

HSAC Minutes
September 6, 2023

- I. Call to Order and Roundtable Introductions – J. Roy
The meeting was called to order at 2:05pm. Meeting held via Zoom. Introductions followed.

Members Present:

Nichol Hoff – Consumer
John Roy – Consumer Advocate
Judy Kunec – Member-at-Large
Bridget DeFiccio – Provider
Joe Fahy – Member-at-Large
Donna Groome – Provider
Chris Zellers – Consumer Advocate
Joe Faldetta – Provider
Carol Haig – Member-at-Large
Christa Loper – Provider
Mary Dozier – Provider
Rose Kuprianov – Consumer
Jamie Moscony – Member-at-Large
Megan Santiago – Consumer Advocate

Members Excused:

Lorenzo McFadden
Joe Sittineri
Jeffrey Pierson
Wayne Whelan
Terri Bryan

Interested Persons:

Nelson Troché – NJ DHS
Sarah Matthews – CMC Habitat for Humanity
Rick Hager – NJ DCF
Jen Hirsch – DCP&P
Jessica Arends – CFBNJ
Jennifer Arenberg – JCDDT&OC
Mandy Witt – Horizon BC/BS MLTSS Member Advocate
Anne Garrison – JCDDT&OC
Heather Taman – CMC Human Services
Jen Zoyac – CSPNJ
Danielle Lowry – Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative
Natalie Kuprianov – Consumer
Christina Ennis – CMC Human Services
Sharon Modzelewski – CMC Human Services
Peter Belasco – CMC Human Services
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator

- II. Additions and Corrections to the Minutes – J. Roy
Minutes from the 6/7/23 meeting were emailed to voting members. J. Fahy 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 began by stating that she had a brief oral report primarily comprised of updates from the Executive Committee report. The SHSAC met on 9/1/23. At the meeting, there was a presentation on the new dashboards that are now available through the NJ211 website. The dashboard provides a real-time barometer of the service needs that consumers are seeking in a specific geographic region (including by county). The dashboard can sort data by demographics, service need, and referrals. Everyone is encouraged to visit the NJ211 website to check out the dashboard. All agencies are also encouraged to make sure their programs are listed with NJ211 as the number of referrals to your agency could be a data point in responding to grant opportunities. As reported previously, County Administration and the CDHS decided not to renew the CIACC administration grant. DCF was informed of the County's decision in March; the Department then issued an RFP for CIACC administration. DCF has awarded the CIACC contract for CMC to Cape Assist. K. Faldetta of Cape Assist has agreed to continue to share information on/from the CIACC with Council on a continual basis as a liaison report. On behalf of the CEAS Committee, the HSAC office is currently working on updating the recommendations cited in the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness (developed in 2016) by noting the status of the each. It is expected that a draft of the document will be ready for Executive Committee review at their September meeting. Once approved by the Executive Committee, the document will be available for general distribution. The Homeless Services Resource Directory update for 2023 was completed in July 2023. A PDF of the document was posted on the CBHS webpage on 7/19/22 and emailed to all CMC HTF members and to all on the CMC-CEAS distribution list on 7/24/23. Monarch Housing issued the 2023 PITC reports on 8/14/23. CMC experienced an increase of 79 persons (66% increase) from the 2022 PITC. In total, CMC documented 198 persons experiencing homelessness on the night of the 2023 PITC; there were 119 people experiencing homelessness in 2022. Monarch Housing notes that there was an increase in homelessness statewide in NJ with the leading causes being the end of the Covid related eviction moratorium and the severe shortage of rental units throughout the state. For the 2023 HUD CoC Competition, HUD issued the 2023 NOFO on 7/5/23. The full SNJCoC application and accompanying project applications are due to HUD by 9/28/23. Regarding contracting, the final report for the SFY 2023 HSAC Administration contract was submitted to DCP&P on 8/21/23. The office has not yet received an executed copy of the SFY2024 HSAC contract from DCP&P.

IV. State Department Reports:

- DHS – N. Troché
N. Troché reported that DHS Commissioner Adelman is scheduled to meet with the County Human Services' Directors on 9/8/23. Governor Murphy's on going Cover All Kids Initiative is making \$250,000 in grants available to organizations who provide outreach and education. N. Troché noted that S. Hand has already forwarded out that press release to the CMC HSAC distribution lists. He concluded by announcing that First Lady T. Murphy will host a Family Festival on 9/23/23 in Trenton.
- DCF – J. Hirsch
J. Hirsch reminded those present that the DCP&P Central Office is no longer providing the local office statistics, so she does not have the traditional statistical report to share. J. Hirsch reported that the CMC DCP&P local office expects to see an increase in referrals with the beginning of the new school year. She then reported that there continues to be an issue with staffing as many DCP&P workers continue to resign. It is hoped that DCP&P administration will be able to address this issue. J. Hirsch concluded by reporting that staff are still permitted to work from home two (2) days per week.

