

HSAC Minutes
March 4, 2020

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

Members Present:

Carol Haig – Member-at-Large
Joe Sittineri – Provider
John Roy – Consumer Advocate
Donna Groome – Provider
Barry Keefe – Member-at-Large
Joe Faldetta – Provider
Judy Kunec – Member-at-Large
Nichol Hoff – Consumer
Terri Bryan – Provider
Megan Santiago – Consumer Advocate
Christa Loper – Provider

Members Excused:

Wayne Whelan
Jamie Moscony
Rose Kuprianov
Jeffrey Pierson
Mary Dozier
Eleanor McBride
Lorenzo McFadden

Interested Persons:

Corinne Angeron – Rutgers Southern Regional CCR&R
Sarah Matthews – Habitat for Humanity
Chris Zellers – CMC RCE/FCHS
Alex Coll – The Arc of Cape May County
Jennifer Zoyac – CSPNJ
John Fuqua – Complete Care
Betsy Cunningham – SJLS
Kristen Raring – CMC Human Services
Jen Hirsch – DCP&P
Diane Rhile – DCP&P CMLO
Nelson Troché – NJ DHS
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator

- II. Additions and Corrections to the Minutes – J. Roy
Minutes from the 2/5/20 meeting were emailed to voting members with hard copies available at the meeting. B. Keefe 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 her report by stating that the focus of the HSAC office for the past month has been largely on the bureaucratic processes of contracting and planning, specifically contract closeouts and

research for two (2) upcoming planning efforts - the implementation of the HTF and establishing a course of action for the DCF Needs Assessment. Regarding the HTF, there was a meeting with County Administration on 2/21/20. At the meeting, it was determined that the HTF application will remain open on the County website until the required number of consumer representatives have applied and/or been appointed. The County is also waiting for the designee from Lower Township to be named. After consulting with Monarch Housing, it has been determined that the HTF Board can begin to meet to work on administrative functions prior to having the required consumer members. Thus, the County may consider this option if all mandated members are not appointed by the end of the month. In addition, the HSAC office is continuing to plan for the DCF Needs Assessment project. To that end, a conference call with DCF representatives and HSAC administration was held on 2/27. DCF is investigating various possibilities that will enable the counties to use Survey Monkey for completion of the mandatory survey component of the project. DCF is holding steadfast to the requirement of 10 focus groups with unduplicated participants (no one person may participate in more than one group). HSAC administration will continue to meet to discuss the project in order to determine the most effective means of completion. As for budgets, the Governor presented his proposed state budget on 2/25/20. The Governor's budget in brief was emailed to all on HSAC distribution lists on 2/27/20. The County budget was introduced on 2/11/20 and is expected to go to final adoption by the Board of Chosen Freeholders at their 3/24/20 meeting (pending NJ DCA approval). Lastly, the County has still not received notification of Peer Grouping funding availability for 2020. Peer Grouping funds are provided to counties with County owned nursing homes and must be used for services that prevent nursing home placement. The funding formula was revised in 2014 and Peer Grouping dollars available to the counties have been decreasing steadily since that time as only those consumers that were in the nursing home prior to 7/1/2014 are eligible to be counted in the new formula. The amount of funding available has dropped sharply since 2017. In 2019, the PG funds allocated to Cape May County were only slightly higher than the amount of funding reallocated to community programs. This is concerning in that any additional decrease in the PG allocation could cause a reduction in funds provided to community programs. Should Peer Grouping funds no longer be available, other sources of revenue will need to be identified for services currently funded such as a portion of mobile meals, personal response services, etc. The mental health first aid for youth training session scheduled for March is full; it is hoped that a 2nd session can be held in May. S. Hand concluded by announcing that the HSAC is asking agencies to assist in disseminating information about the EITC and the 2020 Census to their clientele. Informational flyers and other materials are available for distribution today. Agency representatives are encouraged to take the materials to share with their consumers.

IV. State Department Reports:

- DHS – N. Troché
N. Troché stated that NJ DHS has just completed a budget hearing which went very well. He noted that Governor Murphy is committed to the programs/services provided by NJ DHS. He then highlighted a few items from the Governor's budget related to NJ DHS. They are as follows: funding to assist counties with Code Blue costs, additional funds for senior programs, and additional funds for childcare services. N. Troché will forward a list of the budget highlights related to NJ DHS to S. Hand for distribution. The Department will continue to work with First Lady Tammy Murphy on her infant mortality initiative. N. Troché concluded by saying that NJ DHS continues to work to distribute NARCAN kits to communities. In the last effort, every police officer in NJ was provided with a kit. In addition, 200 kits were provided to shelters and 400 kits were provided to libraries throughout NJ.
- DCF – J. Hirsch
A written report with the statistics for the Cape May DCP&P local office for the months of January and February 2020 was distributed. J. Hirsch stated that the report is self-

explanatory, but she was available to answer any questions. She then reported that April is Child Abuse Awareness month. The CMC Local Office has several events planned for the month. The Local Office is partnering with the Family Success Center (FSC) and Dunkin' Donuts to host an event on 4/22/20. The event is entitled "Donuts with Dad, Muffins with Mom". There are multiple activities scheduled for the event including the Book Mobile and the Hope One van. The event will be held at the FSC from 3 to 5pm. The Local Office is also planning an adolescent enrichment day. This event will be held at the Tree to Tree site at the CMC Park; a barbeque is being planned for after course completion. A date has not yet been set for this event. Lastly, the CMC Local Office has received funds to host a "father engagement" event. Anyone with suggestions for this event should contact J. Hirsch. D. Rhile reported that the Cape May Local Office has hired three new workers. She added that all staff are attending multiple training sessions on structured decision making; the training sessions focus on the use of updated safety and risk assessment tools.

