

HSAC Minutes  
September 1, 2021

- I. Call to Order and Roundtable Introductions – W. Whelan  
The meeting was called to order at 2:02pm. Meeting held via Zoom. W. Whelan stated that he would be serving as chairperson for today’s meeting due to the absence of J. Roy. Roll call followed.
- Members Present:*  
Megan Santiago – Consumer Advocate  
Chris Zellers – Consumer Advocate  
Donna Groome – Provider  
Liz Meenan – Provider  
Terri Bryan – Provider  
Carol Haig – Member-at-Large  
Judy Kunec – Member-at-Large  
Lorenzo McFadden – Provider  
Christa Loper – Provider  
Joe Faldetta – Provider  
Jamie Moscony – Member-at-Large  
Wayne Whelan – Member-at-Large
- Members Excused:*  
Joe Sittineri  
Joe Fahy  
John Roy  
Jeffrey Pierson  
Mary Dozier  
Rose Kuprianov  
Nichol Hoff
- Interested Persons:*  
Jen Hirsch – DCP&P  
Greg Speed – Acenda Integrated Health  
Bridget DeFiccio – Acenda Integrated Health  
Sarah Matthews – Habitat for Humanity  
Sandra Donley – The Arc  
Krista Fitzsimons – Division of Aging & Disability Services  
Peter Belasco – CMC Human Services  
Sharon Modzelewski – CMC Human Services  
Pat Devaney – CMC Human Services  
Nelson Troché – NJ DHS  
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator
- II. Additions and Corrections to the Minutes – W. Whelan  
Minutes from the 8/4/21 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 stated that she would be giving a brief oral report as most of the work of the office over the past month has focused on planning and contracting activities. The HSAC office has been working

on preparing the RFP packet for those human service contracts funded with County dollars for which the HSAC has been designated as the administering entity. The HSAC office completed their components of the RFP package last week. The package was then sent to the Purchasing Department for their review and the addition of those requirements necessitated by the public contract law. Once finalized, the Purchasing Department will advertise and issue the RFP according to their predetermined calendar. All issued RFPs for the County of Cape May can be found on the County's procurement portal. As noted in the Executive Committee report, HUD released the 2021 NOFO on 8/18/21. This is the funding that is utilized by the SNJCoC for housing programs for the homeless population. The County Leads of the 4 member counties met on 8/27/21 to review the NOFO for the HUD identified target populations (subpopulations within those experiencing homelessness) and available funding including any new and bonus dollars. The SNJCoC previously accepted renewal applications; the local NOFO for new projects was issued on 8/31. These applications are due to the SNJCoC by 9/22/21. The full SNJCoC application and accompanying project applications are due to HUD by 11/16/21. 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. Requests for updated information were sent out to all agencies currently listed in the document on 4 separate occasions. The final request was sent on 8/24/21. The document will be shared with the CEAS Committee at their September meeting. In addition, the HSAC office has begun updating the recommendations cited in the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness (developed in 2016). A draft will be shared with the Executive Committee for review at their September meeting. For the HTF, the Advisory Board continues to meet. The most recent meeting was held on 8/18/21. 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 continues to meet with both households and is working to secure housing units for each. Lastly, the Division of Community and Behavioral Health has hired a new staff person. P. Belasco has been hired as the County Alcohol/Drug Director. Initially, he will also be the County MAC Coordinator.

#### IV. State Department Reports:

- DHS – N. Troché  
N. Troché reported on the following: 1) NJ Division of Deaf and Hard of Hearing is implementing a pilot program to provide wireless devices to eligible consumers. Anyone interested in this program should call (609) 588-2648. 2) NJ DHS continues to distribute Naloxone throughout the State primarily through law enforcement agencies; 24,000 doses have been distributed to 271 different agencies. 3) DHS is expecting a full return to office work on 10/18/21. 4) Acting Commissioner Adelman is serving on Governor Murphy's task force for Afghan refugee assistance; 10,000 refugees are expected to arrive at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.
- DCF – J. Hirsch  
J. Hirsch reported that the Cape May DCP&P local office statistics for the month of August 2021 are not yet available. She noted that the return to work for state workers not only applies to those working in Trenton but also those in the local offices. Thus, local DCP&P staff will continue to work remote until at least 10/18/21. J. Hirsch added that currently the only staff in the Cape May DCP&P local office are clerical staff; visitations are permitted to be held in the office but evaluations such as those with psychologists/psychiatrists are not as no outside agency personnel are allowed in the office. J. Hirsch concluded by stating that DCP&P are waiting on further guidance from DCF administration regarding not only the return to the office but also what that return will look like as there has been some talk of coming back in staggered shifts.

