

Town of East Haven, CT
East Haven Counseling & Community Services Commission
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.
595 Thompson Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512

The East Haven Counseling & Community Services held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 7:00 P.M., at 595 Thompson Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512.

Meeting Called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Roll Call

C.C.S. Chairman, Mr. Matt Abbott, Ms. Sandra Enders, Ms. Samantha Batson, Ms. Marianne Cesare – all present. Mr. Juan Montalvo – Absent. Also in attendance was Ms. Beth Trotta, LCSW, BH Care Director

2. To consider and approve minutes from January 28, 2013 meeting.

Marianne Cesare made a motion. Samantha Batson seconded.

3. Ms. Beth Trotta, Program Manager to update commission on current clinic situation.

Ms. Beth Trotta reviews the Monthly data from her January report for 2014. (See Attached Report). Active case load is currently at 199 clients. In-Kind services provided this month for the Department of Education were at 9 hours. In-Kind services consisted of PPT's and 504 meetings, and there were phone consultations as well as in person consultations. Marianne Cesare asks if she (Ms. Trotta) is finding the response from the Board of Education helpful. Ms. Trotta states that she does not know about the Board of Education, but the social workers they refer and because of the

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updated policy are able to get back the school in a relatively short amount of time. Several times the parent does not call back so we have to get in touch with the school to let them know and ask if they can help get in touch with the parent so we can finish this referral, sometimes that works and sometimes it does not. Our child caseload is growing and we have one clinician who mostly focuses on children, three who can but one who's is primarily children. We have a nice balance between the schools and the center. We are now getting ready to branch out into families with special (FWSN) needs and children who are truant and before they are actually sent to the juvenile system they will make a referral to us and we will provide 3 sessions to the client and do an assessment and evaluation and present it to the school. The second thing is that I have been recently going to the juvenile review board and that is for children who have committed a crime or admitted they have committed a crime and that they are willing to go before the board as a consequence to the crime instead of going to jail. This is run through youth services. There is a representative from every school, probation; and Bob Petrucelli and I are there as well as a detective. Part of that system will eventually be children referred here. One of the challenges with the child cases is that there is a lot more non-billable time associated to that. Marianne Cesare asks what her budget looks like. Ms. Trotta stated that we came in at 2% over when we were asked to cut by 3%. Matt Abbott re-explains last meeting's conversation regarding the mandatory billing system that will be needed otherwise there will be a percentage charged to the center which contributed to the 2% overage.

4. Commission Comments.

None

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5. Public Comment.

Mr. Peter Cianelli - 310 Short Beach Road, East Haven. We are seeing such an influx of new people for example we were serving roughly 300 families a year ago. We are now up to 450 families a month, what is the strain on your department verses last year are you seeing an influx in services that people or asking for? Ms. Trotta states that she is seeing a lot of people that their situations are complicated by the lack of finances. For example we may have been seeing someone who had depression. Now they not only have depressions, “and” their homeless, “and” they have no way of getting around, so I think a lot of it is the worsening of economy. Mr. Cianelli states we are seeing the demand being so huge this year for help and if you are feeling the strain of that this is what you need to push to the Board of Finance, we all want to keep taxes down but I don’t know what we are going to do with the pantry, we still have money coming in but it’s so demanding for the volunteers right now. Ms. Marianne Cesare asks how many volunteers do you have? Ms. Cianelli states we are up to 40 volunteers. Ms. Samantha asks are you a diaper bank too? Mr. Cianelli states no we give all our diapers and all the baby stuff to the New Haven program. Mr. Cianelli states he was just curious to see if EHCCS had noticed an influx for services.

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6. Discuss and approve any other matters that may come before the commission.

None

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7. Adjournment.

Ms. Marianne Cesare made a motion to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. , Ms. Sandra Enders seconded. All in Favor.

EHCC COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE USUALLY ON THE 4th TUESDAY OF THE MONTH. NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR : March 25, 2014

Temple Smith

East Haven Counseling & Community Services Commission Clerk