



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
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NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

CELINA LEVY
Acting Executive Director

MINUTES

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

October 21, 2015

Call to Order

The three hundredth and third 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 July and September Minutes

After a brief discussion, the minutes for July and September were approved.

July (Y-8; N-0; ABS-9)

September (Y-8; N-0; ABS-9)

Chairman's Report

Chairman Van Ess welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked everyone for attending and shared that the Volunteer of the Year ceremony held last month went very well.

Mr. Van Ess asked that any members who have previously informed the Council of the need to recuse themselves from voting on a specific FY16 County Plan to please state their name and the reason for recusal.

The following members stated their recusals for the record:

Donna DeStefano – recused from Monmouth due to her agency providing prevention services for local Alliances in Monmouth County;

Susan Neshin – recused from Monmouth due to her agency receiving funding from the county.

Council Business – FY16 County Plan Resolutions

Kevin Sullivan shared with the Council that the Monmouth, Salem and Somerset County Plans had achieved the 75% approval threshold and were now ready to be presented to the Council for consideration. These County Plans were received by GCADA well after the grant deadline.

The Essex County Plan is the one remaining plan that has not been presented to the Council for consideration. That plan, also submitted well after the application deadline, has been reviewed by GCADA staff and has been returned to the county twice so deficiencies can be corrected. Mr. Sullivan also stated that GCADA was in the process of interviewing for a Fiscal Manager and two additional State Alliance Coordinators. These positions will be responsible for conducting site visits within the counties to ensure accountability in the next grant cycle.

After a vote, the following resolutions for funding the FY16 County Plans were approved:

Joint County Plan Resolution (Salem and Somerset) (Y-15; N-0; ABS-2)

Monmouth County Plan Resolution (Y-13; N-0; ABS-2)

Recusals – Donna DeStefano and Susan Neshin

Council Business – Resolutions

Due to the lack of a quorum at the September meeting, GCADA Acting Executive Director Celina Levy read the following resolutions presented at last month's meeting. After a vote, they were approved as follows:

2015 Overdose Awareness Day (Y-15; N-0; ABS-2)

2015 Recovery Month Resolution (Y-15; N-0; ABS-2)

2015 Suicide Awareness Month Resolution – (Y-15; N-0; ABS-2)

Acting Executive Director's Report

Acting Executive Director Celina Levy announced that preparation and training for the Opioid Overdose Prevention Program RFPs and Opioid Overdose Recovery Program RFPs have begun. Ms. Levy will continue to update the Council as these efforts move forward.

Ms. Levy shared that she continues to work with the Adult Suicide Prevention workgroup as well as the Stakeholder's Communications group through the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and that these committees are all connected to the Governor's Facing Addiction Task Force. Ms. Levy stated that the clearinghouse for mental health services continues to develop and she will be reaching out to Council members once the committee begins identifying resources and developing target audience specific content.

Adjournment

Chairman Van Ess adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.