

HSAC Minutes  
August 4, 2021

- I. Call to Order and Roundtable Introductions – J. Roy  
The meeting was called to order at 2:03pm. Meeting held via Zoom. Roll call followed.

*Members Present:*

Chris Zellers – Consumer Advocate  
John Roy – Consumer Advocate  
Mary Dozier – Provider  
Lorenzo McFadden – Provider  
Judy Kunec – Member-at-Large  
Donna Groome – Provider  
Nichol Hoff – Consumer  
Wayne Whelan – Member-at-Large  
Jamie Moscony – Member-at-Large  
Terri Bryan – Provider  
Christa Loper – Provider  
Liz Meenan – Provider

*Members Excused:*

Joe Fahy  
Joe Faldetta  
Joe Sittineri  
Rose Kuprianov  
Megan Santiago  
Jeffrey Pierson  
Carol Haig

*Interested Persons:*

Elizabeth Reed – NJ DOL/One Stop  
Sandra Donley – The Arc of CMC  
Rick Hager – DCF/Community Outreach Coordinator  
Norma Cordeiro – NJ DVRS  
Claire Galiano – CARA  
Jen Hirsch – DCP&P  
Joel Mastromarino – DCP&P  
Bridget DeFiccio – Acenda Integrated Health  
Greg Speed – Acenda Integrated Health  
Danae Palomino – Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative  
Sharon Modzelewski – CMC Human Services  
Pat Devaney – CMC Human Services  
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator

- II. Additions and Corrections to the Minutes – J. Roy  
Minutes from the 4/7/21 meeting were emailed to voting members. J. Moscony motioned to accept the minutes as circulated and W. Whelan 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 began her report by stating that she would be giving a brief oral report as most of the activities of the office are covered under the various committee reports including the Executive Committee report. DCF held a statewide forum on the 2020 DCF/HSAC Needs Assessments on 8/2/21. At the forum, DCF shared data on the findings from the County Needs Assessments as well as plans for the next round of assessments to begin in January 2022. DCF reported that Housing was the #1 priority identified in all 21 counties. Healthcare was #2 and Employment/Career Services was #3. As for the service need areas, Behavioral/Mental Health Services for Adults and Behavioral/Mental Health Services for Children tied as the #1 priority. Substance Use services was #2. The basic needs and the service needs identified by CMC were reflective of those prioritized statewide. As noted in both the Executive and CEAS Committee reports, the 2021 PITC numbers have been received. The PITC data indicates that there was a total of 112 homeless persons in Cape May County on the night of the PITC (1/27/21). There was an increase of 12 homeless individuals and a decrease of 4 homeless families from the 2020 count. This equates to an overall increase of 4 persons from the 2020 PITC. The CEAS Committee did review the numbers in greater detail at their 7/13/21 meeting. On behalf of the CEAS Committee, the HSAC office began the update of the Homeless Resource Directory in July. The Directory was developed in 2016 as part of the 10 Year Plan; it has been updated annually since development. The Directory was sent out to all agencies currently listed in the document with the direction to edit current information for changes and/or add any new programs. It is hoped that a draft will be ready for review by the September CEAS meeting. In addition, the HSAC office expects to begin updating the recommendations cited in the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness (developed in 2016) by noting the status of the each this month. Regarding budgets, the County budget was approved in June. The budget had been delayed due to anticipated additional federal dollars, specifically, American Rescue Plan Act funds which have been received. Agencies with contracts funded through the Division of Community and Behavioral Health are encouraged to submit their 1st and 2nd quarter reports for payment ASAP (if not already submitted). For the HTF, the Advisory Board continues to meet. The most recent meeting was held on 7/21/21. The HTF program of housing assistance and intensive case management has been implemented. The program has accepted its first two (2) households. The Case Manager has met with both households and is working to secure housing units for each.

