



**BARNSTABLE COUNTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
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## MEETING MINUTES

### BARNSTABLE COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

9:00am-10:30am

Harborview Room, Barnstable County Complex

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**Representatives Present:** Beth Albert, Kathi Bailey, Kim Concra, Cheryl Crowell, Dan Gray, Suzanne Hauptmann, Melissa Maguire, Patricia Mitrokostas, Kristine Monteiro, Ray Yox, Sean O'Brien, Paul Thompson

**Members of the Public:** Emily Simmons, United Way, Deborah Battles, HRAC

**Barnstable County Staff:** Martha Taylor, Kim Slade, Dan Gray, Vaira Harik, Maria Silva

**Guests:**

**Unable to attend:** Caronanne Procaccini, Ellen McDonough, Staci Peugh

**Elected Officials:** 0 **Assembly of Delegates:** 0 **County Commissioners:** 0

- **Welcome/Introductions** – Meeting began at 9:05am and everyone introduced themselves.
  
- **Business**
  - Minutes July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Beth Albert, Chair asked for motion to approve the Minutes, Dan Gray made the first motion and Kim Concra seconded. All in favor, no opposed.
  - Report from the Human Rights Advisory Council Nominating Committee (HRAC) – Beth Albert announced that Deb Battles was hired as a County employee to be the Coordinator for the HRAC. A special thank you to HHSAC members Cheryl Crowell and Bev Costa Ciavola for their participation on the nominating committee for the HRAC. Beth also acknowledged Deb for her dedication and swift action in working with the reorganization of this council.
  
- **Department Updates**
  - **Children's Behavioral Health Workgroup** – Beth Albert discussed the Children's Behavioral Health Workgroup which convened in March of 2019 with Eileen Alias, Former Commissioner of Mental Health and who is also a foster parent. Beth and Eileen met with the Behavioral Health Provider Coalition and pulled together a short-term workgroup with advocates, schools, providers, pediatricians, primary care physicians and a variety of others. The purpose of the work group is to enhance the children's behavioral health system on Cape Cod. This group is working closely with Senator Cyr's office and in turn helping inform the legislation in addressing

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#### ***Creating a Healthy Connected Cape Cod***

*The Mission of the Department of Human Services is to plan, develop, and implement programs which enhance the overall delivery of human services in Barnstable County and promote the health and social well-being of County residents through regional efforts that improve coordination of services.*

gaps in the children's behavioral health system. The working group is currently developing recommendations for action.

- **HOME** – The HOME Consolidated Plan process is underway. The Con Plan is completed every five years and is a requirement for any region in order to receive funding from HUD. The County has hired a consultant to assist in completing the Plan by May 2020.
- **Substance Use - Vaping Toolkit** – Kim Slade gave a presentation on the Vaping Toolkit which contains general information, school policies, information for parents on how to speak with their kids, and tips for youth on the negative impacts of vaping on the youth brain and body. Kim has made presentations to schools, bus drivers and other places on Cape and this toolkit will be spread to other communities. The Toolkit can be found online at [www.mychoicematters.net](http://www.mychoicematters.net). Vaira Harik reminded the HHSAC that there is also an Employer Toolkit which is also available on [www.mychoicematters.net](http://www.mychoicematters.net).
- **Healthy Aging Cape Cod - Age-Friendly Assessment** –The attached Healthy Aging flyer synthesizes the work and purpose of the project. This project is funded by Tufts Health Plan Foundation to conduct a regional and town baseline assessment. The assessments include dementia friendly and age friendly components, the project is expected to wrap up in June of this year.
- **Point in Time Homeless Count** – Dan Gray announced that the scheduled Point in Time (PIT) count is on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The PIT is required annually by HUD. Dan announced that the FY 19 CoC Application was submitted at the end of September for approximately \$1.9 million in HUD funding for 145 units of permanent supportive housing
- **SHINE** – Beth Albert mentioned that 'Open Enrollment' period for Medicare is taking place now until December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- **Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Grant** – Dan Gray explained that this EOHHS grant started on January 1, 2019 and is being administered by the Department. The Department has partnered with five different agencies on the Cape and Islands to provide services and supports to unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults (YYA). The grant provides flexible funds for eligible YYA for things such as phones, minutes, clothing, Uber and other forms of transportation and for winter response planning. Duffy is spearheading the winter response effort here on the Cape, Fairwinds will do it on Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard Community Services, (MVCS) is doing the same on Martha's Vineyard. The legislature for the state has recognized the data and significance for this youth homelessness. The link for the Youth and Young Adult (YYA) Needs Assessment is on our website.
- Dan also mentioned that Martha Taylor has completed a Racial Disparities Analysis which was required for our CoC application, the analysis is at [www.bchumanservices.net](http://www.bchumanservices.net)
- **Census 2020** – Vaira Harik – handouts attached for more information.

#### ➤ **Representative Updates**

- **Deb Battles:** Deferred to Paul Thompson.
- **Kristine Monteiro** – Children's Cove, a children's advocacy center on Cape Cod and the Islands. They work closely with the D.A.'s office, Police Departments, and respond to various children's abuse issues. They attended a "Champions for Children Conference" last week which had various presenters who provided a multitude of training to the community regarding children's advocacy.
- **Kathi Bailey** – Cape Cod Healthcare Community Benefits – working on deepening community engagement with a survey participation.

- **Sean O'Brien** – Barnstable County Health Department – The Tobacco agency has been busy with the vaping ban. Truro was the smallest town w only 3 banned vaping licenses and Barnstable was largest with 75 licenses banned. The Hoarding Task Force started a 'Buried New Treasures' Program. With winter coming we are starting to prepare the shelters. Our goal is to replace all cots in shelters with medical cots and having a supply of oxygen and respirators. Cape Cod Healthcare is providing Nurses and nursing support in 3 of 6 regional shelters on Cape Cod.
  - **Diane Ofria** – Behavioral Health Provider Coalition – 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Coalition at Cape Codder focusing on adverse childhood experiences. Panels and local services presented and addressing traumas in the community.
  - **Paul Thompson** – Human Rights Advisory Council, (HRAC) – The Council is getting ready for a human rights breakfast and the Human Rights Academy for staff, parents and kids in school where they will design projects and come back to present in December. Kate Epperly is working with others in the Town of Barnstable to create a "No Place for Hate" committee.
  - **Suzie Hauptmann** – Falmouth – Falmouth has a "No place for hate" group as well. New Senior Center due to open in January. January is the next round of RFP for Human Services funds in town of Falmouth.
  - **Patty Mitrokostas** – Gosnold – acknowledged Kim Slade for all her work on vaping. Saturday is 'Cape drug take back day' at all police departments. Recovery programs in ERs very successful. Overdose intervention program continues. 'Take back day' will accept vaping cartridges and accessories as well added by Kim Slade.
  - **Ray Yox** – Southcoast legal services – Announced Southcoast's new lawyer Michelle Heep and Immigration Advocate Karen Guinn.
  - **Melissa Maguire** – Cape & Island Suicide Prevention – they shifting to restorative practices for students who are caught with drug paraphernalia and doing more education instead of punishment. This is their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of partnership with Children's Cove.
  - **Cheryl Crowell** – Cape and Islands Domestic Council – 'handle w care model' being brought to the Police Department and schools. Independence House is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> year.
- **New Business** – Business Not Anticipated by Chair
- **Adjournment** - Beth Albert asked for motion to adjourn at 11:02am. Dan Gray made the first motion with Suzie Hauptman seconding. All in favor, no opposed.

**Respectfully submitted by** Maria Silva, Human Services

