

HSAC Minutes  
November 6, 2019

- I. Call to Order and Roundtable Introductions – J. Roy  
The meeting was called to order at 2:02pm. Roundtable introductions followed.

*Members Present:*

Barry Keefe – Member-at-Large  
Mary Dozier – Provider  
Nichol Hoff – Consumer  
Carol Haig – Member-at-Large  
John Roy – Consumer Advocate  
Terri Bryan – Provider  
Megan Santiago – Consumer Advocate  
Wayne Whelan – Member-at-Large  
Christa Loper – Provider  
Jamie Moscony – Member-at-Large

*Members Excused:*

Katie Faldetta  
Eleanor McBride  
Lorenzo McFadden  
Jeffrey Pierson  
Rose Kuprianov  
Donna Groome  
Judy Kunec  
Joe Sittineri

*Interested Persons:*

Joe Fahy – Retired CMC Social Services  
Corrine Angeron – RSRCCRRA  
Jen Hirsch – DCP&P  
Shannon Staino – DCP&P  
Kristen Raring – CMC Human Services  
Sarah Matthews – Habitat for Humanity  
Jennifer Zoyac – CSPNJ  
Nelson Troché – DHS Trenton  
Elizabeth Reed – NJ DOL/One Stop  
Norma Cordeiro – NJ DVRS  
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator

- II. Additions and Corrections to the Minutes – J. Roy  
Minutes from the 10/2/19 meeting were emailed to voting members with hard copies available at the meeting. B. Keefe motioned to accept the minutes as circulated and C. Loper 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 and the HSAC since the last meeting are covered in the various committee reports and/or involve the processing of contracts and financial payments. As noted in the Executive Committee report, the HSAC Office issued contract renewal packages for those services funded with

County dollars and administered by the HSAC on 10/17; completed packages are due on 11/18/19. The HSAC Administration contract renewal package has been completed and forwarded to the County Treasurer's office for review and processing. It will then be forwarded to the CMC Board of Chosen Freeholder for approval. It is expected that the renewal package will be approved for submission to DCP&P by the 11/18/19 due date. 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](http://www.capemaycountynj.gov)) within the next few days. The CDHS (by Division) will be submitting its proposed budget for CY2020 to the Board of Chosen Freeholders. It is hoped that funding levels for various programs and services funded through the Department will remain level but there is always the possibility that funding levels may be modified as the budget process moves forward. Lastly, a friendly reminder regarding the paper reduction initiative. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 reduce paper usage and two, it will encourage people to RSVP their meeting attendance. As for flyers/announcements, the copies available at the meeting will be limited to those provided by the sponsoring agency.

#### IV. State Department Reports:

- **DHS – N. Troché**

N. Troché reported on the following items: 1) SNAP awareness week is 11/10 – 11/16/19. NJ DHS has implemented an outreach campaign (N. Troché brought a supply of posters and postcards for distribution) encouraging NJ residents to apply for the program. The outreach program includes SNAP specific events that are being held throughout the State. 2) Governor Murphy has reinstated the Office of New Americans. The Office provides information on benefits/services available through multiple state departments such as DHS and Labor. 3) NJ DHS – Division of Family Development is reclaiming funds provided to the counties for homeless hotline services under SSH. The funds will be utilized to fund a statewide homeless hotline service; NJ 211 has been selected as the vendor. All services offered by the counties during standard business hours will remain the same. This change impacts the after-hours and weekend homeless hotline services only. 4) N. Troché stated that he had a supply of NJ DHS Resource Guide for 2019-2020 for distribution today. If anyone would like more copies, he asked that they contact him directly. N. Troché concluded by stating the NJ DHS Commissioner Johnson continues to be out and about throughout NJ visiting various programs and attending multiple events.
- **DCF – J. Hirsch**

A written report with the following statistics with regard to the Cape May DCP&P local office for the month of October 2019 was distributed. J. Hirsch highlighted the following numbers from the report: 395 total cases, (this = 747 active children with 118 of those children in resource home placement). The cases breakdown into the following categories: 120 investigation cases, 202 in-home service cases and 73 placement cases (=395 cases). In addition, there were 106 intakes (77 for child abuse/neglect investigation and 29 for child welfare assessment). Thus far this year, 30 adoptions have been finalized. J. Hirsch concluded by stating that November is Adoption month; there are six (6) children in CMC scheduled to have their adoptions finalized on 11/22/19. J. Roy asked how many of the children placed in resource homes were in homes in CMC. J. Hirsch responded that she did not have the exact number but she did know that it was not enough. She noted that there continues to be a need for resource homes in CMC. J. Roy commented that the local DCP&P resource home recruiter is very committed and does an excellent job. S. Staino added that the recruiter is very effective; it is the overall process that

deters people from becoming a resource home (for every 45 applicants interested in becoming a resource home, approximately 1 completes the process).

