

HSAC Minutes
September 7, 2022

- I. Call to Order and Roundtable Introductions – J. Roy
The meeting was called to order at 2:04pm. Meeting held via Zoom. Introductions followed.

Members Present:

John Roy – Consumer Advocate
Donna Groome – Provider
Chris Zellers – Consumer Advocate
Joe Faldetta – Provider
Jamie Moscony – Member-at-Large
Mary Dozier – Provider
Joe Sittineri – Provider
Wayne Whelan – Member-at-Large
Megan Santiago – Consumer Advocate
Carol Haig – Member-at-Large
Terri Bryan – Provider
Christa Loper – Provider
Nichol Hoff – Consumer
Joe Fahy – Member-at-Large
Rose Kuprianov – Consumer

Members Excused:

Bridget DeFiccio
Lorenzo McFadden
Jeffrey Pierson
Judy Kunec

Interested Persons:

Elizabeth Reed – NJ DOL
Jennifer Arenberg – JC&OC
Michelle Altenpohl – SJLS
Katrina Tattoli – SJLS
Jen Hirsch – DCP&P
Joel Mastromarino – DCP&P
Danae Palomino – Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative
Rick Hager – NJ DCF
Jen Zoyac – CSPNJ
Nelson Troché – NJ DHS
Sharon Modzelewski – CMC DHS
Sabrina Hand – HSAC Coordinator

- II. Additions and Corrections to the Minutes – J. Roy
Minutes from the 6/1/22 meeting were emailed to voting members. J. Moscony motioned to accept the minutes as circulated and T. Bryan 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 are covered under the various committee reports including the Executive Committee report. For the HTF, the Advisory Board opened for a 3rd round of applications on 5/24 with applications due on 6/30/22. The HTF Board met to review the submitted applications on 7/20/22. The HTF Advisory Board recommended adding two (2) households (HHs) to the program. The recommendations were forwarded to the County Commissioners on 7/20/22; the County Commissioners approved the recommendations on 8/9/22. The two (2) new approved cases have been referred to the HTF case managers. On behalf of the CEAS Committee, the HSAC office began the update of the Homeless Resource Directory in June. The Directory was finalized on 8/1/22. It was distributed to all on the CEAS distribution list. While this directory was designed primarily for agency staff of those agencies that provide services to those experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness, anyone who would like a copy is asked to contact S. Hand directly. In addition, 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. For the 2022 HUD CoC Competition, the SNJCoC issued the local NOFO for renewal applications on 6/27/22; these applications were due on 7/27/22. Proposals for new/bonus projects were due on 9/1/22. The SNJCoC Proposal Review Committee met on 8/26/22 to review and score renewal project proposals and is scheduled to meet on 9/8/22 to review and score proposals for new/bonus projects. The full SNJCoC application and accompanying project applications are due to HUD by 9/30/22. HUD has also issued a “Supplemental NOFO for Rural and Unsheltered Homeless”. The SNJCoC will be applying for this highly competitive funding; applications are due to HUD by 10/20/22 (it was noted that there are no rural CoCs in NJ by HUD definitions). Regarding contracting, the HSAC office received an executed copy of the SFY 2023 HSAC administration contract from DCP&P on 8/12/22. In addition, the final report for the SFY 2021/2022 (this was an 18-month contract to transition the HSAC contracts statewide from CY to SFY) was submitted to DCF on 9/6/22. S. Hand concluded by noting that the DCF contract requirement for County HSACs for SFY 2023 will not be a *needs assessment* but rather a *resource directory*. DCF has convened a working group to develop the plans for the directory; it is expected that all issues related to this project will be discussed including format (paper, database, helpline, etc.) by the working group. The first meeting of the group is scheduled for 9/27/22.

