



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
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MINUTES

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

October 19, 2016

Call to Order

The three hundred and thirteenth regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Public Member Donna DeStefano.

Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Ms. DeStefano 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. Donna DeStefano informed the Council that this meeting would be for informational purposes only due to a lack of quorum.

Presentation: "Hospital-Wide Screening for Substance Abuse Disorders Project"

Michelle Eichorn, Project Coordinator from Trinitas Regional Medical Center gave an overview of the Hospital-Wide Screening for Substance Abuse Disorders Project to the Council.

The project began in 2014 and the purpose is to screen high-risk patients for treatment needs at the bedside rather than waiting for them to be transferred to the Behavioral Health Department

Trinitas serves patients that are 18 years and over. There are no disqualifications for those with a criminal history. Ms. Eichorn informed the Council that there is a 50/50 split between patients with chronic alcoholism and those with opiate addiction.

Screening is conducted by utilizing Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) by addiction specialists. Trinitas has a licensed clinician (LCSW/LCADC) on staff as well as unlicensed staff with addiction experience. Patients are referred to Prevention Links or

other treatments services. These appointments are made at the bedside and transportation to same-day intake is provided.

Six to 15 percent of high-risk patients achieve sobriety through this project each month. This project has provided stronger primary care as well as behavioral health and community-based partnerships to meet the population health needs.

Acting Executive Director's Report

Acting Executive Director Celina Levy introduced Viktoria Vasilantonaki and informed the Council that she will be filling the role of Fiscal Manager at GCADA.

Ms. Levy shared how pleased she was at the turnout for the GCADA Volunteer of the Year Award Ceremony last month. She said that she hopes next year all 21 counties will submit a volunteer nominee. Pictures from the event will be on the GCADA website by early next week.

The planning of the protocol for the Master Plan is underway. Specific details will be shared at next month's meeting.

GCADA Deputy Director Rebecca Alfaro will be offering Mental Health First Aid Training to the Council Members in the near future. This is an interactive two day training. Both public members and department designees will be invited to participate. Ms. Alfaro will provide more information as it becomes available.

Adjournment

Donna DeStefano adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.