



**Passaic County Local Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
September 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Members present:**

1. Ronna Bouton
2. Evan Covello
3. Linda Doering
4. Gabrielle McQueen
5. Jeanette Pimentel
6. Paula Tedesco
7. Jenny Sierra

**Members absent:**

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

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

Meeting was called to order at 5:03\_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. Doering to open the public portion of the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Browne made the announcement of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Ms. Jen Hernandez, a member of the public introduced herself to the group.

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

A motion was made by Ms. Sierra and seconded by Ms. McQueen to accept the June 3, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

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

September 2020

- Statewide Pilot Use of Force CIT Initiative for Passaic County is being planned and launched.
- The advocacy around the continuation of telehealth continues statewide.
- NJDMHAS states the Innovation Award dollars were approved for 2021-2022. Therefore, our Hope One project is likely to be funded for 2 years.
- The Passaic County Overdose Fatality Review Team Grant through NJDOH was approved for \$100,000.
- Naloxone distribution dates at pharmacies are Sept. 24-26. Over 300 pharmacies are on board with the initiative. After vetting the pharmacies to determine if they are in good standing and have standing orders, more information will be released.
- Some IDRC providers have resumed in person, some virtual but some have not resumed. Some issues include technology, space, etc. The court is catching up on violations from earlier this year.
- Overdose Awareness Day was August 31<sup>st</sup>. September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Coordinating to provide a presentation to the community this month with the Prosecutors' Office.
- Reviewing the Suicide data from Jan 1, 2020-August 25, 2020 to determine rates also in comparison to last year, this time. Suicide Prevention Hotline 1-800-273-TALK.
- Hope and Healing still have counseling resources 1-866-202-HELP. Return to School trainings through the mental health awareness grant are still available.
- Recovery is Possible flyer is available in English and Spanish. To be distributed widely.
- School Based Youth Services Statewide cuts.
- RFP is out for Hospital Based Opioid Overdose and Withdrawal Education Initiative.
- Request for Quotes and proposals going out for prevention, education, outreach and re-entry recovery support services under \$17,500.
- RFP is going out soon for a provider to do Anti-Racism work within the county under the Mental Health grant.
- Update on Hope One.

Professional Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse – No Report

County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (hereafter “CASS”) Report

- **GCADA Update – FY20 – Extension**
  - County Alliance Coordinators received the necessary FY19 Extension paperwork to extend their contract to include July – September 2020. Ms. Huber has been following-up with the Alliances to get the signed paperwork returned to be submitted to the State.
- **GCADA Update FY2021-2025 Planning Cycle**
  - CASS approved the revised funding formula and on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Mayors and Municipal Alliance Coordinators received the Revised Letter of Intent with the significantly reduced FY2021 allocation, and the request to revise the FY2021 Strategic Plan. Ms. Huber requested ratification to accept the revised funding formula for the FY2021 nine (9) month allocation for the Passaic County Alliance. Ms. Doering made the motion second by Jenny Sierra. Approved unanimously.

- To date Ms. Huber has received 10 of the 15 Revised Plans. Ms. Huber continues to reach out and work with those Alliances that have not yet submitted the revisions. The County Plan must be 75% complete for GCADA to approve it. Currently it is not.
- Ms. Huber presented the Totowa Municipal Alliance FY2021-2025 Strategic Plan for CASS approval. The Totowa Municipal Alliance was unable to submit the FY2021-2025 Strategic Plan in February because of extenuating circumstances. After review CASS unanimously approved the FY2021 Totowa Strategic Plan for submission. Ms. Huber requested ratification to accept the CASS committee's recommendation. Ms. Doering made a motion, second by Jenny Sierra to accept Totowa Municipal Alliance delayed Plan. Motion passed unanimously.
- Ms. Huber informed CASS that CASS approval is needed for the Revised FY2021 Alliance plans. CASS unanimously approve to authorize Ms. Huber to submit the revised FY2021 Municipal Alliance Plans recognizing the programs were already approved in the original Plan submitted in March and the revised Plans will not be adding new programs, but will be removing some of the approved programs. Ms. Huber requested ratification to accept the CASS committee's recommendation. Ms. Doering made a motion second by Ronna Bouton to approve the revised Plan. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Special Committee Report – Bid Review Committee Report - Attachment I

Old Business: None.

New Business: Ms. McQueen made a motion, second by Mr. Covello, to ratify the electronic vote for the Hope One van through County funding. Motion approved unanimously.

Mr. Covello made a motion to ratify the electronic and virtual vote approving the Bid Review Committee recommendation, second by Ms. McQueen. Motion approved unanimously.

There was no correspondence.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 PM.

Attest:

/ s / Donna Huber, Acting Secretary

## Addiction Proposals 2020

**TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS AND PRICING TABLE**  
**CRITERIA FOR RATING BY REFERENCES**  
 (To be used by the Selection Committee)

## Re-Bid RFP-20-020

**For Projects to be Funded in Calendar Year 2020 Under the Passaic County  
 Local Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Board Funding and the  
 2020-2023 Passaic County Comprehensive Plan For Addiction Services  
 Administered by the County Department of Human Services, Division of Mental  
 Health and Addiction Services**

The review of proposals will take place under the competitive contracting method as required by New Jersey's Local Public Contracts Law. Immediately following the submission deadline, proposals will be opened and reviewed by a specially convened review committee. The Committee will rank proposals and the highest ranked proposal will be recommended for award of contract by the Board of Chosen Freeholders. The criteria on which reviewers will rank proposals include the following categories: (1) Management—maximum 30 points; (2) Technical—maximum 50 points; and (3) Cost—maximum 20 points.

**Criteria for Vendor Selection:**

There was only one vendor for this re-bid:

**1. Management** — Great Eastern Behavioral Partners, LLC d/b/a New Life Recovery Center, LLC (Intensive Outpatient Treatment Services) scored a total of 15 points of 30 in this category.

**Feedback from committee:** There were concerns about the oversight, communication and organization of the agency as it relates to the overall quality and presentation of the proposal. Although the proposal was signed by the CEO/President, there were concerns whether the management of the organization actually reviewed the proposal before its final submission. There were questions as to the quality of the agency's documentation and whether the presentation of the proposal was indicative of the quality of service delivery and service documentation. The agency did not provide the resumes of the staff in the proposal.

**Technical** – Great Eastern Behavioral Partners, LLC d/b/a New Life Recovery Center, LLC (Intensive Outpatient Treatment Services) scored a total of 25 points of 50 in this category.

**Feedback from committee:** Although the services being delivered seemed to be fair, the committee found it difficult to understand the flow of the proposal due to significant

grammatical and spelling errors throughout the document. Due to these errors, there were parts of the proposal that did not make sense. More attention should be spent on editing prior to submitting future proposals.

**Cost—** Great Eastern Behavioral Partners, LLC d/b/a New Life Recovery Center, LLC (Intensive Outpatient Treatment Services) scored a total of 20 points of 20 in this category.

**Feedback from committee:** None.

**Total=** Great Eastern Behavioral Partners, LLC d/b/a New Life Recovery Center, LLC (Intensive Outpatient Treatment Services) scored 60 out of 100. The committee is recommending this agency be funded for this service.