



Disabilities Services Committee
Luciano Conference Center
October 22, 2019

Minutes

A meeting of the Cumberland/Salem/Cape Disabilities Services Committee was held on **Tuesday, October 22, 2019** at 11 a.m. in the Luciano Conference Center.

ATTENDANCE: Katie Czajkowski, Norma Cordeiro, Mike Pavesi, Marikay Green, Betsy Reed, Anne Garrison, Tammy Wilkerson, Pam Comerford, Michael Barnes, Dave Grennon

PUBLIC: None

STAFF: Allison Spinelli, Ginger Supernavage, Cindy Angelo

HANDOUTS: Cumberland County Caregiver Conference 2019, Amid A Caregiver Shortage, People with Disabilities are Filling the Gap in DC

I. **Welcome and Opening Remarks** **Approval of Minutes**

Allison Spinelli opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees. The meeting began at 11:10 a.m. Introductions were made around the room. Alli read the Open Public Meeting Act and requested a motion to approve the minutes from July 2019. Motion made by Anne Garrison. Seconded by Tammy Wilkerson. All in favor, motion approved.

Allison introduced Cindy Angelo to the group. Cindy was hired as the One Stop Manger and works for the Cumberland Empowerment Zone who holds the contract for that position. Her first task was to re-instate the Partners' meetings. Cumberland and Salem meetings have already occurred. Cape May's meeting will be on Thursday. Her next task will be to meet with agencies who are on the MOU to see what they do and to update information. The current MOU even though unsigned by DOL will be done at the end of 2020. The certification of One Stop facilities will include a 90-page ADA checklist. Cumberland's and Cape May's buildings are new construction. Salem's may be a problem. Currently they are in 2 locations. They don't have an existing facility big enough for them. Cindy commented if any Disabilities Committee member would like to be included in the Partners' meeting, please let her know.

II. **NJDOLWD Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services** ○ **Cumberland/Salem**

Katie reported the fiscal year closed on September 30th. 119 have been served. We celebrated 100 year anniversary of DVRS last Friday in East Brunswick. We are still short-staffed. We are looking for a bilingual counselor.

- **Cape May**

Norma reported there is a new agency director, Karen Carroll. She spoke a about her background. Master's Degree requirement may be waived by state director. We are fully staff but could use more referrals. A three-month referral project began on 7/1 to increase referrals. A counselor attended drug court and got 35 referrals. We feel like there are people we are not reaching. One target population is OSY. Will talk to Mike at Atlantic County Special Services.

III. Cumberland/Salem Offices of the Disabled – Director Reports

- **Cumberland**

Dave reported there will be a Caregiver's Conference in November 2019 (Flyer was distributed to group.) Disability Awareness Day was held on 10/19 with 75 in attendance. There are two Personal Care Programs. Individuals with disabilities can make a certain amount without losing benefits. If you have suggestions on other agencies to attend this meeting, please let Dave know.

- **Salem**

Marikay reported Disability Awareness Day was held in Pennsville on October 10th. 172 People attended and there were 20-22 agencies involved. Disability Shadowing Day will be held on 10/23. Fourteen from ARC will be spending the day with different county departments.

- **Cape May**

Not in attendance. Tammy told the group Jersey Cape's Disability Awareness Day was being held tonight.

IV. Other Reports

Mike Barnes from Atlantic Cape Community College spoke about the Community College Opportunity Grant. Those with incomes from \$0 to \$65,000 can have access to free community college. Partnered with FACES Autism Support Network to hold family game nights. Pizza and games are provided for families with those on the spectrum. The next game night will be held on November 18th from 6:00 to 7:30 at the Cape May Campus. Mike Pavesi from Atlantic County Special Services spoke about a program at Daretown School for students with behavioral issues. Looking to get community resources to get training for this population. Can any providers help?

V. Old/New Business

No old or new business to report

VI. Adjournment

Dave requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Tammy Wilkerson, Second Mike Pavesi. All in favor, meeting adjourned. The meeting ended at 11:50 a.m.