

**Passaic County CIACC**  
**401 Grand Street, Paterson, NJ 07505**  
**Chair: Kelly Hart**  
**Vice-Chair: Donna Glinkin**  
**June 12, 2024**

**Attendance**

Present

Lawanda Lewis, CSOC	Teresa Monserrat, NJ4S
Andrea Mayes, Youth Consultation Serv	Nina Reams, FSO-PC
Donna Kunz, DCF Regional School-Bergen	Melissa Cantada, MHCoP
Lawanda Shorter, DCF Regional School-Bergen	Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO
Kelly Hart, CFFR	Rodrigo Cardenas, BNBM
Bart Chou, PCHS	Kathi Satchell, FSO-PC
Donna Glinkin, PCMRSS/FCIU	Jenny Sierra, DCP
Laura McCarthy, PCMRSS/FCIU	Le`Var Starr, PCHS
Jose L. Poses, Circle of Care CMO	Jenny Vuksic, PCHS

Excused

Jaime Jackett, NJDOE	Natalie Contreras, CFFS
Diahann DeRuggiero, McKinney-Vento	Amanda Compton-Dover, JJC

Absent

Joanna Gurcak, Up in PC	Dawn Moody, Probation
Jill Martorano, Family Courts	Jocelyn Cuff, CFFS
Berenice Lopez, S&N Family Success Ctr	Narine Kaprelian, St. Joseph's Health PES
Davetta Ford, BGC	Carolina Suarez, St. Mary's Hospital
Stephanie Drag, Children's Aid & Family Serv	

The monthly meeting of the Passaic County CIACC was called to order at 9:40am.  
The meeting was held in person. *Minutes, agenda, and meeting link are available on the Passaic County website.*

- I. **Minutes:** The April 10, 2024 minutes was unanimously approved.
  
- II. **Presentation by Lawanda Shorter, DCF Regional – Bergen Campus:** Lawanda Shorter discussed the 12-month school program offered to students in group homes that are in Middle School and High School. They provide services for youth with social anxiety, substance use, absenteeism, have a CST, Autistic, aggressive.... needing a smaller environment to succeed in school. The home district provides the curriculum and transportation for the students. They offer specialized services including speech therapy, occupational, and physical therapy. They are trained in Nurtured Heart Approach and stressed that the smaller sized classroom is key. They usually have an average of 12 youth in a class. If you would like to learn more or take a tour, Lawanda and be reached at (201) 261-6230 ext. 4610 or [Lawanda.Shorter@dcf.nj.gov](mailto:Lawanda.Shorter@dcf.nj.gov)
  
- III. **System Partner Updates:**
  - Paulina Dutton, Circle of Care CMO: reported they had a total of 1,190 active youth. In the month of May, they received 114 new referrals, and had 98 transitions. They had an

attendance of 450 participants at the Healthy Bodies Health Minds event through collaboration of the CMOs in Hudson, Bergen and Passaic.

- Nina Reams, FSO: Nina let members know in the month of May the number of families that were referred from PerformCare was 115, 8 with the CMO, 3 meetings without the CMO, 81 face to face meetings with families. Reported having 10 support meetings, 196 Support group participants, 5 community initiatives, 23 unduplicated youth attended Youth Partnership, 7 Youth Group meetings, and 14 active hours on youth Partnership operations.
- Donna Glinkin, MRSS: In May, they had 241 requests for dispatches. Currently open with 400 youths. They have three staff openings. They are going to schools for presentations.
- Jenny Sierra, DCP: For the month of May, Passaic Central Office responded to 237 referrals, 41 Child Welfare Assessments (CWS) and 196 Child Protective Services (CPS). The Northern Local Office responded to 227 referrals, 39 Child Welfare Assessments (CWS) and 188 Child Protective Services (CPS).

#### IV. **Committee Reports:**

- Community Voice: Jenny Vuksic reported she met with FSO peer support group at the Highlands FSC in Hewitt, there were 6 in attendance. They reported difficulties with schools when trying to get services for youth with special needs; transportation issues; or issues with letting youth know they can refuse services at the age of 14.
- Planning/Education Committee: No report.
- Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Community Voice: Attended the Paterson Resource Fair on April 20<sup>th</sup>. We will not meet this summer and will regroup in September.
- By-Laws and Membership: Membership will be reviewed in September 2024

V. **Youth Services Commission**: Le`Var Starr, Youth Service Commission, reported that their next Youth Service Commission meeting will be Lunch and Learn will be taking place on June 19 and the focus will be on Juneteenth. The Youth Service Conference will take place on December 6, 2024, which will be the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference...Save the Date.

VI. **Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services**: Bart Chou let members know May was Mental Health Awareness Month. They had a Mental Health Awareness Fair on May 17<sup>th</sup> which 150 to 200 from the community attended. On June 27, 2024 a Harm Reduction Workshop will take place, with Glenn Duncan as the presenter.

VII. **Stakeholder Updates**: No report

VIII. **Announcements**: Melissa Cantada, MHCoP, reported that they are planning a Fall Gala in Dr. Sybil Schreiber's Memory. More information to come when confirmed.  
-Kathi Satchell, CFFR, announced that 15 Youth attended Fairview Camp (YMCA) in Newton.

IX. **Old/New Business**: There was some discussion on PerformCare's Cyber update. There have been some improvements but continue to have issues. There is a long wait time on calls, and IIC providers are not receiving payments.  
-It was suggested that Directors convene a meeting to be stronger and more uniform to resolve issues that arise affecting children's services.

On a motion by Stephanie Drag and seconded by Le`Var Starr, the CIACC meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next meeting is scheduled for **September 11, 2024, at 9:30am**. The meeting will be in person at DCPD, 201 Willowbrook Blvd, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor in Wayne.

Submitted by: *Jenny Vuksic*