



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

PO BOX 345

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0345

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

JOHN L. HULICK, MS, CPS
Executive Director

MINUTES

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse March 19, 2013

Call to Order

The two hundred seventy eighth regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Gregg Benson. Mr. Benson was serving as chairman pro tempore in the absence of Acting Chairman Neil Van Ess.

Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Mr. Benson 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. Gregg Benson informed the Council that this meeting would be held for informational purposes only due to lack of a quorum.

Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey

Donald Weinbaum, Executive Director of the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, gave a presentation to the members on the work of the Council. March 3 through March 9, 2013 has been established National Problem Gambling Awareness Week, and March 2013 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in New Jersey. The goals of this campaign are to educate the public and reduce the stigma of problem gambling. The Council on Compulsive Gambling of NJ is working to expand its network of agencies that are involved in problem gambling so that help is more readily available. At the present time, the Council is working with approximately 40 agencies and departments throughout the State to raise awareness to problem gambling.

Mr. Weinbaum stated that the Council on Compulsive Gambling looks forward to working more closely with the Governor's Council on closing gaps in treatment and expanding services that are available. At the request of Gregg Benson, Mr. Weinbaum will forward a list of all participating treatment programs to the Governor's Council.

Municipal Alliance Training Update

Rebecca Alfaro shared with Council members that the first phase of the needs assessment trainings is nearly complete and the trainings have received positive feedback. Ninety-eight percent of Alliances that are active in the current grant cycle registered for the training, and 90% of these Alliances attended one of the trainings. An additional training session has been scheduled on Saturday, April 13th at the Marriott in Trenton, for those that were not able to attend one of the four trainings due to inclement weather or a scheduling conflict.

Lacey Township Municipal Alliance Presentation

Lacey Township Municipal Alliance coordinator, Heather Scanlon, presented to the Council an overview of the work of her Alliance.

The Lacey Township Alliance was established in 1990 and consists of approximately 40 members. One of Lacey Alliance's signature events was their Red Ribbon Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week. Members of the community collaborated in this effort and it was a huge success. Parents and children throughout the community attended and members of the Alliance are discussing holding another event like this in the future.

The Alliance is also involved in senior and intergenerational programs. Nine luncheons are held for seniors throughout the year. During these lunches, topics such as prescription drug abuse are discussed.

Ms. Scanlon also mentioned that the Lacey Alliance is one of three municipalities that is participating in a Prescription Drop Box program. Lacey Township was also successful in creating a private property ordinance that prohibits underage drinking parties in the community.

Several Council members congratulated Ms. Scanlon and the Lacey Township Alliance on their accomplishments and effectiveness in bringing the substance abuse prevention message to their community.

Adjournment

Gregg Benson adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.