IV. State Department Reports:

- DHS – N. Troché
N. Troché reported the following regarding the Department: 1) First Lady Tammy Murphy is continuing to host Family Festivals to highlight her maternal and infant health initiative; the NJ DHS budget included \$15 million in funding to increase Medicaid rates for maternity care, 2) NJ DHS is preparing an information packet on 988, the national suicide/crisis line; it will be forwarded to the County HSACs for distribution, 3) The SHSAC and the County HS Directors' Association both meet on 9/9/22. N. Troché will be attending the SHSAC; the Commissioner will be attending the HS Directors' Association meeting. It is expected that both Logisticare and the SSH motel rates will be topics of discussion at the Directors' meeting.
- DCF – J. Hirsch
A written report with the statistics for the Cape May DCP&P local office for the months of May, June, July, and August 2022 was distributed with the meeting packet. J. Hirsch highlighted the following from the August statistics: there were 79 intakes (67 for child abuse/neglect investigations and 12 for child welfare assessments) and 279 cases (a total of 554 children with 85 of those children in a resource home placement). One (1) child was removed in August. Thus far this year, five (5) adoptions have been finalized. J. Hirsch

then reported that for the DCP&P Local Office the primary reasons for investigations at the current time are sex abuse and substance abuse. She concluded by noting that it is expected that there will be an increase in DCP&P referrals with the start of a new school year.

V. Committee Reports:

a. Executive Committee – J. Roy

Minutes from the 8/31/22 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. J. Roy asked stated that the minutes were self-explanatory, but he would answer any questions should there be any. There were none.

b. Disability Services Committee – K. Fitzsimons

Minutes from the 7/19/22 meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Hand reported for K. Fitzsimons who was unable to attend. S. Hand stated that at the meeting, agency representatives provided an update on their programs and services. Two quick highlights include 1) J. Moscony provided information on the grant received by the CMC Technical High School which will expand career training opportunities for students. 2) The CMC Health Department continues to hold Covid clinics every Tuesday both the original vaccines and boosters are available; the Department is also developing hurricane preparedness presentations. There is more information on both topics in the minutes. M. Santiago stated that there has been a change in the vaccines available since the DSC meeting. The CMC Health Department is currently providing primary doses (shots) of the Covid vaccine; booster shots have been put on hold by the FDA as the new booster shot with additional variant protection is expected to be available within the month. All vaccine information is available on the Department's website at www.cmchealth.net. S. Hand then stated that the Committee has been discussing the possibility of Easter Seals reopening their day program in CMC. While this was not discussed at this meeting, R. Kuprianov does have an update to share. R. Kuprianov reported that due to several factors, Easter Seals will not be reopening their day program in CMC. However, Resources for Independent Living (RIL) expressed an interest in opening a full day program in CMC. RIL has been in discussions with CMC Administration regarding space (RIL has stated that the original space being offered to Easter Seals is not sufficient for their program). There is also a concern regarding transportation as Easter Seals utilized their own van whereas RIL may be planning to use CMC Fare Free transportation. R. Kuprianov concluded by stating that more information is expected to be provided at the next meeting of the FSC#10; she will update Council at the October meeting.

c. Program Review Committee – J. Kunec

No report.

d. WFNJ-WTW – D. Groome

Written reports detailing WFNJ/SNAP caseload numbers for Cape May County for April and May 2022 were distributed with the meeting packet. D. Groome reported on the following trends: 1) The CMC SNAP caseload is up 500 cases since 2019 (all cases receive the maximum allotment due to COVID waivers), 2) For TANF cases, there was a jump in May 2020, but the caseload has since stabilized with the 87 cases reported for May 2022 being a consistent number, and 3) The number of GA cases has increased by 50 since May of 2019; in addition the GA 28-day program requirement resumed on 7/1/22 making work activities mandatory once again. D. Groome then reported that NJ DFD has increased the rate allowed to be paid to motels for emergency/temporary shelter for the first time in approximately ten (10) years; the increase equated to about \$10 per night. She added that while this increase is appreciated, there is still a wait list for rooms as motel room availability remains very low. D. Groome concluded by announcing that the State has launched a new online application portal for consumer applications for SNAP and cash benefits. The new MyNJHelps site is designed to allow consumers to upload information (documentation) with their application. The website went live on 9/2/22. The

original NJHelps.org is still in use, new applications are being diverted to the new platform. The current site is available for an additional 45 days to allow applicants that have previously started an application to continue in the old platform. After 45 days an applicant will need to begin a new application in MYNJHelps.

