

HSAC Minutes  
February 5, 2020

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

The meeting was called to order at 2:05pm. Roundtable introductions followed.

*Members Present:*

Barry Keefe – Member-at-Large  
Mary Dozier – Provider  
Donna Groome – Provider  
Nichol Hoff – Consumer  
Carol Haig – Member-at-Large  
John Roy – Consumer Advocate  
Terri Bryan – Provider  
Wayne Whelan – Member-at-Large  
Joe Faldetta – Provider  
Joe Sittineri – Provider  
Judy Kunec – Member-at-Large  
Jamie Moscony – Member-at-Large

*Members Excused:*

Eleanor McBride  
Lorenzo McFadden  
Jeffrey Pierson  
Christa Loper  
Megan Santiago  
Rose Kuprianov

*Interested Persons:*

Joe Fahy – Retired CMC Social Services  
Jen Hirsch – DCP&P  
Katie Faldetta – Cape Assist  
Kristen Raring – CMC Human Services  
Greg Speed – ACENDA Integrated Health  
Jennifer Zoyac – CSPNJ  
Elizabeth Cunningham – SJLS  
Lori Carlin – 2020 Census  
Krista Fitzsimons – Division of Aging & Disability Services  
Chris Zellers – RCE/FCHS  
Angela Armendariz – Where Kids Thrive  
Elizabeth Reed – NJ DOL/One Stop  
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator

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

Minutes from the 12/4/19 meeting were emailed to voting members with hard copies available at the meeting. J. Kunec motioned to accept the minutes as circulated and C. Haig 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 2020; she wished everyone a Happy New Year. She then reported that the County budget process is moving forward. It appears likely

that most of the contracts funded through the CDHS will remain funded at CY 2019 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 2019 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 2019 is asked to do so ASAP. The office is also working on the implementation of CY 2020 contracts; most of the contracts funded with County dollars have been executed and sent to the funded agencies. The HSAC office has received a copy of the executed 2020 HSAC Administration contract package from DCP&P. As expected, DCF is requiring that the HSAC conduct a Needs Assessment this year. Given that the process is extensive and the fact that there are other needs assessments being conducted at this same time, S. Hand stated that she will be contacting the other entities to determine if there are areas on which they can collaborate. The HUD PITC was held on 1/29/20. While survey tabulation is not yet complete, preliminary information indicates that the numbers may be slightly higher than last year due to recent policy changes at the state level that may have impacted eligibility criteria for specific programs, thereby, increasing the number of those participating in these programs. Regarding the HTF, applications for membership on the CMC HTF Advisory Board remain available on the County website. The application has been available since 11/15 and the deadline has been extended until 2/21. Much like the HSAC, the HTF Advisory Board has prescribed membership per regulation and there has been an insufficient response from the consumer population. Agencies that work with those experiencing homelessness or who have been homeless in the past have been asked to contact these consumers and encourage them to apply to sit on the HTF Board. It is hoped that the Board will be able to hold its first meeting in March. The results of the HSAC Annual Evaluation Survey that was conducted at the December meeting are in the pass around folder for review. Overall, feedback was very positive. There was a comment asking for all meetings to be held at RCE but this is not possible as RCE hosts many events and cannot commit to a standing meeting for an outside entity/group. The HSAC is asking agencies to assist in disseminating information about the EITC to their clientele. Informational flyers are available for distribution today. Agency representatives are encouraged to take flyers to share with their consumers. Lastly, flyers are also available for the Cape May County Healthcare Resource Day to be held on 4/4/20. This annual event is sponsored by the CMC Health Department.

#### IV. State Department Reports:

- DHS – N. Troché  
N. Troché was unable to attend. J. Roy stated that S. Hand has forwarded any announcements or updates received from NJ DHS via email to the HSAC distribution lists.
  
- DCF – J. Hirsch  
A written report with the December 2019 Cape May DCP&P local office statistics was distributed with the meeting packet. J. Hirsch highlighted the following from the report for the month of December 2019: 369 total cases, (this = 726 active children with 107 of those children in resource home placement). The cases breakdown into the following categories: 98 investigation cases, 201 in-home services cases and 70 placement cases (=369 cases). In addition, there were 68 intakes (57 for child abuse/neglect investigation and 11 for child welfare assessment). Thirty-five (35) adoptions were finalized in 2019. J. Hirsch noted that the written report also includes a summary report for 2019 which details Cape May Local Office statistics by month.

