



COUNTY OF HUNTERDON NEW JERSEY

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MENTAL HEALTH BOARD



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(Location: 8 Gauntt Place)

REFERENCE:

- ☐ Council
- ☒ Mental Health
- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Disabled
- ☐ Substance Use Disorder
- ☐ Transportation

Approved November 18, 2021

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE

Regular Meeting

Thursday, September 16, 2021, 1:00 p.m.
Via Webex

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

L. Painter	D. LaClair
R. Walker	P. Manzini
K. Bloodgood	S. Carew
J. Denlinger	L. Ranieri
A. Vitale	M. DeMatos
	K. Raymond

EX-OFFICIO

D. Davis
J. Verney

STAFF

M. O'Reilly
S. Becker
S. Nekola

GUESTS

S. Valencia
A. Chuiso
J. Litkenhaus

- I. "This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21. Notice of this meeting has been provided in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News. A public notice announcing this meeting has also been placed in the lobbies of the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, the first floor of the Main Street County Complex, 71 Main Street Building #1, Flemington, NJ; the first floor of the Route 12 County Complex, Building #3, 314 State Route 12, Flemington, NJ and County Clerk's Office."

Due to the recent public health crisis, COVID-19, this meeting was held via Webex ONLY

S. Becker asked the group to go around and introduce themselves.

S. Becker stated she is the Assistant Mental Health Administrator and Drug and Alcohol Director for Hunterdon County.

R. Walker stated she is from GenPsych of Flemington and Princeton; she is the Program Administrator.

M. O'Reilly stated she is the Human Services Administrator for Hunterdon County.

D. Laclair stated she is a Case Manager for the Hunterdon County STAR.

L. Ranieri stated she is from Hackensack Meridian Carrier Clinic.

D. Davis stated she is the Program Analyst with the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

J. Litkenhaus stated she is the team supervisor for ICMS Easterseals for Hunterdon and Somerset Counties.

J. Verney stated he is the Regional Coordinator – The Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

K. Raymond stated she is the Operations Manager for Freedom House.

S. Nekola stated she is the Division Head of Social Work Services for Hunterdon County.

P. Manzini stated he is with Hunterdon County Probation.

J. Denlinger stated she is with the Sharing the Hope Family Support Center of Prevention Resources and she is here representing both the agency and their center.

S. Valencia stated she is the Bi-Lingual Central Intake for Hunterdon County with the Central Jersey Family Health Consortium.

S. Carew stated she is an Addiction and Substance Use Disorder Counselor with Acenda Integrated Health, Inc.

M. DeMatos stated he is from Hunterdon Medical Center and is the Navigator for the Hunterdon County Opioid Overdose Recovery Program.

K. Bloodgood stated she is the Director of Admissions at New Hope Integrated Behavioral Healthcare.

II. MINUTES: A Motion was made by R. Walker and seconded by K. Bloodgood to approve the minutes of May 20, 2021. All were in favor. No oppositions. The motion carried.

III. REPORTS:

A. Mental Health Board (MHB) Update: S. Becker stated unfortunately, they had to cancel the last Mental Health Board meeting due to the flood and the storm. The agenda will be carried over to October 2021. In October, there will be a presentation by Bridgeway, and they are also going to have a presentation by Rutgers with their first episode Psychosis Program. S. Becker stated the Mental Health Board is still looking for presenters to educate the group as to what is available in the Community, they are very interested in hearing from everyone. If anyone is interested in presenting and if anyone is interested in attending the Mental Health Board, they are encouraged to reach out to S. Becker. The Mental Health Board, right now, is similarly to PAC-PACADA, looking at gaps in the community and how they can best serve any populations that aren't being served or how they can move forward with helping those who need treatment obtain that goal.

B. Division of Mental Health Services Update: D. Davis reported their bed system for their short-term care facilities is up and running. They are noticing just a few reminders are

needed regarding beds that are offline, for any agencies that have short-term care facility, just making sure that the beds that are listed as offline, that is due to bed blockage or maintenance issues, not due to the bed being occupied. Also, a reminder for their screening centers, when they make a referral, along with the referral being sent via fax, it should also be entered into the bed system as a referral as well. For their short-term care facilities, everyone has been asked to complete a self-assessment for 2021. Those should be completed and returned to the Division by October 1, 2021. If anyone has any questions about it, Jenna Caccese is the contact, if anyone needs her information, they are encouraged to reach out to D. Davis, she can share that.

