

HSAC Minutes
February 3, 2021

I. Call to Order and Roundtable Introductions – J. Roy

The meeting was called to order at 2:04pm. Meeting held via Zoom. Roll call followed.

*Commissioner Pierson reported on the COVID vaccine distribution in Cape May County. His comments will be reported under “*new business*” as the discussion continued during this portion of the meeting.

Members Present:

Jeffrey Pierson – County Commissioner
Lorenzo McFadden – Provider
Joe Fahy – Member-at-Large
Liz Meenan – Provider
Judy Kunec – Member-at-Large
Donna Groome – Provider
Terri Bryan – Provider
Carol Haig – Member-at-Large
John Roy – Consumer Advocate
Christa Loper – Provider
Joe Faldetta – Provider
Joe Sittineri – Provider
Jamie Moscony – Member-at-Large
Mary Dozier – Provider
Nichol Hoff – Consumer

Members Excused:

Megan Santiago
Chris Zellers
Wayne Whelan
Rose Kuprianov

Interested Persons:

Elizabeth Reed – NJ DOL/One Stop
Danae Palomino – Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative
Jen Hirsch – DCP&P
Norma Cordeiro – NJ DVRS
Katie Faldetta – Cape Assist
Jennifer Zoyac – CSPNJ
Sharon Modzelewski – CMC Human Services
Claire Galiano – CARA
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator

II. Additions and Corrections to the Minutes – J. Roy

Minutes from the 12/2/20 meeting were emailed to voting members. T. Bryan motioned to accept the minutes as circulated and J. Kunec 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 welcomed those present to the first Council meeting of 2021; she wished everyone a happy and healthy new year. She then began her report by announcing that the DCBHS has had a change in staff. K. Raring has resigned her position as the YSC Administrator and the CIACC Coordinator. S. Modzelewski is transitioning into that position; she is also maintaining the MAC position while the office looks for a replacement for the MAC coordinator. S. Modzelewski is not new to the office as she has been an integral part of the office for the last 16 years. The 2020 DCF-HSAC Needs Assessment process has been completed. The report was submitted to DCF on 1/15/21. DCF is in the process of reviewing all the reports from Group 2. After their reviews are complete, DCF will be holding individual debriefing sessions with each county on not only the findings but the process. It is expected that the HSAC office will make the Needs Assessment report available to those interested once the debriefing session and any subsequent revisions have been completed. The County budget process is moving forward. It appears likely that most of the contracts funded through the CDHS will remain funded at CY 2020 levels. However, there is always the possibility that funding levels may be modified as the budget process moves forward. To that end, the HSAC office is in the process of closing out those CY 2020 contracts for which Council has oversight. Any agency funded with County dollars through the HSAC who has not yet submitted their final report for CY 2020 is asked to do so ASAP. The CY2021 contracts have been executed by the Board of County Commissioners; they were sent to the funded agencies on 1/28/21. The HSAC office has not yet received the executed 2021 HSAC Administration contract from CP&P. While the contract package indicated that the HSAC contract was a renewal, it is difficult to authorize consulting agreements without the formal executed document. S. Hand noted that there has been a change in the CP&P contract administrator and contract term (moving to SFY) which may be the cause for the delay. S. Hand will contact CP&P to determine the status of the contract. The HUD PITC was held on 1/27/21. While survey tabulation is not yet complete, preliminary information indicates that the numbers may be slightly higher than last year due especially for the unsheltered as there was not a Code Blue declaration on the night of the PITC. The days preceding and following the PITC were Code Blue but the night of the PITC itself was not. Even those with shelter on the night of PITC may have felt that they had to answer that they were unsheltered in order to receive further Code Blue services (this is not the case, eligibility for future Code Blue declarations would not be impacted by where someone stayed on the night of the PITC). Lastly, the HTF Advisory Board continues to meet. The most recent meeting was held on 1/20/21. The Board has begun to discuss local service needs and the best utilization of HTF funding to begin to address those needs.

