

HSAC Minutes
October 2, 2019

- I. Call to Order and Roundtable Introductions – J. Roy
The meeting was called to order at 2:03pm. Roundtable introductions followed.

Members Present:

Jeffrey Pierson – Freeholder
Nichol Hoff – Consumer
Wayne Whelan – Member-at-Large
Mary Dozier – Provider
John Roy – Consumer Advocate
Barry Keefe – Member-at-Large
Katie Faldetta – Provider
Eleanor McBride – Provider
Jamie Moscony – Member-at-Large
Carol Haig – Member-at-Large
Donna Groome – Provider

Members Excused:

Terri Bryan
Lorenzo McFadden
Rose Kuprianov
Megan Santiago
Christa Loper
Judy Kunec
Joe Sittineri

Interested Persons:

Jennifer Zoyac – CSPNJ
Elizabeth Cunningham – SJLS
John Fuqua – Complete Care
Kristen Raring – CMC Human Services
Norma Cordeiro – NJ DVRS
Barbara Deane – Catholic Charities
Nelson Troché – NJDHS/CO
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator

- II. Additions and Corrections to the Minutes – J. Roy
Minutes from the 9/4/19 meeting were emailed to voting members with hard copies available at the meeting. B. Keefe motioned to accept the minutes as circulated and K. Faldetta seconded. Motion carried. Once approved by the Council, meeting minutes are posted on the Cape May County website.
- III. Administrator's Report – S. Hand
S. Hand reported that as noted in the Executive Committee report, the office expects to issue contract renewal packages for those services funded with County dollars during the month of October. Agencies will have approximately one month to complete and return their packages to the HSAC office. On behalf of the CEAS Committee, the HSAC office has completed the process of updating the recommendations cited in the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness (developed in 2016) by noting the current status of the each. The update was shared with the CEAS Committee at their 9/10/19

meeting and with the Executive committee at their 9/25/19 meeting. A few copies have been placed in the pass around folder for those interested. Anyone wanting additional copies is asked to email S. Hand for a PDF of the document. The SNJCoC submitted the 2019 CoC Plan and accompanying agency project proposals to HUD by the 9/30/19 deadline. The SNJCoC applied for 100% of funds for which it was eligible. This includes bonus funding for new projects and equates to approximately \$4.5 million dollars. It is hoped that funding awards will be announced prior to the end of the calendar year. With regard to the HTF, the CMC Board of Chosen Freeholders will be soliciting applications for the CMC HTF Advisory Board. Applications will be available on the County website (www.capemaycountynj.gov) within the next few days. The State of NJ has designated October 6th as Knock Out Opiate Abuse Day to help raise awareness of the potential for dependency on prescribed pain medicine and its link to heroin abuse rates in our state. Sign cards are available for anyone who wants to hang it on their office door and/or distribute to co-workers throughout the month of October. Lastly, as has been reported at the previous two (2) HSAC meetings, the County has embarked on an initiative to reduce paper costs. To that end, this is the first meeting where the meeting packets have been emailed to HSAC members and those interested persons that have indicated that they will attend the meeting. A few copies of the meeting packet are available in the pass around folder for those that did not RSVP or did not bring their packets with them. It is hoped that this practice will yield two (2) results – one, it will significantly reduce paper usage and two, it will encourage people to RSVP their meeting attendance. As for flyers/announcements, the copies available at meetings will be limited to those provided by the sponsoring agency.

IV. State Department Reports:

- DHS – N. Troché
N. Troché reported that the Department has been very busy. He then highlighted the following issues/initiatives on which NJ DHS has been working: 1) the Newark water crisis, 2) College affordability with a focus on addressing food insecurity through food pantries/SNAP benefits for students, faculty, and staff, 3) Wage increase for DDD direct support workers, 4) the Suicide Prevention Conference which was held on 9/10/19, 5) Elder Abuse Initiative – NJ DHS is developing programs, 6) Assisting First Lady Tammy Murphy with maternal and infant health initiatives, 7) Efforts to combat the opioid epidemic including NARCAN distribution, and 8) Working with the Governor's Office on a Latino Initiative. N. Troché stated that he has been asked to personally work with the Governor's office on this initiative which will be examining communication and outreach efforts to and within the Hispanic community including reviewing materials to ensure that Spanish versions are available, as well as, checking the translation quality of documents. In addition, there will be a Latino outreach event for Spanish speaking media outlets and service providers. This is the first event of this type which is designed to encourage increased media coverage within Hispanic communities on State programs and services, as well as, increased communication with Latino organizations.
- DCF – J. Hirsch
J. Roy stated that J. Hirsch was unable to attend. However; a written report with the Cape May DCP&P local office statistics for the month of September 2019 was distributed. Anyone with questions is asked to email J. Hirsch.

V. Committee Reports:

a. Executive Committee – J. Roy

Minutes from the 9/25/19 meeting (held via email) were distributed via email (limited copies available on site). J. Roy referenced #2 of the report regarding Council membership to state that the Executive Committee has begun to look at membership needs for 2020. The Committee is

also working on the development of a slate of HSAC officers for 2020. The slate will be presented at the November Council meeting.