D. Davis stated they have a quarterly provider meeting coming up September 30, 2021. It was scheduled for earlier in the month, but it has been re-scheduled for September 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. and an agenda will be forthcoming for that.

For their community support services provider (CSS), there are some webinars and trainings. They had one on understanding complex trauma and supporting adaptive coping strategies, last Friday, September 10, 2021. There is going to be registration coming online for the Fall 2021 CSS training series. They have their orientation modules ongoing; those are self-guided. D. Davis stated those are great for any staff who need a refresher or if they have new staff coming online, it is the whole overview, the community support services, what the bulk of the services are meant to be, and then the golden thread, the registration is on the website and if anyone needs that, D. Davis stated she can share it.

There has also been some staff changes at the IME. Sarah Maxfield will be overseeing the IME in the interim after Nick Armenti's departure. Ryan Cooke is taking over the day-to-day operations until a new director is hired. D. Davis stated for general IME, CSS information, she can put the phone number in the email contact in the chat after she gives her report for those contacts.

Their PATH providers, as the Projects for Assistance and Transition from Homelessness, they are offering training Statewide for all providers. They're specifically focusing on trainings regarding suicide for their PATH staff. D. Davis stated she has more contact information if anyone needs that, they are encouraged to reach out to her.

D. Davis stated regarding the Atlas program, she can defer and let the training speak for itself, but essentially, they are sharing that that's a new tool that is coming to New Jersey, currently it is in six States Nationally. It is a quality measurement system. D. Davis added they will hear more about that in today's meeting.

Their suicide prevention conference is coming up. It is virtual, it is October 6, 2021. The topic is trauma, the hidden face of suicide. That is from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration will be available soon for anyone who is interested or anyone in their agencies are interested, they are encouraged to keep an eye out for that.

They have some virtual mental health awareness trainings coming up. They had a few already this month, one was today – "Wellness For The New Normal" was held at 10:00 a.m. today. The next ones are September 27, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. – "Preparing for Back To School", September 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. – Question, Persuade, and Refer. D. Davis stated the "Preparing For Back To School" is an hour and a half and the QPR is two hours. They are also sharing an RFP for gambling disorder clinician services program. The total

annualized funding is \$1.2 million dollars. The Division anticipates making 10 awards to providers licensed as substance use disorder providers interested in treating individuals with a gambling disorder. Awarded providers will hire a minimum one FTE, a gambling disorder clinician and provide case management services provided by the clinician or additional staffing. Those proposals are due to the division no later than September 24, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

There have been some updates for their housing and utility assistance. The limited eviction moratorium is from August 3, 2021 through October 3, 2021 for renters living in communities experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases. D. Davis stated additionally, Governor Murphy signed legislation to expand their emergency rental assistance and utility assistance programs. D. Davis stated she has a flyer with more resources and links, she can share that with S. Becker to forward out to the group. If anyone needs it right away, it is encouraged to speak with D. Davis.

D. Davis stated that is all of the information she has to share. D. Davis stated she will put the CSS contact in the chat for everyone, in the meantime, if anyone has any questions about that, they are encouraged to speak with D. Davis. Discussion ensued regarding two callers who called in during the report.

S. Becker asked if there were any questions for D. Davis. With no questions, the group moved forward.

D. Davis posted in the chat – IME CSS Contact Info: csumstaff@ubhc.rutgers.edu
IME CSS phone: 844-463-2771.

- C. **County Update:** M. O'Reilly stated as most individuals are aware, they are in the process of recovery after Hurricane Ida hit the County really hard. They do have resources up on the County website. M. O'Reilly stated she would put the link in the chat box for anyone who is in need. M. O'Reilly stated she can discuss steps later in the agenda if S. Becker would like. S. Becker responded yes.

M. O'Reilly stated they are status quo. They announced at the last meeting that they are open to the public. M. O'Reilly stated it is preferred if individuals can make appointments but, if not, they do accept walk-ins.

S. Becker added to those who receive contracts through the County, both for the Innovation grant and Chapter 51, she sent out today their annual audit form, once again due to COVID, their audit is going to be virtual. Everyone should have received one. If they didn't, they are encouraged to reach out to S. Becker, and she will send them to those who need it. They are due back to S. Becker October 15, 2021. If anyone has any questions, they are encouraged to reach out to S. Becker. S. Becker stated hopefully everyone will give back their virtual forms and thanked the group.

