



New Jersey Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Citizens Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Date: October 17, 2013

In attendance	Ezra Helfand (chairperson), Kathleen Dennis (co-chairperson), Debbie Risica, Jeff Beck, Father Bill Naughton (by phone), Ana Guerra (by phone), Nasar Mahmoud (by phone), Ellen Taner (by phone), Tonia Ahern (by phone), and Ann Wanamaker (DMHAS)	
AGENDA ITEMS:	Dialogue	Actions / Strategic Decisions
Welcome and Introductions & Approve Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from the September 23, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Jeff Beck moved to approve and Father Bill seconded the motion, and Council members voted to approve. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DMHAS Updated - Ann Wanamaker advised that full roll-out of Vivitrol has not moved forward as yet and therefore pilot program will continue. Ann also noted that NJ SAMS is being upgraded and that Phase I (technical changes) should go live in a few weeks while Phase II (Clinical) changes are being tested and will be implemented later. Finally, Ann advised that the Division has selected a new CAC liaison and the process is going through the state's "hiring system." Final decision should come soon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ann will continue to update the CAC DMHAS asked to develop and provide the CAC with a list of members and their contact information. Ezra requested a copy of Donna DeStafano's daughter application to the CAC and status of same.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPC Report – Ellen Taner advised that the MHPC met October 9th and among the main topics discussed were: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Comment [AW1]: Don, Do you have this application? The group was concerned if this was "lost" again, are other applications missing and we wouldn't know about it?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Traumatic Loss Coalition – implement SAHMSA approved suicide-prevention, evidence based practices to be implemented. ○ Supplemental housing training will possibly be expanded to cover boarding homes. However, Medicaid will still not pay for this. 	
Old Business: Linkage Event Recap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members of the CAC who attended the Linkage Event reported that the event went very well. Last minute attendees helped raise the number in attendance to over 70 – a full house. ● The event created an atmosphere conducive to open discussion by attendees. ● The event provided a validation of the need to increase recovery centers and the expansion of on-campus recovery programs/efforts. There was also a discussion to implement some stand-alone community-based recovery centers that do not have to cost a lot of money to execute. ● One of the primary finding transmitted to the Division: stop focusing on crisis intervention and focus more on managing the prevention-treatment-recovery process. ● Another important finding. To eliminate stigma associated with addiction, attendees requested that any person in the addiction process should be called “people” not patient. ● Ezra asked Jeff to prepare a letter of thanks to the Living Proof Recovery Center on behalf of the CAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ann indicated that all of the white boards collected at the event as well as specific attendee comments were collected by and are held by DMHAS staff. These items are to be transcribed and collected and delivered to the CAC at the November meeting. ● Jeff to transmit letter of thanks for the Center. Ezra to modify (if necessary) and provide to the DMHAS to mail to the Center.
New Business:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It was agreed that at the next CAC monthly meeting (scheduled for November 21st), the following topics will be covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An update from Ann Wanamaker on the CAC (H.E.L.P) web portal ○ Discussion of CAC 2013 – 2014 strategic opportunities ○ Discussion on a possible 2014 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ezra to coordinate with DMHAS and Kathleen Dennis to finalize an agenda for the November meeting.

	<p>Linkage Event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New member orientation ○ Potential for presentation at next DMHAS Quarterly provider meeting in December 	
Adjournment and Next Meeting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am. ● Next meeting scheduled for November 21, 2013. 	