



**Passaic County Mental Health Board
September 4, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Members present:

1. Nanette A. Armenta
2. Robert Nolan
3. Ramon Pagan
4. Anell Perez
5. Julie Rikon
6. Paula Tedesco

Members absent:

1. Jessica Jordan
2. Jeannette Pimentel
3. Dalton Price

Meeting was called to order at 6:22pm by Julie Rikon, Vice Chairman of the Mental Health Board.

Also present was Brenda Browne, Director of the Passaic County Mental Health and Addiction Services, Cynthia Gatica, Hudson and Passaic County Program Analyst for the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (NJDMHAS).

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

Mr. Pagan moved to open public portion, second by Ms. Armenta. Motion passed. No public present. Ms. Tedesco moved to close public portion, second by Mr. Nolan. Motion passed.

Meeting minutes of June 5, 2019 did not require approval as they were for informational purposes only. However, Ms. Tedesco moved to approve the minutes of May 1, 2019, second by Ms. Perez. Motion passed.

Reports

County Division of Mental Health & Addiction Staff Report (See Attachment 1)

Ms. Browne presented additional Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) members for appointment. Mr. Nolan moved to approve the PAC appointments with the exception of Cindymarie Dix, second by Ms. Tedesco. Motion passed. Ms. Browne presented the Children's InterAgency Coordinating Council (CIACC) committee members for appointment. Mr. Nolan moved to appoint CIACC members, second by Mr. Pagan. Motion passed.

New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services Program Analyst Report (See Attachment 2).

Professional Advisory Committee Report (See Attachment 3).

Grant Review Committee: Mr. Pagan moved to approve to award Paterson Public Schools' proposal for trauma-informed and grief services, second by Ms. Tedesco. Motion passed. Ms. Browne to receive and send additional information about the consultants to the board members.

Mr. Nolan moved to approve Jewish Family Services proposal for trauma informed training, second by Ms. Perez. Motion passed.

There was no Old Business.

There was no New Business.

No correspondence was received.

Motion to adjourn at 7:25 PM by Mr. Nolan, second by Ms. Perez.

Attest:

Brenda Browne
Secretary

County Division of Mental Health & Addiction Staff Report

September 4, 2019

Mental Health & Addictions Updates

- Interim services—Trainings were provided. Interim services start 10/1/19 for those on the waiting list for addiction treatment through a state paid package rate (Not Medicaid reimbursable). The individuals will be engaged within 72 hours especially those identified as the priority population. All fee-for-service agencies are expected to participate since it's in their contract. They are now being reimbursed for interim services which include: Crisis intervention, urinalysis, physician visit, two psychoeducational groups per week and other services. 30 day authorization allowed. These are pre-engagement services regardless of the individual's ability to pay. Including those who will fall under the county funding. Person would then be discharged into the funding sources' program.
- DMHAS is working on RFP's for 10 STAR teams for those leaving incarceration.
- Older Adults Opioid Program had no awards for Passaic County. Older adult population still being prescribed opioids and docs still applying for waivers. DMHAS is meeting with Hospital Association and discussing alternatives to opioid rx. Hospitals are developing a pain mgmt. committee.
- NJ Dept. of Health has received funding for quit centers in 11 counties which will be sustainable through taxes. New 24 hr. Quitline and a 2-week starter pack is available and can be mailed to participants.
- Letters of Intent for 2020 were mailed and there will be an increase in State funding for Addictions for Passaic County.
- Passaic County CADAD researching starting a Fatality Review Team for the county.
- Harm Reduction Workshop 8/21/19—Some key points--Lifetime cost of HIV treatment approx.. \$384k, Hepatitis C over \$200k, cost of an unused needle 7 cents. There has been 1300 overdoses this year so far. Some entities are providing test strips for fentanyl for substance users in the community. NJ passed the law to have syringe access cards for those individuals participating in the needle exchange program. Some law enforcement may not know about the bill or don't follow the law and may arrest individuals for possession of drug paraphernalia.
- The Passaic County Recovery Walk is Saturday, Sept. 7th at 9:30am. We will meet at the 77 Hamilton St. courthouse plaza. All are invited to register and attend.

