



## State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE  
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CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

NEIL VAN ESS  
*Acting Chairman*

CELINA LEVY  
*Acting Executive Director*

### MINUTES

#### **Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse**

**November 16, 2016**

#### **Call to Order**

The three hundred and fourteenth regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Public Member and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Gregg Benson.

#### **Open Public Meetings Act Statement**

Mr. Benson announced that notice of this meeting was provided in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21).

#### **Roll Call**

Katelyn Assenheimer called the roll. Members present and absent were noted for the record.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

After a brief discussion, the meeting minutes for September and October of 2016 were approved.

**September – (Y-10; N-0; ABS-4)**

**October – (Y-9; N-0; ABS-5)**

#### **Presentation: "New Jersey National Guard Suicide Prevention Program"**

Michael Woods, Program Manager and Dr. Cynthia Lischick, Psychological Health Coordinator from the New Jersey National Guard Suicide Prevention Program gave the Council an overview of the work they have been doing to help New Jersey's veterans and the issue of suicide.

One service member and twenty two veterans complete suicide every day. This program provides low level intervention to determine the level of care that a veteran or active service member might need in times of crisis. Through the Suicide Prevention Program, policies and trainings have been developed and enhanced to minimize suicidal behavior as well as break

down the stigma associated with suicides and mental health. Since this program began in 2009, there have been no completed suicides.

### **Council Business**

#### **Veterans Day Resolution**

Acting Executive Director Celina Levy read a resolution recognizing November 11<sup>th</sup> as Veterans Day. After a vote, this resolution was approved. (Y-13; N-0; ABS-1)

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Acting Executive Director Celina Levy announced that the GCADA office has now moved to its new location at Quakerbridge Plaza.

The protocol for the Master Plan is underway. Specific details will be shared at next month's meeting and the process will begin in January. Ms. Levy stated that she will be reaching out to Council members for their input.

Deputy Director Rebecca Alfaro will be facilitating Mental Health First Aid Trainings on December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at the Hughes Justice Complex. These trainings will be held from 12pm to 5pm and 30 people maximum may be in attendance. Ms. Alfaro will send out details closer to the date.

### **Adjournment**

Gregg Benson adjourned the meeting at 11:31 a.m.