e. CEAS – S. Matthews

Minutes from the 7/12/22 CEAS meeting were distributed with the meeting packet. S. Hand reported for S. Matthews. S. Hand reported that in addition to agency/program updates, there was a presentation by the Community Food Bank NJ (CFBNJ). CFBNJ continues to work to expand services in CMC through both partnerships and the use of the mobile food pantry. Anyone with specific questions should reach out to Brad Preston of CFBNJ. Since the July CEAS meeting, HUD issued the NOFO for the 2022 CoC Competition; CoC plans and accompanying agency proposals are due to HUD by 9/30/22. S. Hand concluded by noting that she provided additional information on the NOFO process as well as updates on other items discussed at the CEAS meeting under the *Administrator's Report*. The next meeting of the CEAS Committee is scheduled for 9/13/22.

f. CIACC – S. Modzelewski

Minutes from the 7/20/22 CIACC meeting were distributed in the meeting packet. S. Modzelewski highlighted the following from the minutes: 1) Cape Regional Partial Hospitalization program (PHP) presentation was given by Ron DeFeo and Terri Black of the Center for Family Guidance. A PHP is an acute program geared to help children ages 3-17 who have severe emotional, behavioral, or psychiatric disorders. Presentation included information about referrals, length of stay, criteria for admission, services offered, etc. Target date to open the facility is the first quarter of 2023. The number of openings (and age ranges) will evolve over time based on need and capacity. 2) Agency representatives provided updates on their services and activities. 3) Cape Assist reported on the multiple local school resiliency programs that are taking place. 4) Per State regulations, the CIACC agenda will have 3 additional standing items for each full CIACC Meeting: Juvenile Justice, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, and Education Subcommittee. The next meeting of the CIACC is scheduled for 9/21/22.

g. Membership – C. Loper

C. Loper stated that the Membership Committee is asking for approval to submit the following names to the County Commissioners for appointment to Council for 2nd terms: C. Loper and W. Whelan. T. Bryan made a motion to recommend the above-named individuals to the Board of County Commissioners for 2nd terms on the CMC HSAC. J. Faldetta seconded. Motion carried. If the 2nd terms are approved, Council membership will be full.

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

VI. Liaison Reports

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

M. Dozier reported on the following: 1) The senior produce voucher program will end on 9/30/22; seniors have until 11/30/22 to spend the vouchers. M. Dozier noted that the program was well utilized this year. 2) Senior Day in the Park will be held on 10/6/22 (rain date is 10/13/22); this event is for senior center participants only. 3) Medicare Open Enrollment begins on 10/15/22 and ends on 12/7/22. Those wishing to discuss their Medicare Part D coverage should call the Division for an appointment at (609) 886-2784. 4) The Division is working on a marketing campaign with the CMC Department of Tourism to promote vaccine access and services offered through the Division. 5) The Division recently held the 46th Annual Senior Art Show and the public hearing on the Area Plan Grant.

b. Workforce Development Board – T. Bryan

T. Bryan prepared a written report which was included in the meeting packet. She then reported the following: 1) All programs both youth and adult are operational and accepting referrals – staff are attending community events to conduct outreach and inform the community of the various training opportunities available through the One Stop Career Center, and 2) The proposed bill to reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act calls for some major changes in operations. T. Bryan will share this information as it becomes available.

VII. Old Business

There was no *old business*.

VIII. New Business

1. D. Palomino of the Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative stated that the Cooperative has resources for obstetrics and maternity care for CMC residents now that CRMC is closing their maternity department (as of 9/9/22). This includes a list of obstetricians (practicing at Shore Memorial), some transportation resources, and Uber gift cards. Anyone wanting more information should contact D. Palomino at dpalomino@snjpc.org.
2. R. Hager of DCF announced that DCF is hosting “The People’s Gathering” on 9/22. This is a virtual event that is designed to engage the community in dialogue. R. Hager will forward the information on the event to S. Hand for distribution. In addition, DCF has developed a PSA for youth mental health. The PSA discusses the need/benefit of seeking support and where to go for that support. The PSA should be available as of 9/9/22.
3. Rose Kuprianov announced that the “Sweetheart’s Ball” for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities will be held on 10/30/22 at the Wildwood Convention Center from 4 to 8pm. The theme is Halloween.

IX. Public Response

There was no public response.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58pm.