

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT / DISABILITY / LITERACY NEEDS
May 23, 2019

Members Present

Tom Bianco, Co-Chair
Amy Busch, Mosaic Family Success Center
Jim Sinclair, Div. Social Services
Calvin McFarland, GC Human & Disability Svcs.
Wanda Rogers, DWD
Stacey Smith, DVRS
Karen Spieker, The Arc Gloucester
Christina Velazquez, GC Planning
Bridget DiGiambattista, WDB Staff

Kasmire Blazie, NJLWD
Lorrie Covolessky, Abilities Solutions
Quincy Lee, NJLWD
Kimberly Quigley, St. John of God
Theresa Rohlfing, Ctr. For Independent Living
Heather Faulkner, GC Housing Authority
Krista Lope, DVRS
John Zukauskas, NewPoint Behavioral

Members Absent

Dr. W. King, Chair
Tom Brown, MASCEC
Dennis Cook, RCGC
Matt Ford, Literacy NJ
Stephen Goodman, Volunteers of America
Angela Lucas, HireAbility
Christopher McKelvey, NJLWD
Scott Raynor, Elwyn NJ
Brigitte Satchell, RCGC
Denise Taguwa, NJLWD
Michelle Yeager, Woodbury Public Library

Mark Boyd, Goodwill Industries
Euletta Campbell, Nat'l Coalition 100 Black Women
Glen Donelson, MASCEC
Rev. A. Frazier, FBO
Saranda Karpuzi, Literacy NJ
Jennifer Mauro, Goodwill Industries
Crystal Noba, Ctr. for People in Transition
Gina Ridge, Center for Family Services
Jeffrey Shisler, Goodwill Industries
Kristen Wilson, Ctr. for People in Transition

Tom opened the meeting at 8:30 am.

A motion to approve March 28, 2019 minutes was made by W. Love, seconded by Q. Lee.

Status

WLL – Kasmire reported 22 new enrolled students; 14 attending learning link; 15 completions; 0 moved into training; 5 moved into employment; & 6 referred to RCGC for HSE.

Agency Updates

Ability Solutions – Lorrie announced Abilities Solutions received a youth paid summer internship through DVRS grant. It is for 25 students still in school with an IEP between ages 14-21 and will run July 8 – August 16. They will be paid minimum wage, which will be \$10.00 starting July 1, 2019. They have 5 seniors graduating from the regular school year program on June 7 at RiverWinds. The next Vetability luncheon will be June 13 at Westville VFW. They have no waitlist at this time for services.

DVRS – Stacey reported referrals have increased, they had 101 referrals last month and opened 66 new applications. Jennifer V. reported 29 individuals with disabilities that were working for CTDI were recently given pink slips due to the tariff.

St. John of God – Kimberly reported they are looking to hire 6 CNA's for their day habilitation program and also looking to hire CDL drivers (passenger endorsement), this is for a part-time, split shift for \$20.50 per hour. They have no waitlist for services.

Ctr. For Independent Living – Theresa reported the Center will be hosting the next business card exchange on June 26, 8:00 am. Wawa has been donating frozen food to the Center on a daily basis and she invited other present agencies to send any clients that may have a need. Theresa mentioned if anyone has clients that may have a question about transportation by Access Link to call her as she'd be happy to help.

Glassboro Family Success Ctr. – Amy reported they have many summer programs offered for children & families. They will no longer offer GED classes due to lack of volunteers and ESL classes will only be offered 1 day a week. The Kid Zone will be offered every other Wednesday during the summer.

NewPoint Behavioral – John announced they will be merging with Cape Counseling and Robin's Nest, they are waiting on State approval.

GC Human & Disability Svcs. - Calvin reported the NJ Dept. of Human Services has proposed a change in EA policy, on 4/24 the State proposed insurance services for those in need repealing the causing of homelessness standard.

CDBG – Christina reported an RFP-19-43 for public services funding (\$178,000) is available on the County website, the deadline for submission is May 31, 2019.

The Arc Gloucester – Karen reported they are moving individuals from achievement centers to employment. They will be hiring job coaches. They recently had a new home open – East House. Camp Sun N Fun summer camp has a waitlist.
Vouchers for housing

Div. Social Services – No report.

GC Housing – Heather reported they have opened the Section 8 waitlist and mainstream only program. The mainstream only program is for individuals that are homeless as well as institutionalized. Camp Salute project-based vouchers are always open; veterans only vouchers are always open. Vouchers for housing are available and are ready for pick up.

Transportation

Tom reported Pureland East-West Shuttle this month had the 2nd highest amount of total ridership. Saturday services have stopped due to lack of ridership.

Ex-Offenders / Re-Entry

Probation – Quincy reported they had 8 clients scheduled for probation class, only 3 attended.

Wanda reported she attended a Gloucester County mental health disaster preparedness for suicide prevention workshop which she found very informative based on the range of population that we serve.

The Disability Employment Job Fair will be held on Friday, July 26, 2019, 9am-12pm at the Clayton Complex.

The next meeting will be held on July 25, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff