



**Passaic County Mental Health Board
October 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Members present:

1. Nanette A. Armenta
2. Robert Nolan
3. Jeannette Pimentel
4. Julie Rikon
5. Paula Tedesco

Members absent:

1. Ramon Pagan
2. Arnell Perez

Meeting was called to order at 6:04pm by Mr. Nolan, Chairman of the Mental Health Board. Meeting was held via videoconference.

Also present was Brenda Browne, Director of the Passaic County Mental Health and Addiction Services and from the public: Jen Hernandez, Jennifer Haggis and Peggy Lore.

A motion was made by Ms. Armenta and second by Ms. Tedesco to open the public portion of the meeting. Motion passed.

Mr. Nolan made the announcement of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Peggy Lore provided positive feedback to the board. Jennifer Haggis introduced herself.

A motion was made by Ms. Tedesco to close public portion, second by Ms. Armenta. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Rikon to approve the September 2, 2020 meeting minutes, second by Ms. Pimentel. Motion passed.

Reports

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

Mr. Nolan inquired about \$2500 Stigma-free award in which municipalities had not applied (Totowa, Haledon, North Haledon, Prospect Park and Hawthorne). The board recommended it be sent out again to give the ten eligible municipalities a chance to apply for a first or second mini-grant.

New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services Program Analyst Report (See Attachment 2). Ms. Gatica sent her report.

Professional Advisory Committee Report (See Attachment 3).

Old Business: Ms. Browne shared county suicide stats data with the board for January-September 2020. Ms. Pimentel thanked Ms. Browne for sharing this data. Mr. Nolan requested the information be shared again after the year's end and to compare to last year's data.

Mr. Nolan thanked the board members for their shared advocacy in getting the school-based youth service funding restored.

New Business: To ratify electronic votes. A motion by Ms. Tedesco to ratify the electronic vote for The Word on the Move for \$5000 for the Barber Shop Chop services, second by Ms. Pimentel. Motion passed. A motion by Ms. Rikon to ratify the electronic vote for the reallocation of the budget for the administrative assistant for the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, second by Ms. Armenta. Motion passed.

Ms. Armenta introduced Peggy Lore as an interested board member.

Correspondence: State Senate President Steve Sweeney's letter.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Ms. Rikon. Second by Ms. Armenta. Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 6:51 PM.

Attest:

Brenda Browne
Secretary

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

October 2020

- COVID-19 Updates/CRF-- COVID relief funds/CRF—2 webinars last week with providers and DMHAS. Federal dollars available for unbudgeted expenses. \$5 mill available. Categories include: PPE and cleaning supplies, virus mitigation, hazard pay, hardware software and technology, and testing for staff and clients. Agencies must complete the forms and send . Will include attestation that they could not be reimbursed for these costs from any other source. Agency must be in contract with DMHAS and must provide community-based services. Money is available on a first come, first serve basis. These expenses will be highly scrutinized by the federal government. DMHAS will send out a guidance document. 3 additional staff will be assigned to this initiative.
- City of Passaic is holding a Mental Health Walk on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2020 at 9am. All are invited. They've invited the County Director of MH&AS to speak.
- School Based Youth Services funding has been fully restored. Kudos to the Passaic County PAC/PACADA and Mental Health Board for their letters of advocacy.
- Emergency payments to agencies: Starting Oct. 1, the contracts will revert to the pre-pandemic payment/billing structure.
- Naloxone Distribution Days: County Division staff visited all Passaic County participating pharmacies and distributed resource literature and provided feedback.
- As per DMHAS, no reduction in services or people served with the governor's budget. (Medicaid revenue and underspending). Savings related to drug court.
- DMHAS is continuing the Older adults program into 2021.
- Developing a MOA for Narcan in the OORP and STAR programs for distribution. Contracts to add a FTE to the STAR program. OORP expansion dollars to be funded through the SOR. Agencies applied for it and dmhas is in the process to reviewing them.
- The innovation awards are continuing into 2021-2022. There are 4 counties being funded through SOR. The other 16 counties are under state grants which are passed on Oct. 1st. the data collection is different for federal dollars.
- Intoxicated Driver Program –The 2-year designation of the IDRC to be started soon.
- Update on Hope One.

NJMDHAS Program Analyst Notes

October Notes

- The New Jersey Department of Human Services, DMHAS's \$25M Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Reimbursement Program, is made possible through the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Security Act (CARES Act). This CRF fund is for the express purpose of providing reimbursement for non-budgeted, COVID19 expenses not covered by local, state or federal funding and is reimbursed on a first come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted.