V. Committee Reports:

a. Executive Committee – J. Roy

Minutes from the 2/26/20 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet via email (limited copies available on site). J. Roy referenced #4 of the minutes regarding the awarding of Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (APP) funds to School Based Youth Services (SBYS) at Cape May Technical High School and Child Abuse/Missing Children (CA/MC) Prevention funds to Rutgers Southern Regional Child Care Resource and Referral Agency for a "Parents in the Park" event that will complement the "I Came with Instructions" project. J. Roy then referenced #5 of the minutes regarding the award of HSAC consulting funds to Monarch Housing Associates for assistance with the implementation of the County's HTF. He stated that the Executive Committee is recommending the funding awards as presented in the Committee's minutes and as he has summarized. J. Sittineri made a motion to approve the funding recommendations as presented by the Executive Committee for APP, CA/MC, and HSAC consulting funds (Monarch Housing). J. Kunec seconded. Motion carried with one abstention (C. Loper).

b. Disability Services Committee – K. Fitzsimons

J. Roy reported for K. Fitzsimons; the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 4/21/20.

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 November 2019 was distributed with the meeting packet via email (limited copies on site). D. Groome highlighted the following statistics from the report: GA cases = 125 (down 8 from October), TANF cases = 111 (up 10 from October), and SNAP cases = 3,484 (up 100 cases from October). The WFNJ participation rate for November was 21%. D. Groome noted that she will be investigating the sharp increase in the SNAP numbers as this is inconsistent with recent patterns regarding caseload size.

e. CEAS – S. Matthews

S. Matthews stated that the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 3/10/20.

f. CIACC – K. Raring

K. Raring reported that the next meeting of the CIACC is scheduled for 3/10/20.

g. Membership – C. Loper

C. Loper stated that the Committee’s written membership report which lists the Committee’s recommendations for two (2) new members was distributed with the meeting agenda (on the reverse side of the agenda). The Membership Committee is recommending that the following individuals be recommended to the Board of Chosen Freeholders for Council membership: Chris Zellers (consumer advocate) and Joe Fahy (member-at-large). If approved, the term for both would be from 4/1/20 through 3/31/23. C. Loper made a motion that C. Zellers and J. Fahy be recommended to the Board of Chosen Freeholders for HSAC membership. T. Bryan seconded. Motion carried. If the appointments are approved, Council will have full membership.

J. Roy noted that in approving the Committee reports, Council is approving all recommendations and actions taken by the various committees as stated in their respective reports. A motion was made by C. Haig and seconded by J. Faldetta to accept the committee reports as presented. Motion carried.

VI. Liaison Reports

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

D. Groome reported for M. Dozier. D. Groome stated that M. Dozier has a medical issue that will require her to be out of work for three (3) months. Colleen Bingham-Pron, Assistant Director for the Division, will be Acting Director. All Area Plan providers will be informed of this temporary staffing change. D. Groome then reported on the following: 1) The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will be open until 4/22/20; this program provides free tax assistance to those that are income eligible (income guidelines are quite liberal). The program is not age restricted. Anyone interested should call the Division for an appointment. 2) The annual CMC Senior Jamboree will be held on 5/14/20. Country-western is the theme of this year’s event. The Division is accepting nominations for outstanding senior male, female, and organization. D. Groome will forward the nomination form to S. Hand for distribution. The awards will be presented at the jamboree. 3) The CMC public health nurses will be visiting each of the County operated senior centers to share information on the Coronavirus. This is an effort to reduce panic and increase knowledge about the virus among senior center participants. 4) The Division is assisting with Census 2020 outreach by providing information at all County operated senior centers and through mobile meals delivery.

b. Workforce Development Board – T. Bryan

T. Bryan reported on the following: 1) Career opportunities – the “Career to Pathway Energy Program” (for utility jobs) is starting for the 2nd year. There are training sessions today (3/4) and on 3/11/20. 2) Stockton Office of Continuing Studies, in conjunction with the WDB, is offering a program that will train candidates for store manager and assistant store manager positions at Heritage Dairy stores. 3) WDB Local Update – staff are participating in numerous training sessions and programs designed to allow staff to stay current with WIOA requirements and program initiatives. 4) Census workers are still needed for CMC. 5) Youth employment and training services for out-of-school youth (16-24) are still available for those interested. Summer Youth Training Funds to be released shortly through RFP. 6) The WDB is currently working on updating all MOUs and infrastructure agreements with current partners. T. Bryan concluded by stating that she prepared a written report containing the information on which she reported orally. She distributed the report to those present.

VII. Old Business

1. M. Santiago announced that flyers are available for the CMC Healthcare Resource Day to be held on 4/4/20 at the Wildwood Convention Center from 10:30am to 1:30pm. To date, forty (40) vendors are scheduled to participate. Activities at the event include the mammography van, NARCAN training session (participants will go home with a kit), “my plate” training

session, and a meditation session. All updates for this event are posted on the CMC website on the Department of Health page.

2. D. Groome reported that both the Division of Social Services and the Division of Veteran Services are also conducting outreach efforts related to the 2020 Census. Flyers are available throughout the Social Services building, kiosks with computers are available for Census completion, and posters are displayed throughout the building. In addition, Social Services is planning to conduct targeted outreach to the homeless population so that they are included in the CMC Census count.

VIII. New Business

1. J. Roy reported that plans for the Atlantic-Cape children's mental health awareness fair are progressing. The event is being sponsored by the CMO (Cape-Atlantic INK), the FSO, and CMC SSSD. SSSD will serve as the host for the event (J. Roy noted that this is a wonderful facility). The event will be held on 5/2/20 from 10am to 1pm.

IX. Public Response

There was no public response.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.