Posted in the chat – <https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/tropical-storm-Ida.html>

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None at this time.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Atlas Resource:** S. Becker stated before Atlas officially opens to the public, she will try to get someone to give a more formal presentation. The company is called Shatterproof and they are starting a new database called Atlas. It is coming out to assist individuals in the community to take a short substance use evaluation to determine their appropriate level of care. When they complete treatment, they will be able to take a patient experience survey to assist with growing best practices and perceptions of care. Different agencies will actually have ratings by the consumers that they are treating.

Atlas is going to be a web-based platform that deploys validated measures to assess the quality of treatment facilities. They publicly display trustworthy, standardized information for individuals to use when seeking care.

Atlas was first launched in July 2020, and since then they have been visited over 125,000 times, and they have conducted more than 12,000 searches.

Atlas will offer password-protected portals for providers, States, and health insurers to use the data to drive the adoption of best practices through policy. They will be working with all manner of insurances private and welfare County insurance, payment reform and provider quality improvement efforts.

The database is going to allow community members to search for treatment facilities in their area by insurance that are appropriate for them. It will also come with information by the agencies, as well as ratings. S. Becker stated it will be a self-referral, they are going to take a self-evaluation and it might come up that someone needs inpatient, IOP, different information. S. Becker stated from there, based on their insurance or area how they want to search, a list of agencies will come up that are available to them to make that phone call. It will not serve as an intake evaluation.

The website is currently being translated into Spanish and they are trying to include educational content as well as integration of State resources. S. Becker echoed D. Davis from earlier stating it is currently open in six States and they are continuously working to improve their database. Atlas is adding five additional States in 2021. It will officially be launched and open to the public in New Jersey in Spring of 2022.

They are seeking to have provider roundtables State advisory committees as well as conferences to educate stakeholders.

For a treatment provider to participate in this database they will have to submit the Atlas survey for their facility when it opens in October of this year. S. Becker stated DMHAS is supporting this, she imagines all DMHAS contracted agencies will receive this survey. S. Becker stated if she receives it, she will send it out to the group as well.

Through the participation of the survey stakeholders, will have the opportunity to market for free and access technical assistance through Atlas. They also have the opportunity for clients to leave feedback about their care in the facility. S. Becker stated it is her understanding that Atlas is going to take the surveys that they fill out and verify the information and once they can do that then it will be published on their website. S. Becker stated if they choose or if their agency chooses not to fill out these surveys, her understanding is if someone states they need IOP level of care, initially the only agencies

that are going to come up are ones who have filled out the survey and have been vetted by Atlas, however, there is a button that states not vetted and if that is clicked, she believes they are going to add all agencies in the area. S. Becker stated the agencies will still technically be in the database but that relies on the consumer knowing to unclick that vetted button. S. Becker stated as far as clients leaving feedback, she believes that no feedback will be published for an agency until they get 19 reviews. S. Becker stated the agencies don't have to worry about getting one unsatisfied consumer, they will get a mix of 19 before they are published.

They are also having a list of roundtable schedules and registration for providers. S. Becker stated she would put that in the chat, but they are going to be October 20, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., November 15, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., December 15, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., and January 5, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. S. Becker stated they can get a quick look at the website at TreatmentAtlas.org. S. Becker stated she would add all that information to the chat for the group. S. Becker asked if there were questions about the quick rundown of Atlas.

D. Davis added this will be on the agenda at the quarterly provider meeting as well. S. Becker asked if there were any questions or comments.

K. Raymond stated she had a comment because the way that they changed the treatment provider directory on the Division of Addiction Services (DAS) website, that maybe Atlas could rectify a lot of the issues that came about when they changed the way that the treatment provider directory is published. K. Raymond stated because they used to be special populations, there used to be all of the funding sources that were listed there, it was a lot easier to help make a referral for someone, for example, who is on Medicaid, or who is trying to access County funding, or looking for a women's program versus a men's program. K. Raymond stated they still receive a lot of phone calls there looking for a halfway house because the treatment provider directory really does not differentiate different programs that might be specifically for men or for women and there are no funding sources. K. Raymond stated she is excited hopefully that this will not only help the agencies to put themselves out there, and let individuals know what they offer and what their funding sources are but help them to make more appropriate referrals with that additional information that was all deleted from the DAS directory.