V. Committee Reports:

a. Executive Committee – J. Roy

Minutes from the 8/30/23 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. J. Roy referenced #7 of the minutes to state that all the documents related to the 2023 PIT Count referenced in the Executive Committee minutes were included in the HSAC meeting packet of materials.

b. Disability Services Committee – J. Fuscellaro

S. Hand reported for J. Fuscellaro. Minutes from the 7/19/23 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. The following items were highlighted from the minutes: 1) agencies provided updates on their programs/activities, 2) the Resources for Independent Living (RIL) site to be opened in CMC is now planned for Marmora and not Rio Grande, 3) Disability Awareness Day will merge with Healthy Community Day; the first merged event is scheduled for 5/30/24, and 4) lastly, there was a presentation on ACCC's Adult Transition Center.

c. Program Review Committee – J. Kunec

No report.

d. WFNJ-WTW – D. Groome

A written report detailing the DFD WFNJ/SNAP caseload numbers for Cape May County for April 2023 was distributed with the meeting packet. D. Groome noted that the numbers are consistent with the seasonal trends of the CMC caseload. She then reported that as of 7/1/23 the General Assistance (GA) 28-day protocol has been suspended. Regarding the Medicaid unwinding, CMS has issued a "non-responder" extension for 30 days. This is one of the safety nets that has been put in place so that no one loses their eligibility because they did not respond to their redetermination notice timely. D. Groome concluded by stating that it is extremely important that participants ensure that their current contact information is on file. R. Kuprianov stated that some individuals have not yet received a notice regarding their redetermination. D. Groome responded that 1/12 of the Medicaid population statewide is being redetermined each month. Thus, some are not yet due for redetermination. R. Kuprianov then asked if someone dropped off updated contact information at the Division of Social Services' drop box if the information would be updated in their file. D. Groome responded affirmatively.

e. CEAS – S. Matthews

Minutes from the 7/11/23 CEAS meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Matthews reported that the minutes include updates on the following: 1) local programs, 2) SNJCoC (2023 HUD CoC Competition, Coordinated Assessment, and training opportunities), and 3) homeless services resource directory. In addition, the Committee discussed the 2023 PITC results (CMC saw an overall increase of 79 persons experiencing homelessness from the 2022 PITC). The meeting also included a presentation on the new rural and suburban outreach program for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness administered by JFS. Lastly, it was announced that the CSPNJ Learning Recovery Community Wellness Center has moved from Wildwood to Rio Grande.

f. Membership – C. Loper

C. Loper reported that as noted in the Executive Committee report, the Membership Committee has started to review membership needs for CY 2024. More information on membership opportunities will be shared at the October Council meeting.

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

VI. Liaison Reports

a. MHADA Board – P. Belasco

Minutes from the 8/8/23 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. P. Belasco reported that the MHADA Board is looking forward to welcoming a new member, Lisa Schaffer, who has significant experience in the Human Services field. Also, the County is currently recruiting new volunteers for Disaster Response Crisis Counselors (DRCC). Anyone interested in the application process or has any questions regarding the role of DRCCs is encouraged to reach out to Pat Devaney.

b. Youth Services Commission – S. Modzelewski

Minutes from the 7/11/23 meeting were distributed in the meeting packet. S. Modzelewski highlighted the following from the minutes: 1) Commission approved the Program Review and Planning Subcommittee's recommendations for 2024 programs and budgets. The following programs were selected for 2024: Intensive Supervision Program, Station House Adjustment Program, Strengthening Families Program, Life Skills Program. A total of \$293,189 will be spent on programming. 2) The 2024-26 plan/application forms were distributed to the counties on August 18th; the forms were expected the first week of April. The due date for the completed plan/application was extended two months. 3) Dr. Jennifer LeBaron was confirmed as Executive Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission and Lisa Macaluso was hired as the Deputy Executive Director of Policy Planning and Research at JJC. The next YSC meeting will be held on 9/12/23. S. Modzelewski concluding by announcing that she will be retiring effective 10/1/23; she then introduced H. Taman who will be the new YSC Coordinator. Those on the call commended her for her work with the YSC and the CIACC. Everyone wished her well.

VII. Old Business

There was no old business.

VIII. New Business

1. R. Kuprianov announced that the Sweethearts Ball will be held on 10/27/23 at the Wildwood Convention Center. The theme is Halloween. She further announced that DDD has issued an RFP for fiscal intermediary services. It is hoped that there will be a strong response from the provider community.
2. R. Hager of DCF announced that NJ DCF has resources and information on the NJ Statewide Student Support Services (NJ4S) available on the DCF website at: [DCF | NJ Statewide Student Support Services \(NJ4S\)](#). This includes an updated webinar which aired on 8/24/23 (see the "[NJ4S Communication Assets](#)" in the channel on the right-hand side of the page). NJ DCF will be exhibiting at the Governor's Conference on Housing and Economic Development, September 28th and 29th, Harrah's Hotel, Atlantic City. NJDCF has booth # 109. The link for the Governor's Conference is as follows: [2023 Governor's Conference on Housing and Economic Development - NJEDA](#). Lastly, the Cover All Kids NJ Family Care Health Insurance campaign is well underway. Useful resources are at this link: <https://nj.gov/coverallkids/>.

IX. Public Response

There was no *public response*.

Meeting adjourned at 2:41pm.