Program Analyst Notes

August 2019 Program Analyst Report

- Effective July 1, 2019 Joint Commission Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) requires that all patients in psychiatric hospitals and patients being evaluated or treated for behavioral health conditions as their primary reason for care in general hospitals be screened by Evidenced Based Suicide Risk Assessment Tools to assess suicide risk i.e. Columbia Suicide Risk Assessment Tool. A survey was conducted of the STCF's and diversion bed hospitals to learn what tool they are using. The results show that all are using a standardized tool, and most are using the Columbia Suicide Risk Assessment Tool. A recommendation was made that the results of the screening and assessment be included with the referral information provided to Centralized Admissions.
- We have hired a Contracts Unit Bureau Chief. Her name is Valerie Bosley and she will be joining us from DCF where she has had significant cost-based contract experience with supervisory responsibilities.
- SAVE THE DATE – Fighting Stigma to End the Overdose Epidemic: A Harm Reduction Workshop

In preparation for International Overdose Awareness Day, join the New Jersey Department of Health for an interactive Harm Reduction Workshop. Harm reduction is a life-saving, evidence-based public health tool for New Jersey communities. Hear directly from national experts and local leaders about how harm reduction policy and practice can prevent overdose deaths, reduce drug-related stigma, and promote the dignity and health of all New Jerseyans, including individuals with substance use disorder.

Public health continuing education credits available. Breakfast and lunch provided, and free parking available. Registration opens soon! August 21st, Trenton War Memorial 9am to 2:30pm

<https://twitter.com/NJDeptofHealth/status/1154100040119607297>

<https://www.facebook.com/NJDeptofHealth/photos/a.1125531507475719/2772260996136087/?type=3&theater>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B0T2D3YHP9y/>

- A data extract file is being prepared. DMHAS is preparing a data extract file of claims paid to MH FFS providers through NJMHAPP January 1, 2017 through March 31, 2019. This will be looking for duplicative billing, moving forward this will be done quarterly and any erroneous claims will be voided and the full amount deducted from your agency's next billing cycle until the funds are recovered.
- Jennifer Langer Jacobs will be the new NJ Medicaid Director and lead the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, which provides health care coverage to 1.7 million New Jersey residents. She will begin July 22nd.
- Providers need to address any prior authorization, enrollment and claims payment inquiries/questions with an MCO prior to contacting the State. If provider issues/concerns are not resolved, they should send the inquiry to DMAHS Provider Relations Unit at MAHS.Provider-Inquiries@dhs.state.nj.us
- Upon receipt of provider inquiry, the Provider Relations staff will review and if applicable forward an inquiry to the MCO Provider Relations for resolution

- Save the Date flyer for DMHAS' Opioid Summit scheduled for September 20 was sent to our list serve today. More information about venue setting and staff attendance will follow.
- Please be advised that the next QPM meeting date has changed and is now scheduled for **Wednesday, September 4, 2019 from 10am-1pm.**

Please register your attendance for the meeting by using the following registration website: <https://njsams.rutgers.edu/training/QPM/QPMRegister.aspx>. Note that due to space limitations only **ONE** individual per agency is permitted to attend.

Program Analyst Notes
Sept. 2019

Opioid Summit Info

Please see information below re the division's upcoming Opioid Summit

- **WHAT:** DMHAS Opioid Summit
- **WHERE:** Atlantic City Convention Center
- **DATE:** September 20, 2019
- **GOAL:** To address the stigma and misinformation surrounding Opioid Use Disorders (OUD) and to enhance the understanding of treatment options, such as medication assisted treatment (MAT). ---
Flyer attached with more information

The Council on Compulsive Gambling of NJ – 37th Annual Statewide Conference

What: The Council on Compulsive Gambling of NJ – 37th Annual Statewide Conference

Title: **Gambling- (It's Not Child's Play)**

When: Friday, September 27, 2018

Cost: Free with registration returned to Ramika Evans, Office of Treatment and Recovery Support, by September 23, 2019.

CEUs: 6 hours

Where: New Jersey Hospital Association Conference Center; 760 Alexander Road; Princeton, NJ 08540; Phone: (609) 275-4140

Brochure: Brochure, agenda, and registration form attached.