IV. State Department Reports:

- DHS – N. Troché
N. Troché was unable to attend today's meeting. J. Roy reported that all NJ DHS announcements and press releases received since the December meeting have been forwarded via email to all on the HSAC distribution lists.
- DCF – J. Hirsch
A written report with the Cape May DCP&P local office statistics for the month of December 2020 was distributed with the meeting packet. J. Hirsch stated that the January 2021 statistics were just received this morning and she would be reporting on them orally. In January, the CMC DCP&P Local Office completed 69 new investigations – 60 for child abuse/neglect and 9 for child welfare. The Office is currently working on 313 cases comprised of 577 children with 81 of those children in resource home placement. The Office did not place any children in a resource home in January. One adoption was finalized. J. Hirsch then reported that the southern county resource development specialists are working on a new resource guide. It is hoped that the new guide will be available for distribution shortly. J. Hirsch stated that office operations and services are pretty much the same as she last reported in December. The Office is open with a skeleton crew in the offices. She added that the DCF Commissioner Norbut-Beyer was a guest

speaker at their recent staff meeting. The Commissioner stated that she does not believe the offices will return to full staff for quite some time, if ever. Workers who can successfully work remotely will continue to do so. For staff that need to be in the office, rotating schedules will be utilized. J. Hirsch concluded by announcing that D. Rhile and A. Neville are retiring from DCF/DCP&P effective 3/1/21. Together they represent 70+ years of service to the Cape May DCP&P office. J. Mastromarino will be the new local office manager.

V. Committee Reports:

a. Executive Committee – J. Roy

Minutes from the 1/27/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email. J. Roy referenced #7 of the minutes regarding the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (APP) funds to state that the Executive Committee is recommending that the \$500 available from 1/1 to 6/30/21 be offered to SBYS at the Technical High School prior to a community announcement due to the relatively short timeframe to use the money and the fact that SBYS was awarded the funding in CY2020 but was unable to host their planned event due to COVID. T. Bryan made a motion to give SBYS at the Technical High School first right of refusal for the SFY2021 APP funds. J. Kunec seconded. Motion carried with one abstention (L. Meenan).

b. Disability Services Committee – K. Fitzsimons

Minutes from the 1/19/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email. S. Hand reported for K. Fitzsimons. S. Hand stated that the DSC meeting focused on agency representatives providing a summary of the activities, operations, and initiatives of their respective organizations.

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 September and October 2020 was distributed with the meeting packet. D. Groome stated that the packet also includes a quarterly summary of program statistics for the 3rd quarter of 2020. She noted that the TANF caseload numbers have remained relatively steady over the past year; the GA caseload numbers are up approximately 50 cases over the normal average. The main reason for the increase in the GA numbers is the fact that the Division of Family Development (DFD) has issued waivers to the eligibility requirements for programs during COVID. For example, DFD has allowed consumers 2 episodes of “immediate need” in a year; prior to COVID, consumers were only eligible to receive assistance for 1 episode. D. Groome stated that the office is primarily closed to the public. Most business is being conducted electronically or by phone. However, in certain circumstances, some consumers are being assisted in the building (either by using a lobby phone or in very rare instances, face to face). Approximately 200 consumers are being served at the office site per week. Prior to COVID, the Division averaged 200-250 consumers a day. Some staff continue to work remotely while others are working in the building. A decision has not yet been made regarding a return to full staffing in the building. As of this time, waivers for Face-To-Face requirements are extended until June 30, 2021. Lastly, the County DHS will be moving into the new County Commons building. Each Division will be moved separately. The target date for Social Services is mid-March.

e. CEAS – S. Matthews

Minutes from the 1/12/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email. S. Hand reported for S. Matthews. She stated that the January meeting of the CEAS Committee served as a training session for the annual Point-In-Time Count (PITC) which was held on 1/27/21. In

addition, there were status updates on programs/services offered locally (through Cape May County specific funds) and those offered through the SNJCoC.