S. Becker stated she has spoken with the women who did this training for them, she is the one that she is hoping to do a bigger training. S. Becker stated she knows that they are taking agency suggestions under advisement to constantly improve their website and how everything is working. S. Becker stated once it is up and running, if they don't see that, that maybe a suggestion for them to try to integrate.

S. Becker stated she wanted to stress, this is only a self-evaluation, this is not serving as an evaluation for treatment. S. Becker stated individuals can't walk into a facility and show them their Atlas evaluations, the agencies still need to do their own checks and intakes with them to make sure they are appropriate for that treatment.

S. Carew stated she apologized for being late and that was her question. S. Becker stated it will not serve as the evaluation, they are still going to have to make sure they are appropriate. S. Becker asked if there are any other questions, or if they have any other questions later, they are encouraged to reach out to S. Becker.

- B. Flooding/Community Need Help:** M. O'Reilly stated she wanted to briefly go over how they are referring individuals who are calling for assistance with anything related to the flood. The first step is for anyone to apply for insurance first, FEMA is going to ask for that. The second step would be for them to apply through FEMA. There are phone numbers to call but they have been told there is a very long wait for that. M. O'Reilly stated the website is disasterassistance.gov and she will put that in the chat box.

M. O'Reilly stated also this week, she believes it was yesterday, FEMA opened a disaster recovery center. It is located at 230 North Main Street in Lambertville. They are open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and they are open on weekends from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. where individuals can go for assistance to apply for FEMA.

M. O'Reilly stated she believes top of mind for a lot of folks is housing. Some individuals are currently displaced from either apartment buildings or their own homes. They do have some short-term emergency housing available through the County. They are doing two weeks to start and then evaluating on a case-by-case basis. If individuals are in need, they can call the main line 908-788-1300 for assistance. They are also being connected to other resources in the community. They are also evaluating them on a case-by-case basis for any social service programs that they may be eligible for. They are also able to refer to the emergency housing voucher program if individuals qualify for that. M. O'Reilly stated the way that it works is the staff would collect documentation and then send that over to Family Promise of Sussex, they are designated in the Tri-County CoC area to make the referrals directly to the Department of Community Affairs for those vouchers. Those vouchers were part of American Rescue Plan funding, that is how those are being paid for.

M. O'Reilly stated a reminder that the departments here have access to security deposit or first month's rent assistance. If someone is impacted by the flood or not impacted by the flood and does need help with a security deposit, they can be evaluated for that. They do have to show future affordability in order for them to do that. They would have to locate an apartment as well.

M. O'Reilly stated they have a program called the Housing Rehab Program that she does not believe most individuals know about. It could be applicable for someone impacted by the flood. M. O'Reilly stated if FEMA cannot assist for some reason and the repair is less than \$25,000.00, this is something that they could potentially do through the Housing Rehab Program. M. O'Reilly stated she would send a link out for them to see the application and information. That is another program that the County has. The goal is really to maintain safe and accessible housing. It was designed to correct code violations or other major deficiencies in homes. Discussion ensued.

M. O'Reilly stated she wanted everyone to know that SNAP waivers were approved for Hunterdon County. Anyone currently receiving SNAP can purchase hot foods before the end of the month, before September 30, 2021. Typically, purchases of hot foods cannot be made with SNAP benefits, but a waiver was approved to allow individuals to do that. Current SNAP recipients who may have lost food during the flood or the power went out, they can apply with the Division of Social Services for replacement benefits of their September SNAP. They would have to contact Social Services in order to do that, that is the same phone number – 908- 788-1300. They are waiting to hear from the Federal Government and also from the State from the Division of Family Development whether or not additional disaster SNAP will be released. During prior disasters individuals who were

over income for SNAP were eligible for those benefits. They are just waiting to hear an outcome on that, as soon as they have that they can send that out as well.

M. O'Reilly reminded everyone if they have a Veteran in need, they do have a Veteran Service Officer in the Department of Human Services and Veterans can contact him for help with FEMA, for help with connection to other housing resources specifically for Veterans. M. O'Reilly asked if anyone has any questions.