RFP's

The following are the Preliminary Awards for MESH:

- Bridgeway Rehabilitation Services (Somerset/Warren County) Greystone Catchment Area
- Triple C Housing (Mercer County) Trenton Psychiatric Hospital Catchment Area
- Ocean Mental Health Services (Ocean County) Ancora Catchment Area

The following are the Preliminary Awards for STAR:

- Care Plus NJ Inc.-Morris County
- Care Plus NJ Inc.-Passaic County
- The Center for Prevention and Counseling-Sussex County

The following are the Final Awards for Alternative Approaches to Pain Management for Older Adults to the Northern Region

- Community in Crisis, Inc. Jody D'Agostini \$75,000 Somerset
- Family Guidance Center of Warren County Michele Eichorn \$74,078 Warren

Housing

Backfill names are no longer required for DHMAS rental subsidies.

Staff Changes

Vivian Schwartz, Northern Regional Coordinator, retired as of September 1, 2019. Theresa Wilson is Acting Regional Coordinator until the position is filled.

Melinda Harriman is no longer a Contract Administrator and is now a Program Analyst for the Southern Region.

Upcoming Meetings

Reminder that the Quarterly Provider Meeting is September 4th from 10:00am-1:00pm.

Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale

It's been determined that any staff person, regardless of educational degree, can complete a suicide risk screening provided that they have completed their agency training on the provision of the screening. This is consistent with the intention of the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale. What is critical is that the agency have a policy, on which staff have been trained, operationalizing how staff will follow up with ensuring immediate linkage to a clinician (MA level or higher) if the screening is positive. Licensing is going to ask to see the policies, and review them for adequacy.

Murphy Signs Law to Require Mental Health Education in Schools

Mental health education will be integrated into health and physical education classes for all K-12 students in New Jersey under legislation signed into law Friday by Governor Phil Murphy. The law will take effect immediately and first apply to the 2020-2021 school year. It passed Assembly in June by a vote of 74-0, and the Senate in March 34-0.

**Passaic County Mental Health and Addiction Professional Advisory Committee
(PAC/PACADA)
Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2019**

Present

Yisel Alaoui, Partnership MCH	Pauline Simms, SERV Centers of NJ
Marc Ackerman, SERV Centers of NJ	Kathleen Fisher, St. Mary's Hospital
Danielle Granados, SJHMC	Tina Miles, SJHMC
Joanne Green, MHA of Passaic	Faith Benford, NJCDC
Angela Nikolovski, Straight & Narrow Inc.	Sean Buehler, Essex County Hospital Center
Bert Baldassarra, New Life Recovery Center	Alicia Bernarducci, Clara Maass
Bob Parker, NewBridge Services	Enrique Sangama, Preakness Healthcare
Sybil Schreiber, MHCP	Rachel Murray, ISI
Annette Wright, CSPNJ	Cynthia Gatica, DMHAS
Tracy Dwan Blash, MHA Essex & Morris	Tashai McFarlane, PCDHS
Brenda Browne, PCDHS	Le'Var Starr, PCDHS
Lia Travers, PCDHS	

Excused

Sarah Friedland, VOA of Northern NJ
Lisa Vara, Bridgeway PACT

Others Present

Linda Doering, Institute for Relationship Intelligence
Carly Graham, Fedcap Aspirations

Agenda

1. **Call to order** – Pauline Simms called the meeting to order.
2. **Minutes** – Motion to approve the May 2019 PAC/PACADA minutes by Sybil Schreiber of Mental Health Clinic of Passaic, seconded by Tina Miles of St. Joseph's Hospital Medical Center.
3. **Staff Report** – Updates were given. See attached report.
4. **SRC** – Last meeting was May 23, 2019. Next meeting is June 20, 2019. PACT had 8 admissions. CSP has 78% occupancy rate, with 14 new Passaic County admissions last month. St. Mary's POWER program has 4 referrals.
5. **DMHAS Report** – See attached.
6. **PAC Discussion** – None.
7. **Announcements** – Bob Parker of NewBridge Services announced New Bridge Services has 5 apartments immediately available to low and moderate income families located in Clifton, NJ. There

are (2) two-bedroom apartments and (3) three-bedroom apartments available. Pauline Simms of SERV announced SERV is CCBHS certified and there will be an open house September 20, 2019.

8. **Open Public Portion** – Carlie Graham of FEDCAP described the services that FEDCAP offers.

9. **Other Business** – None.

10. **Adjourned** – Meeting adjourned by Pauline Simms at 2:46pm.

Next meeting date: September 18, 2019