### 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 April meeting have been forwarded via email to all on the HSAC distribution lists. He added that it was reported at the SHSAC meeting on 7/23/21 that NJ DHS staff (those working in Trenton) would be returning to their offices for 2 days per week (initially) at the start of August.
- DCF – J. Hirsch  
A written report with the statistics for the Cape May DCP&P local office for the months of April, May, June, and July 2021 was distributed with the meeting packet. J. Hirsch began her report by stating that DCP&P staff have just received notice from DCF Commissioner Beyer that all staff will be returning to the office to work effective 9/7/21. For now, the clerical staff are in the DCP&P offices, but the workers are still operating remotely. The Drug/Alcohol liaisons have recently been approved to meet with priority one clients in the office. Visitation is also being held in the office. J. Hirsch then highlighted the following from the July statistics: 78 intakes (59 for abuse and neglect, 19 for child welfare assessments), 319 total (active) cases, and 5 children were placed in resource homes. To date, 9 adoptions have been finalized in 2021. J. Hirsch concluded by noting that DCP&P is focusing on securing kinship placements whenever possible for any children that are removed from the home. While this was always a goal, the added effort is working as the

numbers of kinship placements are increasing. She added that overall placements are decreasing. J. Mastromarino then introduced himself to Council; he is the new manager of the CP&P Cape May Local Office.

V. Committee Reports:

a. Executive Committee – J. Roy

Minutes from the 7/28/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email. J. Roy referenced #7 of the minutes to ask if HSAC voting members agreed with the Committee's recommendation to ask Legal Services of NJ to attend an upcoming HSAC meeting to share their presentation on "True Poverty Level". It was the consensus of those present to ask for the presentation. S. Hand will work to schedule.

b. Disability Services Committee – K. Fitzsimons

Minutes from the 7/20/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email. S. Hand reported for K. Fitzsimons. She stated that at the meeting, agency representatives provided updates on their programs and services. These included that the Senior Centers operated by the Division of Aging & Disability Services have reopened, the CMC Health Department is sponsoring "pop-up/mobile" vaccination clinics, the CMC Homeless Trust Fund has accepted its first consumers, The Arc has reopened its day programs but they are operating at 50% capacity due to the unprecedented staffing shortages throughout all economic sectors, JCDT&OC has also resumed their day programs at 100% and the extended employment program is almost at capacity, and, lastly, South Jersey Legal Services is working on an outreach campaign to notify tenants of mandatory settlement conferences (within the courts for tenants whose landlords have filed for eviction). S. Hand noted that there is more specific information on each of these agencies/programs within the meeting minutes.

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 January through May 2021 was distributed with the meeting packet. D. Groome stated that statistics are reported in a quarterly format (minus June). She said this format depicts the ebbs and flows of the caseloads in CMC. The GA and TANF numbers did not see that spike experienced by the SNAP caseload which is up 23% since the start of the pandemic; TANF numbers are at the lowest point experienced by the program in 20 years. D. Groome added that the regulations for GA have been revised at the state level. Effective 7/21 a conviction for drug distribution no longer prevents a consumer from receiving GA (prior to 7/21, a distribution conviction made the applicant ineligible for GA). The Division of Social Services is contacting local agencies to inform them of the change in regulation. D. Groome concluded by announcing that DFD plans to reinstate work requirements for TANF and GA by mid-January 2022.

e. CEAS – S. Matthews

Minutes from the 7/13/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email. S. Hand reported for S. Matthews. S. Hand reported that the July meeting focused on updates on programs/services offered locally (through Cape May County specific funds) and those offered through the SNJCoC. The Committee then discussed the 2021 PITC results and received a presentation from A. Katz of the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers (CC) and S. Romano of Senior Citizens United Community Services (SCUCS). These two agencies will be working together through a grant from NJ DCA to the SNJCoC. Both agencies currently provide a service to Camden County. CC provides the "MyResourcePal" database and SCUCS provides a housing navigator program. Through the grant, these services will be expanded to serve all four (4)