V. Committee Reports:

a. Executive Committee – J. Roy

Minutes from the 10/30/19 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email (limited copies available on site). J. Roy referenced #7 of the minutes to remind those present that the December HSAC meeting will be held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension and will begin at 1pm with an appreciation luncheon.

b. Disability Services Committee – K. Fitzsimons

Minutes from the 10/15/19 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email (limited copies available on site). S. Hand reported for K. Fitzsimons. S. Hand stated that the Committee has been working to expand representation at the quarterly meetings. Several agencies were contacted to invite them to begin to send representation to the meetings. While some agencies were unable to attend the October meeting, they did indicate that they will be sending representation in the future. L. Long of The Arc did attend on 10/15 and will be joining the Committee. S. Hand added that the Agency/Program reports section of the minutes provides a very nice summary of activities/projects happening within local agencies. She concluded by announcing that the 10<sup>th</sup> CMC Disabilities Awareness Day was held on 10/22/19 from 5-8pm at SSSD. Initial feedback from those who staffed the event has been very positive. It is expected that an event debriefing will be held in the near future to further review attendee and vendor evaluation forms.

c. Program Review Committee – J. Kunec

No report.

d. WFNJ-WTW – D. Groome

S. Hand stated that she would be reporting for D. Groome who sends her apologies but was unable to attend today due to illness. A written report detailing WFNJ/SNAP caseload numbers for Cape May County for July 2019 was distributed with the meeting packet. D. Groome asked that the following statistics be highlighted from the report: GA cases = 118 (down 14 from June), TANF cases = 99 (down 1 from June), and SNAP cases = 3,431 (down 116 from June). The WFNJ participation rate for July was 24.1% (up 2.7% from June). S. Hand added that last month D. Groome had reported that she had begun conducting an in-house comparison of applications taken by the Division from the same months in 2018 and 2019. For purposes of this report, D. Groome compared October of 2018 with October of 2019. Applications for October 2019 have decreased as compared to October 2018. Applications are down as follows: GA = 11%, TANF = 17%, SNAP = 25%, and regular referrals are down 6%. D. Groome did ask that it be noted that there was a 5<sup>th</sup> week in October 2018 so the percentages may be slightly skewed. The unemployment rate in October 2018 was 5.7%; the rate for October 2019 was not yet available.

e. CEAS – S. Matthews

S. Matthews reported that the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 11/12/19.

f. CIACC – K. Raring

K. Raring reported that the next meeting of the CIACC is scheduled for 11/12/19.

g. Membership – B. Keefe

B. Keefe stated that the Committee's written membership report which is included in the packet of meeting materials lists the Committee's recommendations for CY 2020 HSAC officers. As is stated in the HSAC bylaws, Council officers will be voted upon at the last meeting of the calendar

year for the upcoming year. Thus, the vote will be conducted at the December meeting. He noted that all current Council officers will be seeking a 2<sup>nd</sup> term with the exception of himself; C. Loper is being recommended as the new chairperson of the Membership Committee. In addition, Council will have three membership openings (1 provider, 1 consumer and 1 member-at-large) as of 1/1/20. Anyone interested in applying for these membership positions should contact S. Hand for an application, and if possible, should submit the completed application prior to 11/20/19 so that the Membership Committee will be able to review the applications at the 11/27/19 Executive Committee meeting and make appointment recommendations at the December Council meeting.

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

#### VI. Liaison Reports

##### a. MHADA Board – P. Devaney

Minutes from the 10/8/19 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Hand reported for P. Devaney. The Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) grant for the jail came through; the CMC Jail was awarded \$300,000. The RFPs for detox, short term residential, halfway house, and life skills have been reviewed; recommendations will be submitted to the Board of Chosen Freeholders in the near future. Lastly, the County just received a notice from DMHAS of a one-time award of \$35,000 for an “innovative project” (more detail on this project will follow).

##### b. Youth Services Commission – K. Raring

Minutes from the 10/8/19 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. K. Raring highlighted the following: The County was awarded \$117,000 in Innovations funding from the JJC – awarded monies will fund the Family Advocate and Probation Enrichment programs in 2020; the State is reviewing the impact that the closing of Jamesburg will have (set date for closure not yet announced) and is also looking at possible sites to house the Jamesburg population, as well as, using funds to create transitional youth housing; CMC has been successful to date in 2019 for youth detention alternative placement and is making progress in meeting the goals of JDAI (Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative). The next YSC meeting will be 12/10/19.

#### VII. Old Business

There was no old business.

#### VIII. New Business

1. W. Whelan asked if there was a need for housing for the disabled population in CMC. He referenced one of the recent emails issued by DDD that S. Hand forwarded to Council members and interested persons. S. Hand responded that there was a need for housing across many populations including the disabled, the homeless, and those seeking affordable housing. S. Matthews of Habitat for Humanity and J. Zoyac of Collaborative Support Programs NJ concurred.
2. C. Loper gave a brief overview of the “I Came with Instructions” (ICWI) project implemented by Rutgers Southern Regional Child Care Resource and Referral Agency and funded with 2019 Child Abuse/Missing Children Prevention Fund dollars (through the CMC HSAC). C. Loper explained the premise behind the project, the concepts included, and the materials provided. She also brought a sample of the ICWI toolkit (bag) that is given to every newborn at CRMC.

#### IX. Public Response

There was no public response.

Meeting adjourned at 2:47pm.