J. Litkenhaus asked if M. O'Reilly could repeat the FEMA support office in Lambertville, what was that address or is there a phone number for them? M. O'Reilly responded yes; it is 230 North Main Street in Lambertville. M. O'Reilly stated she would put it in the chat box, she does not have a phone number, she just has the locations of where they are in the State. M. O'Reilly stated it states Union Fire Company, she is unsure. A participant stated the Food Pantry is in Lambertville she believes at the fire house, the old, that might be it, she wonders. M. O'Reilly stated she apologized, she does not have a phone number for them, they have an 800 number, but it is very long wait times because of all of the National emergencies that are going on between the wildfires and Louisiana being affected by the hurricane as well. M. O'Reilly stated if individuals have access to the internet or can visit the site in Lambertville, they might get access a little quicker. J. Litkenhaus stated she believes her case managers will just drive out there with them and see if anyone is there. M. O'Reilly stated her understanding is that they are there staffed 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday-Friday and then on the weekends 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A participant asked who is the contact for DRCC's in Hunterdon County. M. O'Reilly responded S. Becker. S. Becker responded she is. A participant responded thank you.

S. Becker asked before moving on, are there any stakeholders, agencies here who have flooded out needs, flooding resources that they can offer.

VI. AGENCY NEWS: S. Becker opened this agenda item for any agency updates.

Hunterdon Probation – P. Manzini stated he is a Probation Officer at Hunterdon County Probation. He stated he does not have general information to share but since he has a lot of providers serving his clients, they now are going out to meet providers who provide services to their clients. P. Manzini stated he always did it pre-pandemic so that he can establish relationships with the folks that serve their clients. Prior to them going to a particular organization that serves their clients, they will be calling to ask what the protocols are. P. Manzini stated if the agencies get a call, that is what he has been doing. Discussion ensued.

Freedom House – K. Raymond stated vaccination is mandatory for admission into their halfway house and all of their recovery houses. It is not mandatory for outpatient. They are trying to educate and share resources, but it is not mandatory to outpatient, just in all of the residential programs. October 1, 2021 is the deadline that it is also mandatory for all of their staff. They are trying to keep those communal living residential programs as safe as they can. All of the clients are at a State of vaccination because they started making that mandatory in June. All the clients are vaccinated and almost all of the staff are vaccinated already and will be by next week. K. Raymond stated that is a barrier she believes for some possibly.

The waiting list is full at the halfway house and outpatient continues to meet as it always has. They are continuing to do hybrid services in person, they have always been in person at the

outpatient, but they are also doing some telehealth especially with the doctor for med monitoring, making sure those services aren't interrupted. K. Raymond stated everything is good and all of the programs are really busy. All of the recovery houses are full; all five of them are full. Discussion ensued.

Prevention Resources, Inc. – J. Denlinger stated their annual fall conference is coming up October 27, 2021 and October 28, 2021. It will be virtual again this year. The theme is navigating the future. J. Denlinger stated she will make sure S. Becker has information to share if she hasn't already.

The Open Door Recovery Center is up and running in Flemington now. They have more and more activities planned. The address is 5 East Main Street, Flemington. J. Denlinger stated basically they are outside at this point, but they do have a lot of activities that are coming up, different kinds of meetings that are under consideration and starting.

K. Raymond asked J. Denlinger if she has a calendar available online that their clients can access. J. Denlinger respond they are working on a calendar, there is a Facebook page and there is going to be a re-launching of the calendar she believes. J. Denlinger stated she can get that information to S. Becker and she can share it. K. Raymond thanked her. Discussion ensued.

Acenda Integrated Health – S. Carew stated Acenda Integrated Health with the wellness and recovery centers, specifically in their Hunterdon location, they are still primarily doing telehealth but there are clients who do go in with the therapists, they are still hybrid. The majority of their management with the site clinicians is still Telehealth.

They just hired a new senior director of recovery services, Amy Villano. She used to be a director when they were Daytop, Mendham, prior to that unfortunate closure, around when the pandemic started.

They are still up and running, doing remote. They do serve all of the Counties. Their Morristown location is hybrid but mostly in person. Ocean is mostly remote. Cape May is hybrid. Their halfway house in Pittsgrove is still up and running for their men. S. Carew stated she might have Amy join in future meetings for everyone to get to know each other and their community as well as a services provider. S. Carew stated the best way to reach her is through email or since she is remote, the County has her direct office phone number, emailing the voicemails to her.

K. Raymond asked if S. Carew knows anything about the former site of Crawford House, what is happening, what is happening with the building too is it for sale, are they going to put more programming there. S. Carew responded that she has not been given any update on that, she is not leadership, she is a lead clinician from her primary location of Flemington, she is not involved in that. S. Carew stated she will ask them what is happening, but she is not currently aware of what is happening with the location. Discussion ensued.