SNJCoC member counties. A copy of the power point presentation was distributed with the meeting packet.

f. CIACC – S. Modzelewski

Minutes from the 7/13/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Modzelewski highlighted the following: 1) Elaine Ottaviano, of the Cape May County Health Department, gave an overview of the Special Child Health Services program. Program offers Case Management services to help families access services they need for children, from birth to age 21, who are diagnosed with a condition that can impact upon health, development, or learning. The Early Intervention program services children with developmental delays from birth to age 3 and is managed by the Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative. 2) Agency representatives provided updates on their services and activities. 3) Partnership for Success subcommittee met to discuss priorities for a substance abuse logic model for youth ages 9-20. The Committee is facilitated by the Regional Coalition which is managed by Cape Assist. 4) The next CIACC meeting will be held on 9/7/2021.

g. Membership – C. Loper

C. Loper stated that the Membership Committee is asking for approval to submit the following names to the County Commissioners for appointment to Council for 2<sup>nd</sup> terms: L. McFadden, J. Sittineri, and J. Kunec. T. Bryan made a motion to recommend the above-named individuals to the Board of County Commissioners for 2<sup>nd</sup> terms on the CMC HSAC. W. Whelan seconded. Motion carried. C. Loper then reported that as identified in the Executive Committee minutes, Council has a provider membership opening. The opening is due to the resignation of L. Meenan due to a change in employment. L. Meenan will remain a voting member until her replacement is appointed. HSAC administration is working with the Agency to identify potential candidates.

A motion was made by J. Moscony and seconded by J. Kunec to accept the committee reports as presented. Motion carried.

VI. Liaison Reports

a. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council – M. Dozier

A written update on Division of Aging and Disability Services was distributed with the meeting packet. M. Dozier noted the following from the report: senior centers (those operated by the Division) reopened on 7/12/21, the Division is in the RFP process for 2022-2024 Are Plan Contract (APC) services, and the produce voucher program is underway (since July 1<sup>st</sup>) and will continue through September 30<sup>th</sup>; vouchers are being mailed to eligible seniors. Seniors may utilize the vouchers at any approved farmers' market in CMC.

b. Workforce Development Board – T. Bryan

A written report on WDB business was prepared by T. Bryan and included in the meeting packet. T. Bryan noted the following from the report: July 1<sup>st</sup> began the new contract year. County offices are open to the public. Program services are offered by email, phone, online and on-site as needed based on customer needs. State offices are closed for in-person services, but virtual services are available. Regarding programs, the "On the Job Training" (OJT) program enrollments have increased (38 customers are enrolled), there are 3 Youth In-School and Out-of-School programs operational as of 7/1/21 (program year started on 7/1 for 2 of the programs and on 8/1 for the other), and training programs for adults and dislocated workers are ongoing. She concluded by stating that she had an inquiry about the Atlantic City Electric employment program. Currently, the One-Stop office is taking names and contact information for interested candidates. Once there are enough consumers signed up, the next program will be scheduled.

VII. Old Business

There was no *old business*.

VIII. New Business

1. J. Roy noted for those present that the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in September is September 1<sup>st</sup> and it is before Labor Day. Council does and will meet in September; the standard meeting notification process will be used but he wanted to alert everyone in advance that the meeting falls prior to Labor Day.
2. R. Hager, DCF Outreach Coordinator, announced that DCF has developed a new flyer aimed at encouraging Generation Z to get vaccinated. He will forward the flyer to S. Hand for distribution. In addition, the Immigrant Integration Conference and the Action for ACEs resources are on the Department's website.
3. J. Moscony announced that Special Services School District (SSSD) is hiring 1 to 1 aides. Candidates must have a high school diploma. The wage is \$18 per hour and the hours are flexible; there are no health benefits with these positions. All information is on the SSSD website at [www.cmcspecialservices.org](http://www.cmcspecialservices.org).

IX. Public Response

There was none.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.