



**Passaic County Local Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
May 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Members present:

1. Evan Covello
2. Linda Doering
3. Jeanette Pimentel
4. Paula Tedesco
5. Ronna Bouton
6. Michele Shell

Members absent:

1. Heather Batten
2. Humberto Maravi
3. Le'Var Starr
4. Lia Travers
5. Jennie Vega

Also present were Brenda Browne, Director Passaic County Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Donna Huber, Passaic County Municipal Alliance Coordinator.

Meeting was called to order at 5:10 PM by Ms. Tedesco, Chair of the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (LACADA). The meeting was held via videoconference.

Ms. Tedesco made the announcement of the Open Public Meetings Act. There was no public present.

A motion was made by Ms. Doering and seconded by Ms. Shell to accept the November 6, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion passed with one (1) abstention (Jeanette Pimentel).

County Division of Mental Health & Addiction Staff Report
Mental Health & Addictions Updates
May 6, 2020

- The Innovation Award RFP has been posted. Bids are due on 5/22/2020.
- Mental Health and Addiction agencies are coping best they can with the immediate change to telehealth with limited access to the technology needed to get this done. FCC released grants to assist with technology and telehealth challenges that this pandemic has created.
- Deployment of Disaster Response Crisis Counselors (DRCC's) telephonically and at William Paterson University's Testing Site for the past several weeks. Division Director has been providing support and

resources to the volunteers and provided cards with emotional support number in English and Spanish for the residents being tested.

- Division Director meeting with Paterson's Overdose Response Team & Coalition of Opioid Assessment and Response team to find best ways to tackle the Opioid concerns in Paterson.
- Challenges with mobile outreaches are being addressed.
- FEMA grant funding available for pandemic related disaster crisis counseling.

Ms. Browne discussed sending out an RFQ's for providers in Passaic County to identify what MH and Addictions services they could provide in the county. After discussion Mr. Covello made a motion second by Ms. Doering to support the RFQ. Motion passed unanimously.

Professional Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse – (Attachment 1)

County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (hereafter "CASS") Report

Sad news to report – Cyndy Hopper the long time former Bloomingdale Municipal Alliance Coordinator passed away after a long illness. Cyndy was the Bloomingdale Alliance Coordinator for over a decade serving up until December 31, 2019. She was an extraordinary person, a pleasure to work with and will be missed.

- **GCADA Update – FY20 – Funding Freeze**
 - County Alliance Coordinators were informed at the GCADA Coordinator's meeting on March 26th that because of COVID19 Alliance funding was frozen as of March 23rd until further notice. GCADA would pay out alliances programmatic funding up until 3/23/2020. Stipends for the Municipal Alliance Coordinators for coordination ONLY would be reimbursed until the end of the Contract year, June 30th, but no programming would be reimbursed.
 - Ms. Huber was informed by the Mayor of Woodland Park that Woodland Park would no longer pursue grant funding for the Alliance through GCADA.
- **GCADA Update FY2021-2025 Planning Cycle**
 - The FY20 fiscal year has been extended until September. GCADA does not know when the new grant year will start.
 - There was a decrease in DEDR fund collections. Therefore there will be a reduction in the FY2021 DEDR award. The original FY21 Grant allocation of which the FY21 Strategic Plans were based will have to be revised. How much or what the reduction will look like is not known. GCADA expects to revise the allocation the beginning of summer
 - GCADA has reviewed the Plans as submitted and sent out deficiency lists as a guide for now.
- **Alliance Update**
 - Teen Summit was held virtually on May 1, 2020. LMTI held it on United for Prevention in Passaic County (UPinPC) Instagram live. Sixteen (16) schools submitted videos. Both the Teen Summit Committee and Students voted for the top 5 the winners.
 - Winners were: PCTI; Passaic Prep; DCL Stem Academy; Hawthorne; West Milford

The Nominating Committee nominated Gabrielle Mc Queen as a member of LACADA. A motion was made by Mr. Covello, and seconded by Ms. Doering to accept the nomination of Ms. McQueen. Motion passed unanimously.

There was no Special Committee report.

In Old Business Ms. Browne asked the committee to ratify the electronic votes that were taken. (To approve the 2020 spending plan and to approve the addiction bids). Mr. Covello made the motion, second by Ms. Doering to ratify the electronic votes. Motion approved unanimously.

In New Business Ms. Browne informed the Committee that the LACADA continues to look for membership. If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in serving on LACADA, please contact Ms. Browne.

There was no correspondence.

