



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 17, 2018

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

CELINA LEVY
Acting Executive Director

Call to Order

The three hundred and twenty ninth regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Acting Chairman Neil Van Ess.

Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Mr. Van Ess 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 minutes for June, July and September were approved.

June (Y-13; N-0; ABS-1)

July (Y-11; N-0; ABS-3)

September (Y-7; N-0; ABS-7)

Chairman's Report

Acting Chairman Neil Van Ess welcomed everyone to the meeting. He shared that the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services is no longer within the Department of Health and is once again within the Department of Human Services.

He also stated that with the new administration in place and changes in the departments, the Master Plan was re-sent to the department designees. The results should be in soon, but timelines may need to be adjusted due to GCADA being critically short staffed.

GCADA and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs have worked together on issuing an updated Veterans Resource Guide. The book is planning to be launched on Veterans Day. GCADA will share details once the date and event is confirmed.

Resolutions

Ms. Levy read resolutions recognizing International Overdose Awareness Day, Recovery Month and Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in New Jersey. These resolutions were voted on and approved.

International Overdose Awareness Day Resolution (Y-14; N-0; ABS-0)

Recovery Month Resolution (Y-14; N-0; ABS-0)

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Resolution (Y-14; N-0; ABS-0)

Presentation: “Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day”

Angelo Valente, Executive Director and Angela Conover, Director of Opioid Response and Prevention Programs of the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey gave an overview of Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day in New Jersey.

Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day was on October 6th and is currently in its fourth year. This is a collaborative effort between the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, GCADA, the prevention and treatment communities as well as concerned citizens to raise awareness of the potential for dependency on prescribed pain medicine and its link to heroin abuse rates in New Jersey.

Volunteers across the state visited physician and dental offices, as well as homes in the communities to distribute this information on door hangers and guides for prescribing these medications. This year there were 10,000 volunteers and over one million door hangers distributed making this the largest single-day initiative in the country.

Acting Executive Director’s Report

Acting Executive Director Celina Levy shared that over the summer, Yannai Kranzler from the Department of Health, held focus groups with the Municipal Alliance-Regional Coalition to help inform the Mental Health and Substance use chapter of the State Health Improvement Plan. GCADA participated in this to support the Prevention Collaborative efforts presently underway.

Ms. Levy also shared that she will be representing GCADA on an effort with the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services to create a campaign and effort to promote Medication Assisted Treatment and combat the associated stigma.

Ms. Levy thanked the GCADA staff and Council members for their support, the County Alliance coordinators and the Alliance members for their prevention effort.

Adjournment

Mr. Van Ess adjourned the meeting at 11:35.