Please be advised that **two additional information sessions** will be held regarding DMHAS's Corona Virus Relief Fund (CRF) Reimbursement Program. Use the hyperlinks below to register for this zoom meeting. **Advance registration is required.**

- **Session One**

Thursday, October 1, 2020 from 1 pm to 2:30 pm

Please register for this session here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcscu-tqzMrHdN5RtcRizlpJnc7EOyz100f>

- **Session Two**

Friday, October 2nd, 2020 from 12:30pm to 2:00 pm

Please register for this session here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvcuyorjwsG9wc6WeVXGCXzLHyZglQnFUK>

- Correspondence from Assistant Commissioner Mielke outlining the DMHAS's Coronavirus Relief Fund Reimbursement Program along with all of the documents referenced in it, can be found on the DMHAS's website:
https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/information/stakeholder/cornoavirusrelieffund_crf.html
- School Based Youth Service Programs- As per the final budget, the legislature has restored full funding to the proposal:
 - "The proposal also restores millions of dollars in cuts Murphy's budget made to re-entry services and halfway houses, provides \$15 million to a school-based [mental health program](#) operating inside 100 school districts and boosts funding for extraordinary special education by \$25 million." Source: <https://www.nj.com/politics/2020/09/murphy-top-dems-agree-to-327b-budget-with-45b-in-borrowing-reduced-public-worker-pension-payment.html>
- Per The Residential Providers meeting, DMHAS Office of Olmstead, Planning, Research and Evaluation, is requesting the start date and end dates, where applicable, for all Residential and CSS programs. This process should significantly alleviate requests for QCMRs already submitted/received as the system is still looking for missing QCMRs for subprograms that you may not be using any longer. The eventual plan is to collect this information for all of our programs and their subprograms. We wanted to begin with Residential and CSS.

- The QCMR staff will be sending out a grid specific to each agency asking for information on the start and end dates for each subprogram listed in our QCMR database. We will begin with Residential providers and then proceed to CSS. We will include fields for contact information as well as those for details on duplicated/renamed agencies. When you receive the grid for your agency, please fill in the requested information and send your response to the QCMR inbox at DMHS.QCMR@dhs.nj.gov.
- New Jersey Human Services Commissioner Carole Johnson today announced that applications are now open for the new COVID-19 child care tuition assistance program the Murphy Administration has created to help families with child care costs as schools open remotely.
 - The \$150 million program will provide child care tuition assistance to New Jersey families with incomes up to \$75,000 that are in need of either full or part-time child care due to their child's remote learning schedule.
 - Families can apply for this assistance by completing the online application at www.ChildCareNJ.gov. Those applying will need proof of income and a notice or announcement from their child's school of a remote learning schedule. See flyer.
- Please see attached information regarding the resumption of MH FFS billing, effective 10/1/20.
- State Budget Document link

<https://www.nj.gov/treasury/omb/publications/21budget/pdf/ReportontheRevisedFY21Budget.pdf>
- Residential Providers:
For your reference, please see attached guidance re Bed Hold and Bed Hold extension billing to be followed upon the return to FFS billing, effective 10/1/20. See attached
- Community Support Services (CSS) has a new website: <https://sites.rutgers.edu/shp-community-support-services>

September 21, 2020

Dear MH-FFS Residential Provider:

As follow up to the September 15, 2020 Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) communication regarding the transition back to regular FFS billing on October 1st, the MH-FFS unit would like to provide guidance regarding the billing of Bed Holds and Bed Hold Extensions in NJMHAPP.

Please note that due to some of the business rules incorporated into NJMHAPP for the billing of Bed Holds and Bed Hold Extensions, residential providers will need to do the following beginning October 1st:

- **Bed Holds Within 30 Days:** For consumers on regular Bed Holds that are crossing over from the Advanced Payment time period into regular FFS billing (which will resume on 10/1/20), providers should simply enter these claims into NJMHAPP and the DMHAS Fiscal Office will deduct the amount already covered in the Advanced Payment time period. For example, if a consumer began the regular Bed Hold on 9/20/20 (Advanced Payment time period) and continues on the Bed Hold until 10/10/20, the residential provider should enter those claims as regular Bed Hold encounters in NJMHAPP and the DMHAS Fiscal Office will deduct the amount of claims covered in the Advanced Payment time period from the bi-weekly DXC payment.
- **Bed Hold Extensions:** For consumers on Bed Hold Extensions that are crossing over from the Advanced Payment time period into regular FFS billing (which will resume on 10/1/20), providers should wait until the billing buffer day for October claims has ended on November 15th and only submit Bed Hold Extension claims for October 1st, and after, in the Electronic Claims Adjustment System (ECAS). For example, if a consumer began the Bed Hold Extension on 9/20 (Advanced Payment time period) and continues on the Bed Hold Extension until 10/10/20, the residential provider should only enter the Bed Hold Extension claims from 10/1 to 10/10 in the ECAS module after the billing buffer day for October has ended on 11/15/20.

If you have any questions on Bed Hold and Bed Hold Extension claims as we transition back to regular FFS billing on October 1st, please feel free to submit an NJMHAPP ticket for assistance.