A motion was made by Mr. Covello, and seconded by Ms. Bouton to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Attest:

/ s / Donna Huber, Acting Secretary

Passaic County Mental Health and Addiction Professional Advisory Committee
(PAC/PACADA)
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2020

Present

Leslie DeBlasio, Eva's Village	Earl Leitch, SERV
Concetta Schilt, Doors into the Future	Kathleen Fisher, St. Mary's Hospital
Danielle Granados, SJHMC	Tina Miles, SJHMC
Enrique Sangama, Preakness Healthcare Center	Sybil Schreiber, MHCP
Sherrine Schuldt, UPinPC	Juliet Quiles, CSPNJ
Cynthia Gatica, DMHAS	Tracey Dwan Blash, MHA Essex & Morris
Le'Var Starr, PCDHS	Brenda Browne, PCDHS
Tashai McFarlane, PCDHS	

Others Present

Kathleen McKenna, Adult Family Health Services

Excused

Sarah Friedland, VOA Northern NJ
Kaitlynn Turre, Straight & Narrow Inc.
Kristina Bloodgood, New Hope
Pauline Simms, SERV

Agenda

1. **Call to order** – Earl Leitch (filling in for Pauline Simms) called the meeting to order at 2:05pm.
2. **Minutes** – Motion to approve minutes by Sybil Schreiber of Mental Health Clinic of Passaic, seconded by Kathleen Fisher, St. Mary's Hospital.
3. **Staff Report** – See attached report.
4. **SRC** – Report was given.
5. **DMHAS Report** – See attached
6. **PAC Discussion** – PAC/PACADA elections, Kathleen Fisher was voted as PAC chair.
7. **Announcements** – Sherrine Schuldt of UPinPC announced that Dr. Joseph Ranieri, Medical Director of Seabrook will be presenting "Addiction 360 – A Best Practice Approach" at the quarterly coalition meeting at William Paterson University, March 20th at 9am. Tina Miles of St. Joseph's stated that St. Joseph's Health Symposium will be held May 2020. They also received a \$200,000 grant from the Nicolson Foundation for integrating behavioral health into primary care. Kathleen Fisher of St. Mary's announced that the psychiatric unit will have an open house TBA.
8. **Open Public Portion** – Dr. Chabner from NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome & Associated Disorders Inc. did a presentation on Tourette's Syndrome. Care Plus NJ spoke about their CRAFT family support groups.
9. **Other Business** –
10. **Adjourned** – Concetta Schilt motioned to adjourn, Tina Miles second. Meeting adjourned at 3:19.

Next meeting date: March 18, 2020

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

February 5, 2020

- Our proposal to DMHAS for the Innovation Award is under review.
- The County Comprehensive Plan has been approved by the State and we received our 2020 contract.
- Mental Health and Addiction RFP's were posted. MH bids are due 2/20/2020 and Addictions are due 2/21/2020
- MH Advisory Committee under the Chief Justice has been convened.
- NJ Disaster and Terrorism Branch responded to mass shooting in Jersey City and thin ice drowning deaths in NJ.
- IDRC-Spanish Curriculum launched and classes can be in all Spanish.
- Legislation regarding funding for overdose fatality review teams
- In February, there will be a statewide media campaign through ReachNJ.
- MAT Jail grant contracts being signed and processes are moving forward.

Mental Health Board Meeting Notes For February 2020
Northern Region Office

- The next Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services' Early Intervention Support Services' (EISS) Program Directors' meeting is scheduled for **March 4, 2020 at 1:00 PM.**

The meeting will take place in room 199B at 5 Commerce Way in Hamilton, NJ - The Division's headquarters.

- Grant Announcement

Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers

Application Due Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020

SAMHSA is accepting applications for Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers (CORC) grants. The purpose of the program is the operation of comprehensive centers which provide a full spectrum of treatment and recovery support services to address the opioid epidemic. SAMHSA plans to issue 2 grants of up to \$850,000 per year for up to 4 years.

- Senate Confirmation of Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli
On Thursday, January 9, 2020, the Senate confirmed Judith Persichilli as the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health.
- Please be advised that your Involuntary Outpatient Commitment (IOC) program will be scheduled for a site visit sometime during 2020. The visit will consist of a review of program specific policy and procedures, consumer records, staffing and program operations in general. We will conclude with a summary discussion period in the afternoon.

You will be notified of the date and time of your visit 30 days in advance.

Two weeks prior to the site visit, please email your agency's IOC manual to jenna.caccese@dhs.nj.gov

- The NJ Office for Refugees has released an information guide to working with refugees in regard to obtaining mental health services for them. Please refer to their website for the document.
- Diversion Bed update was sent to the hospitals and the MCO's clarifying the administration of Diversion bed services, these beds are for both committed and voluntary patients. Please refer to Volume 29 #12 for more details and offer a least restrictive acute care setting
- New RFP- SAMHSA State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant for one time funding from award through September 29, 2020. DMHAS anticipates making 25 awards of \$15,000 each to substance use disorder (SUD) licensed agencies. Each successful bidder is required to provide matching funds in the amount of \$10,000 minimum to support the purchase of telehealth equipment to be used for individuals in the community needing services for opioid use disorder treatment, physical health referrals, medication access, and other linkages.