- b. Disability Services Committee – K. Fitzsimons
S. Hand reported for K. Fitzsimons. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 10/15/19. In addition, CMC Disability Awareness Day will be held on 10/22/19 from 5 to 8pm at SSSD.
- c. Program Review Committee – J. Kunec
No report.
- d. WFNJ-WTW – D. Groome
A written report detailing WFNJ/SNAP caseload numbers for Cape May County for April, May, and June 2019 was distributed. D. Groome noted that the April and May statistics have already been shared with Council but the inclusion provides a picture of the 2nd quarter of 2019. She highlighted the following statistics from the June report: GA cases = 132, TANF cases = 100, and SNAP cases = 3,547. The WFNJ participation rate for June was 21.4%. D. Groome added that she has been monitoring trends in both caseloads and applications (the number of applications being submitted). In a comparison of June 2018 with June 2019, caseloads are similar. However; applications have decreased. Applications are down as follows: GA = 37%, TANF = 15%, and SNAP = 32%. D. Groome concluded by stating that she will continue to monitor trends in both caseloads and applications.
- e. CEAS – S. Matthews
Minutes from the 9/10/19 meeting were distributed via email (limited copies available on site). S. Hand reported for S. Matthews. She noted the following from the minutes: 1) there is a status update on local CEAS programs, as well as, CoC funded programs operating in CMC, 2) the 2019 CoC Competition – the SNJCoC Plan and accompanying project applications were submitted to HUD by the 9/30/19 deadline, and 3) the agency spotlight presentation for the meeting was Rutgers Southern Regional Child Care Resource and Referral Agency (RSRCCRRA). S. Hand added that the Rutgers presentation included information on a new statewide program that provides child care subsidy to families experiencing homelessness.
- f. CIACC – K. Raring
Minutes from the 9/10/19 meeting were distributed via email (limited copies available on site). K. Raring stated that the minutes are self-explanatory. The next meeting of the CIACC is scheduled for 11/12/19.
- g. Membership – B. Keefe
B. Keefe stated that two new members (C. Loper and W. Whelan) have been appointed to Council. With these appointments, Council has one remaining open voting membership position (consumer). Anyone interested in this position is asked to contact S. Hand for an application.

A motion was made by E. McBride and seconded by K. Faldetta to accept the committee reports as presented. Motion carried.

VI. Liaison Reports

- a. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council – M. Dozier
M. Dozier reported on the following: 1) PRAC will have staff at the Division's offices every Wednesday from 9:30-11:30am (starting today through April) to assist consumers with LIHEAP and USF applications. 2) The Medicare Open Enrollment period for Medicare Part D and Advantage plans begins 10/15 and runs through 12/7/19. The Division is available to assist

consumers with the process. Appointments are available Tuesdays and Thursdays during open enrollment, walk-ins all other days. Volume will be monitored to determine if later Tuesday hours or weekends will need to be implemented. 3) Disability Awareness Day is 10/22/19 (flyers and posters are available). There are over 50 vendors signed up to participate. 4) Flyers are available for Veterans Smile Day which will be held on 11/9/19 from 9am to 2pm in Mays Landing. This event provides free dental care to all veterans. Service is provided on a first come, first served basis but appointments will be taken (this will guarantee that the individual is seen even if after 2pm). 5) The Older Americans Act is due for reauthorization. Copies of a fact sheet detailing the proposed changes to the Act are available in the pass around folder. M. Dozier noted that changes are needed as the amount of funding allocated through the Act is not keeping pace with the growing numbers that comprise the aging population. 6) Senior Day in the Park will be held tomorrow (10/3/19). The event has been moved inside due to the forecasted inclement weather.

- b. Workforce Development Board – T. Bryan
S. Hand reported for T. Bryan. She stated that T. Bryan sends her apologies but she was unable to attend today due to vacation; she will share her report at the next HSAC meeting.

VII. Old Business

1. D. Groome stated that she would like to remind those present that the Division of Social Services is open every Tuesday evening until 6:30pm in an attempt to accommodate consumers that cannot come to the Agency during standard business hours. In addition, the representatives from PRAC that are working with the Division of Aging will soon be available to meet with Social Service consumers interested in applying for LIHEAP and/or USF. The goal is to make services convenient and accessible.
2. D. Groome reported that the federal government is proposing changes to food assistance eligibility criteria. The proposed changes would impact several programs including SNAP and the school reduced/free lunch programs. Even though the federal comment period has ended, D. Groome will continue to monitor this issue and will report any updates to Council. She concluded by stating that it is hoped that the federal government will review the potential impact of the changes and act accordingly. N. Troché added that NJ DHS Commissioner Johnson submitted a letter objecting to the proposed changes.

VIII. New Business

1. Freeholder Pierson stated that he had two (2) items of business. First, he attended a “Knock Out Opioid Abuse” event earlier today at which two (2) CMC high schools were represented. He noted that he was impressed with the fact that the students were very engaged and asked questions of the panelists. Freeholder Pierson commented that he would like to see this program expand to all the high schools in CMC. Second, the Freeholder Board is moving forward with the plans to renovate the former K-Mart site in Rio Grande. The plans call for this to be both a retail and service plaza with renovations and subsequent occupancy to occur in stages. In addition to the building renovations, work such as parking lot improvements, drainage, and signage must also be completed. He concluded by noting that Tractor Supply is expected to be the first entity to open in the new facility; their goal is to be open by the end of December 2019.
2. E. McBride announced that Acenda has received a \$2.5 million SAMHSA grant for a Family Partnership Program which will serve Atlantic, Cape May, and Ocean Counties. The program is a family focused recovery process that works with children whose parents have a substance use disorder. E. McBride will share more information on the program as it becomes available.

IX. Public Response

There was no public response.
Meeting adjourned at 3pm.