#### V. Committee Reports:

- a. Executive Committee – J. Roy  
Minutes from the 1/29/20 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email (limited copies available on site). J. Roy referenced #7 of the minutes to state that there will be a presentation on the 2020 Census immediately after the close of the business meeting. He also

referenced #8 of the minutes to announce that applications for the \$1,000 in Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (APP) funding contained within the HSAC Administration contract are available in the “Pass Around” folder for those interested in sponsoring an event focused on a topic consistent with the APP message.

b. Disability Services Committee – K. Fitzsimons

Minutes from the 1/21/20 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email (limited copies available on site). K. Fitzsimons reported that the Committee continues to reach out to agencies serving the disability community in order to expand representation at the quarterly meetings. To that end, The Arc has started attending the meetings again after a brief absence and Easter Seals has indicated that they will begin attending the meetings. J. Sittineri commented that JCDDT&OC will also be sending a representative to future meetings. K. Fitzsimons noted that the Agency/Program reports section of the minutes provides a very nice summary of activities/projects happening within local agencies. She then announced that Leslie Long of The Arc has arranged a meeting with representatives of Resources for Independent Living to discuss independent living services provided by the agency and available to CMC residents. The meeting is scheduled for tomorrow (2/6/2020) at The Arc offices. K. Fitzsimons concluded by stating that the Division’s 2020 Programs/Services guide has been completed. Copies are available for those interested; additional copies may be obtained by calling the Division at (609) 886-2784.

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 October 2019 was distributed with the meeting packet. D. Groome highlighted the following statistics from the report: GA cases = 133 (down 6 from September), TANF cases = 101 (up 8 from September), and SNAP cases = 3,384 (up 46 from September). The WFNJ participation rate for October was 20.6% (down 3.5% from September). D. Groome stated that she has been comparing program caseloads from year to year. Through this, the statistics demonstrate that caseloads have remained fairly consistent for the past 3 years (comparing the same month of different years). She concluded by noting that the GA caseload has not gone over 152 and the TANF caseload has not gone over 125 in recent years; this is a significant change from 10 years ago.

e. CEAS – S. Matthews

Minutes from the 1/14/20 CEAS meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email (limited copies available on site). S. Hand reported for S. Matthews. She stated that the meeting focused on a training session for those participating in the annual Point-In-Time Count (PITC) which was held on 1/29/20. 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 – K. Raring

Minutes from the 1/14/20 CIACC meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email (limited copies available on site). K. Raring highlighted the following: 2019 CIACC final reports are being completed and the 2020 grant application has been submitted to the Board of Chosen Freeholders for approval. The County conducted a site visit of the Oasis Youth Shelter; the program was found to be in compliance, supportive, and meeting the needs of youth. The next CIACC meeting is 3/10/2020.

g. Membership – C. Loper

S. Hand reported for C. Loper. She stated that the Committee's business is addressed in #3 of the Executive Committee report. Council has two open positions for membership (1 member-at-large and 1 consumer/consumer advocate). Anyone interested in applying for these membership positions should contact S. Hand for an application.

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

VI. Liaison Reports

a. MHADA Board – P. Devaney

Minutes from the 12/10/19 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Hand stated that the report contained a great deal of information. She asked K. Faldetta if there was anything specific that should be highlighted. K. Faldetta responded that most of that reported in the minutes was self-explanatory. She added that the Board meets next week (2/11/20) so many of the items discussed will be updated at that time.

b. Youth Services Commission – K. Raring

Minutes from the 12/10/19 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. K. Raring noted the following: 2020 funding has been awarded and awaiting final execution of contracts. The next YSC meeting is scheduled for 2/11/2020.

VII. Old Business

1. D. Groome stated that she had reported at the November HSAC meeting that the NJ Division of Family Development (DFD) was planning to move all County homeless hotline systems to a statewide system using NJ211 as the vendor. This initiative has moved forward; 20 of the 21 counties went live with the new system on 1/1/20. Gloucester County went live on 2/1/20. D. Groome added that she has been monitoring this transition from the old system to the new system. There have been advantages and challenges. She is asking anyone who is/has worked with the new system to inform her of both positive interactions and/or concerns so that she may address.

VIII. New Business

1. D. Groome reported that the Division of Social Services applied to NJ DCA for a Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing 2 grant in October. Catholic Charities also submitted an application to serve CMC. NJ DCA has recently announced funding awards. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row in which no agency was awarded funding to serve CMC.
2. M. Dozier announced that the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program has begun. The program which provides free tax preparation services will be available until 4/22/20. There are various sites throughout CMC. The program is not age restricted and the income guidelines are quite liberal. Flyers with program details are available for distribution.
3. J. Roy announced that Cape-Atlantic INK is partnering with the FSO and SSSD to hold an event for children's mental health awareness month. The event is being planned for 5/2/20 at SSSD. A flyer will be forthcoming.

IX. Public Response

1. J. Roy reminded those present of the presentation on the 2020 Census immediately after the close of the business meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:37pm.