f. CIACC – S. Modzelewski

Minutes from the 1/12/2021 meeting were distributed in the meeting packet. S. Modzelewski highlighted the following: 1) Acenda gave a presentation on the Regional Partnership Grant which is a free, voluntary therapeutic service provided to families affected by parental substance use. The program is called *Healing Hearts and Minds*. A one-hour webinar about the program will be available on 2/24. 2) CIACC discussed opportunities to engage youth and families in the CIACC Meetings. 3) Cape Assist is collaborating with CIACC to ensure prevention strategies reach the populations most impacted by substance use such as the youth involved with the CMO and FSO. The project is a State Grant provided to the Regional Coalitions. 4) Agency representatives provided updates on their services and activities. 5) The next CIACC meeting will be held on 3/9/2021.

g. Membership – C. Loper

C. Loper welcomed E. Meenan to Council as a voting member. She added that with this appointment Council membership is full. C. Loper concluded by reminding voting members to submit their annual conflict of interest forms to S. Hand if they have not yet done so.

A motion was made by T. Bryan and seconded by L. McFadden to accept the committee reports as presented. Motion carried.

VI. Liaison Reports

a. MHADA Board – P. Devaney

Minutes from the 12/8/20 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Hand reported for P. Devaney. She stated that the Overdose Fatality Review Team meets on February 8th for the 1st case.

b. Youth Services Commission – S. Modzelewski

Minutes from the 12/8/20 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Modzelewski highlighted the following: ACFSO was recommended for Family Advocate program funding and all YSC programs were monitored and found to be compliant with JJC grant guidelines. The next YSC meeting will be held on 2/9/2021.

VII. Old Business

There was no old business.

VIII. New Business

1. Commissioner Pierson stated that he would like to address concerns regarding COVID vaccine distribution in CMC. He reported that CMC only receives 500 doses of vaccine per week. Based on that allocation, it will take 92 weeks to vaccinate every CMC resident. He encouraged everyone to be patient (he understands the frustration) but to go online or use the phone number provided by the State and get on the list to be scheduled for a vaccine shot through the NJ system. (www.covidvaccine.nj.gov or (855) 568-0545). A question was asked why the County was only receiving 500 doses per week. M. Dozier responded that she was on a conference call with the NJ State Health Commissioner who reported that NJ has 4 million people eligible to receive the shot by the established criteria. NJ receives 100,000 doses per week to then be allocated to counties with mega sites getting a direct allocation of doses. M. Dozier added that NJ is not in competition with private sites like CVS, Shop Rite, etc. as they are receiving their allocations directly from the federal government and not part of the County Health Department distribution system. Commissioner Pierson stated that effective 2/8/21, the

County will have the ability to prioritize CMC residents (including 2nd homeowners) for the vaccine. That is, the County will be able to stop people from driving to CMC from other counties for the vaccine; CMC residents will have priority for the County's allocated doses. Commissioner Pierson concluded by noting that the County is ready to implement a 2nd vaccine site at Lower Township Regional HS as soon as the County weekly supply of doses is increased.

2. L. McFadden announced that The Thrive Network partner school American Training Center expects to be awarded another grant to deliver Mental Health First Aid and Alzheimer's/Dementia training. Each training is a full day and participants must be employees. The training is covered through the NJ DOL and would be delivered from May-July this year. Please reach out to Kim@amtrainincenter.com to take the next step or receive more information. J. Hirsch asked if The Thrive Network has received their Medicaid billing number. L. McFadden responded affirmatively but noted that slots were filled immediately. He will send the number to J. Hirsch.
3. K. Faldetta announced that there was a flyer included in the meeting packet that identifies the sites that the Hope One van will be visiting in February. She explained that the Hope One van is an outreach program for substance abuse treatment (also provides information on other services) operated through the Prosecutor's Office. She asked anyone with questions to call or email her directly.

IX. Public Response

There was no public response.

Meeting adjourned at 2:54pm.