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State of New Jersey
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
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NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman
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MINUTES

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

July 19, 2017

Call to Order

The three hundred and twentieth 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 May and June Minutes

After a brief discussion, the minutes from May and June of 2017 were approved.

May (Y-12; N-0; ABS-3)

June (Y-11; N-0; ABS-4)

Chairman's Report

Chairman Van Ess welcomed everyone to the meeting. He shared that the Master Plan development was still underway. Acting Executive Director Celina Levy and Deputy Director Rebecca Alfaro have been meeting with Council members to discuss their survey responses, therefore it is likely the first meeting of the Master Plan Executive Committee will be held once all these meetings have taken place.

Presentation: "2017 State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grants"

Susan Borys, Assistant Director of the Office of Planning, Research, Evaluation and Preparation of the Department of Human Services gave an overview to the Council of New Jersey's Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grants.

In February of 2017, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services submitted its application to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. The Opioid

Overdose Recovery Program (OORP) aims to address the opioid crisis by increasing access to treatment, reducing unmet treatment need, and reducing opioid overdose related deaths.

Through this program, DMHAS will be able to provide training for primary health and behavioral health care practitioners on the best practices for prescribing opiates and pain management as well as the expanded use of medication assisted treatment. Training on naloxone will also be provided to schools, jails and prisons with kits being distributed.

A new fee-for-service treatment initiative called STORI will also be developed that will include a wide range of levels of care and will use evidence-based practices such as medication assisted treatment.

Currently, the OORP operates in 11 counties with plans to be expanded to the remaining ten counties through the State Targeted Opioid Response Initiative (STORI). It is estimated that STORI will serve 8,671 individuals annually and 17,342 over the two-year project.

International Overdose Awareness Day Resolution

Celina Levy read a resolution designating August 31st as International Overdose Awareness Day. After a vote, the resolution was passed. (Y-15; N-0; ABS-0)

Acting Executive Director's Report

Acting Executive Director shared that Governor Christie has proposed a reorganization for the Department of Health and Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services. She shared that she has been in touch with Anthony Welch, the Director of Policy and Strategic Planning at the Department of Health and that they are seeking input in regard to the reorganization.

Ms. Levy also informed the Council that the DMHAS Suicide Prevention Workgroup will be holding a Suicide Awareness event on September 12th in partnership with the Department of Children and Families.

Ms. Levy called up Deputy Director Rebecca Alfaro who informed the Council that GCADA will be partnering once again with the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey for their Knock Out Opiate Abuse Day event. Alliances will be distributing door hangers to raise awareness on prescription dependency and heroin abuse and physicians will be given booklets on the Center for Disease Control recommendations for safe prescribing of pain medications.

Ms. Levy informed the Council that the Volunteer of the Year nominee forms have gone out to the counties and it is her hope that all 21 counties will submit a nominee this year.

Adjournment

Mr. Van Ess adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.