S. Carew stated she is sure that they are figuring something out, she is not involved, she cannot speak to it. S. Carew stated if she hears any news, she will inform the group. K. Raymond thanked her. Discussion ensued.

Posted in chat – Acenda Integrated Health 844-4-ACENDA www.acendahealth.org

Flemington Counseling & Wellness Center
6 Gauntt Place, Hunterdon County Bldg. #2
Flemington, NJ 08822
Phone: 908-806-5195
Fax: 908-806-5197

Morristown Counseling & Wellness Center
340 West Hanover Avenue
Morristown, NJ 07960
Phone: 973-539-5764
Fax: 973-984-5786

Manahawkin Counseling & Wellness Center
399 North Main Street, Suite 1
Manahawkin, NJ 08050
Phone: 732-875-1090
Fax: 732-875-1091

Sheena Carew, MA, LPC, LCADC Therapist Acenda
908-806-5198 direct office number – leave message
Email – scarew@acendahealth.org

Hunterdon County STAR Program – D. Laclair stated she is the case manager with Hunterdon County STAR, Support to Addiction Recovery. They work with clients at any stage in their addiction or recovery. They do case management and peer recovery. All of their staff are vaccinated, and they are meeting via telehealth as well as doing in home visits with teams. If any clients are in need of the additional support, they are encouraged to give them a call.

Posted in chat – Dana Laclair HC STAR 732-535-1435, dl963@ubhc.rutgers.edu

New Hope Integrated Behavioral Health Care – K. Bloodgood stated she put her information in the chat for everyone. If anyone needs any assistance with detox or residential for adults or adolescents, she put her cell phone number as well as the two extensions. The group is encouraged to reach out.

Posted in the chat – New Hope adult and youth residential and detox 732-946-3030 option 3 youth option 5, her cell phone is 732-284-6870.

High Point Partial Care – A. Vitale stated she wanted to give an update in terms of their programs there, High Point Partial Care Mental Health program. They continue to do daily telehealth wellness checks with all of their mental health clients and they are working towards transitioning them back to the premises for the full day program. For October, they are hoping for two times a week in person. They are welcoming referrals, their services back. This population, they have been monitoring very closely through daily wellness checks since the pandemic back March 20th was the last time that they had these clients on the campus. A. Vitale stated they are really excited about that, that they will be returning with them on campus for the full day program. Their goal is to have them there two times a week in the month of October.

In terms of their addictions program, also on the same site, they continue to deliver co-occurring services for their addiction clients. They have been on site since July for day program, IOP

services, up to four times a week as well as outpatient services. They do have an evening track going on as well on Thursday evenings for clients that cannot come during the day. A. Vitale stated they have been very fortunate that they have been managing the clients in terms of COVID cases, they have not seen those numbers now at all over the last two and a half months, she has not had any positive clients at this point in time. A. Vitale stated they are very happy they have been able to service this population in person since July, she welcomes continued referrals and that the group know that they do MAT there as well for suboxone and vivitrol. Discussion ensued.

Easterseals ICMS – J. Litkenhaus stated she put her contact information in the chat if anyone is interested. She stated she is from Easterseals ICMS, they do case management. They are doing in person appointments with their consumers, they go out in the field and meet with them either in their homes or somewhere in the community. They do offer telehealth for those who are high-risk or have some health concerns. All of their staff are either vaccinated or getting regular COVID tests, they are using safety protocols, face masks. If anyone has anyone who might be interested, they are accepting referrals. They have plenty of room in all three of their Counties – Hunterdon, Somerset, and Warren Counties. J. Litkenhaus stated the group is encouraged to reach out directly to her email and she can send them a copy of their referral or if they already have one, they can send it on to her or call their main office and ask for intake for that.

A. Vitale asked would it be possible for folks that have listed their contact numbers in the chat, given that she is not on chat, if that could be included in the minutes. S. Becker responded yes, they will make sure it is included in the minutes. A. Vitale thanked S. Becker.

Posted in the chat – Open for in person and telehealth services. Please feel free to reach out with any referrals jlitkenhaus@nj.easterseals.com or our main office at 732-257-6662.

There being no further business. A motion was made by R. Walker and seconded by A. Vitale. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.