1: October 1st – December 31st
 - Q2: January 1st – March 31st
 - Q3: April 1st – June 30th
- FY2022, should be receiving information regarding funding from GCADA by the end of February or beginning of March.
- Next CASS meeting is estimated to be in March 2021.