



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

CELINA LEVY
Executive Director

MINUTES

Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder

June 18, 2024

Attendance: Neil Van Ess (Chairman), Celina Levy (Executive Director), John Armato (Public Member), Gregg Benson (Public Member), Eileen Fishman (Public Member), Sweta Kansagra (Public Member), Cornell Williamson (AOC), Jeff Carrick (DCF), Michelle Graham-Lyons (DCA) Herb Kaldany (DOC), Lu Pereira (DOE), Jessica Atkinson (DOH), Valerie Mielke (DHS), Rebecca Glinn (DOL), Tiffany Wilson (LPS), Noelle-Lee Turner (DMAVA)

Call to Order

The three hundred and eighty-third regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder 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). In addition, Mr. Van Ess stated that public comments were to be provided electronically, through the GCSUD website contact portal between the hours of 10am and 1pm on the day of the meeting.

Roll Call

Katelyn Assenheimer called the roll. Members present and absent were noted for the record.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Van Ess welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Council members for attaining quorum to vote on the FY25 County Plan resolutions.

Approval of Minutes

After a brief discussion, the minutes for March, April and May were approved.

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

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

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

Awareness Month Resolutions

Executive Director Celina Levy read resolutions recognizing April as Alcohol Awareness Month and May as Mental Health Awareness Month in New Jersey. The Council members agreed to bundle these resolutions and after a vote, the resolutions were approved. **(Y-15; N-0; ABS-0)**

FY25 County Plan Resolutions

Director of Prevention and Planning, Sara Thode explained to the Council that the FY25 Plans were reviewed by the Council Review Team and voted to present the County Alliance Plans to the Council for approval.

Executive Director Celina Levy gave an overview of the process. The following Council members informed GCSUD of the need to recuse themselves from voting on the FY25 County Plan Resolutions:

John Armato – Atlantic County
Gregg Benson – Morris County
Eileen Fishman – Essex County
Gisele Pemberton – Union County

After a vote, the plans were approved:

- **FY25 Joint County Plan Resolution (Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Passaic, Salem, Somerset, Sussex, Warren) (Y-14; N-0; ABS-1)**
- **FY25 Atlantic County Plan Resolution (Y-12; N-0; ABS-3)**
- **FY25 Essex County Plan Resolution (Y-13; N-0; ABS-2)**
- **FY25 Morris County Plan Resolution (Y-13; N-0; ABS-2)**
- **FY25 Union County Plan Resolution (Y-14; N-0; ABS-1)**

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Celina Levy thanked everyone for attaining quorum to vote on the FY25 County Plan resolutions. She also thanked the County Coordinators for their good work and the County

Alcohol and Drug Use Directors for their support. She took a moment to recognize the GCSUD Alliance staff for overseeing and guiding the process.

The next Master Plan committee has been providing feedback on the most recent draft and GCSUD will be reaching out to department designees soon for information about their respective programs.

Adjournment

Mr. Van Ess adjourned the meeting at 10:42.