V. Committee Reports:

a. Executive Committee – W. Whelan

Minutes from the 8/25/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email. W. Whelan referenced #7 of the minutes regarding the presentation on “True Poverty Level” by Legal Services of NJ to state that the presentation will be held at the October Council meeting.

b. Disability Services Committee – K. Fitzsimons

K. Fitzsimons reported that the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 10/19/21.

c. Program Review Committee – J. Kunec

J. Kunec reported that the PRC will be convened to review the proposals submitted in response to the RFP for the human service programs administered by the HSAC.

d. WFNJ-WTW – D. Groome

A written report detailing WFNJ/SNAP caseload numbers for Cape May County (CMC) for June 2021 was distributed with the meeting packet. The packet also includes a report in quarterly format with CMC statistics for April through June 2021. D. Groome highlighted the following from the report: GA cases = 132, TANF cases = 81, and SNAP cases = 4,395. D. Groome noted that no one is being terminated from GA or TANF for time or for lack of participation in a work activity; the only reason for termination is being over the income eligibility limit. Work requirements are scheduled to be reinstated on 1/2022. The SNAP caseload has seen about a 24% increase since pre-pandemic levels. The Division of Social Services Administration is also reviewing regulations and processes for assistance to prepare for any Afghanistan refugees that may resettle in the County. While there have not been many refugees to move to CMC in the past, the Division wants to be prepared. Lastly, there will be an average 23% increase in SNAP benefits from a federal recalculation of the Thrifty Food Plan which is the basis for the monthly SNAP benefit.

e. CEAS – S. Matthews

S. Matthews reported that the next CEAS meeting is scheduled for 9/14/21. Other CEAS business has been addressed in the Administrator’s report and the Executive Committee report.

f. CIACC – S. Modzelewski

S. Modzelewski stated that the next CIACC will be held on 9/7/21.

g. Membership – C. Loper

C. Loper reported that L. McFadden, J. Sittineri, and J. Kunec have been appointed to 2<sup>nd</sup> terms on Council by the County Commissioners. It is expected that a recommendation for a provider member to replace L. Meenan will be made at the October HSAC meeting.

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

VI. Liaison Reports

a. MHADA Board – P. Devaney

Minutes from the 5/11/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Hand reported for P. Devaney. S. Hand stated that the minutes were self-explanatory; but she would answer any questions. There were no questions. She noted that the Board had to cancel the August meeting as the CMC OEM held a training for emergency shelter workers/volunteers on that evening. The next MHADA meeting is scheduled for 9/14/21.

b. Youth Services Commission – S. Modzelewski

Minutes from the 7/28/21 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Modzelewski highlighted the following: YSC voted to approve two 2022 JDAI Innovation Funding Proposals: Probation Enrichment, Incentive, Orientation Program (POPs) and the Family Court Advocate Program. The POPs program assists youth in successfully completing probation with enrichment activities, incentives, and orientations. Family Advocate Coordinator serves as a link between the families of Court involved youth and local resources and services to empower families to better advocate for their child. The next YSC meeting will be held on 9/14/21.

VII. Old Business

There was no old business.

VIII. New Business

1. W. Whelan reminded those present that CMC HSAC meetings will continue to be virtual for the remainder of 2021.
2. It was asked if the CMC Health Department will be providing and/or coordinating the COVID booster shots. M. Santiago responded that the CMC Health Department will be providing booster shots for the Moderna vaccine (it is recommended that these shots be given 8 months from the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of Moderna). In addition, The CMC Health Department is currently providing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> shots of Moderna and the 1 shot of Johnson and Johnson. The 3<sup>rd</sup> shot of Moderna is for those that are immune comprised (it is being called a 3<sup>rd</sup> shot rather than a booster for this population). The vaccines are being provided primarily through the Health Department's mobile clinics and at the Health Department on Wednesday evenings. Local pharmacies are also providing vaccines. M. Santiago stated that the CMC Health Department has the Moderna and the Johnson & Johnson vaccines. There are several pharmacies that have the Pfizer vaccine. It is recommended that consumers remain with one brand of vaccine. M. Santiago will send a flyer with the vaccine schedule to S. Hand for distribution. It was asked if there had been any guidance regarding a 2<sup>nd</sup> shot for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. M. Santiago responded that to date, there has not been any guidance on this issue. S. Hand stated that she will send out the information on available vaccines and the schedule as soon as it is received from M. Santiago. N. Troché concluded the discussion by stating that in most other counties, the vaccine information and distribution is being coordinated through the County Health Departments as it is here.

IX. Public Response

There was no public response.

Meeting adjourned at 2:36pm.