



CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor
KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

State of New Jersey
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
PO Box 345
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0345

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman
CELINA LEVY
Acting Executive Director

MINUTES

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

October 18, 2017

Call to Order

The three hundred and twenty second regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Public Member and 2nd Vice Chair, 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.

Approval of July and September Minutes

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

July (Y-9; N-0; ABS-6)

September (Y-10; N-0; ABS-5)

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Resolution

Acting Executive Director Celina Levy read a resolution designating the month of September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. After a vote, the resolution was passed. **(Y-14; N-0; ABS-0)**

Recovery Month Resolution

Ms. Levy read a resolution designating the month of September as Recovery Month. After a vote, the resolution was passed. **(Y-14; N-0; ABS-0)**

Presentation: "ALTO: America's Emergency Department Solution to the Opioid Epidemic"

Dr. Mark Rosenberg, Chairman of Emergency Medicine of St Joseph's Regional Medical Center gave an overview of the hospital's Alternative to Opiates (ALTO) Program.

The ALTO Program is the first of its kind in the United States. It was launched in St Joseph's emergency department in early January of 2016 with over 300 patients treated with alternatives to opioids. ALTO uses targeted non-opioid medications, trigger point injections, nitrous oxide and ultrasound guided nerve blocks to tailor patients' pain management needs and avoid opioids whenever possible. Dr. Rosenberg shared that there was a 75% reduction in opioid prescriptions by St. Joseph's emergency department in 2016.

In addition, St. Joseph's has also partnered with Eva's Village Opioid Overdose Recovery Program. A recovery coach is available in the emergency room to coordinate long-term recovery care.

ALTO has received national attention and was recognized by President Obama at the Drug Abuse Summit in Atlanta in 2016.

Acting Executive Director's Report

Acting Executive Director Celina Levy shared that a meeting of the review committee for the Master Plan will likely be scheduled for the end of the year.

Ms. Levy and Ms. Alfaro continue to represent GCADA on a variety of efforts including the Opioid Core Workgroup and Adult Suicide Prevention Advisory Council and they will provide updates as efforts move forward.

GCADA partnered with the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey for their Knock Out Opiate Abuse Day event on October 6th. Six thousand volunteers distributed over 1 million door hangers across the state of New Jersey.

Ms. Levy thanked the Council members for their guidance and support, the County Coordinators and volunteers for their ongoing prevention efforts, GCADA staff for overseeing and supporting GCADA's efforts and also to Donna DeStefano for chairing the meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. DeStefano adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.