Thank you

The MH-FFS Team



CRF Cover Letter.pdf



Child Care School
Age Tuition Assistanc



Child Care School
Age Tuition Assistanc

**Passaic County Mental Health and Addiction Professional Advisory Committee
(PAC/PACADA)
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2020**

Present

Leslie DeBlasio, Eva's Village
Pauline Simms, SERV
Karl Roman, Advance Housing
Joanne Green, MHA
Bert Baldassarra, New Life Recovery
Sarah Friedland, Strivewell Center
Sherrine Schuldt, UPinPC
Tracey Waldman, ISI
Tracey Dwan Blash, MHA Essex & Morris
Tashai McFarlane, PCDHS

Earl Leitch, SERV
Kathleen Fisher, St. Mary's Hospital
Tina Miles, SJHMC
Robin Murray, NJCDC
Michelle Borden, NewBridge Services
Sybil Schreiber, MHCP
Juliet Quiles, CSPNJ
Cynthia Gatica, DMHAS
Brenda Browne, PCDHS
Sarah Lombard, PCDHS

Others Present

Charlene W. Gungli, PCDHS
Diedre Lonza, New Hope
Emily Monks, Prevention is Key
Megan Searles, MHA
Stephanie Hardiman, Bridgeway PACT
Kelly Lavar, Prevention is Key

Kathleen McKenna, Adult Family Health Services
Erika Shortway, Prevention is Key
Hannah Blank
Gabrielle McQueen, Star for PC, Care Plus
Michael Nicholson, Children's Aid & Family Services
Jessica Fleicher, Jewish Family Services

Agenda

1. **Call to order** – Kathleen Fisher called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.
2. **Minutes** –
3. **Staff Report** – See attachment 1
4. **SRC** – No report
5. **DMHAS Report** – See attachment 2
6. **PAC Discussion** – Joanne Green proposed that the committee send a letter to the state to support youth-based services. Michelle Borden motioned, and Sybil Schreiber seconded. St. Mary's Hospital opened a voluntary psychiatric unit in June 2020.
7. **Announcements** –
8. **Open Public Portion** –
9. **Other Business** –
10. **Adjourned** – Gabrielle McQueen motioned to adjourn, Joanne Green second. Meeting adjourned at 3:17pm.

Next meeting date: October 21, 2020

PAC/PACADA--ATTACHMENT A

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 31st. 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.

PAC/PACADA--ATTACHMENT B

September 2020 Notes

CSS

- Any providers experiencing difficulty with Medicaid billing should reach out to Steve Tunney and copy Harry Reyes and Deborah Gravely.

- Reminder that the CSS model requires that consumers are active participants in the development and completion of the CRNA.
- IRPs should not be sent to the IME for approval if the consumer is refusing participation.
 - IRPs should not be developed on behalf of a consumer.
 - If the provider agency is struggling to work with a consumer, the agency should contact Harry, Deb or SHC for assistance.
- When submitting terminations for consumers w/ subsidies please add how often staff will provide wellness checks as it is needed for the program analyst. Wellness checks are required to be at least a monthly basis.

CSS Trainings

i) The training will be offered synchronously on:

(1) Tuesdays

(a) September 22 to November 11, from 9:00 am-12:00 pm

(2) Wednesday

(a) September 23 to November 11, from 12:30-3:30 pm

(3) Thursdays

(a) September 24 to November 12, from 10:30 am-1:30 pm

ii) The following three orientation online modules are prerequisites to the training and available on Canvas starting on 8/3:

(1) *Module 1: Overview of CSS Admissions and Documentation Process*

(2) *Module 2: CSS Services*

(3) *Module 3: The Golden Thread in Community Support Services*

iii) Register Here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-2020-css-trainings-registration-114186266196>

i) The fourth topic in the series will be, "Supporting Individuals Living with a Co-Occurring Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder" on Friday September 11, 2020.

(1) Register in advance for this

webinar: https://shprutgers.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JDtcP5Y9SIWu6wWwdNToTA

ii) The fifth webinar will take place on Friday October 2, 2020.

Upcoming Meetings

Residential Provider Meeting schedule for 9/15 at 10am. Meetings details to follow.

Residential:

There has been update to the PreAdmission Policy specific to residential assignments, effective July 1, 2020 and onward. Non-State hospital consumers referred to an A+ Level residential placements by the Olmstead unit, Pre-admission can be billed upon successful admission to the A+ bed. Please see the attached policy, Appendix L- pg. 59 and accompany authorization form on pg. 60. Questions will be addressed at the upcoming residential meeting.

Naloxone Distribution Dates:

Naloxone kits will be distributed to participating pharmacies throughout the state on September 24th , 25th , and 26th.

\$25 million CARES ACT funding for Mental Health

Eligible Providers must be contracted with DMHAS or in the FFS network
Programs must be community based Mental Health and Addictions Programs
Reimbursement is allowable from March 9, 2020- December 15, 2020 and will be on a first come first served basis
Funding will only cover expenses incurred during the Covid 19 crisis and must be related
Documentation on how to file for reimbursement is forthcoming
Please see the attached slide for more information

New Rates

Residential rates have increased (includes room and board) from \$130 to \$147.60.
MAT has increased from \$135 to \$152.60

Incident Reports

There has been an update to submitting incident reports that are Covid 19 related. Please refer to the website for more information.
Trainings on how to submit Incident Reports for new Provider Agencies are forthcoming.