

**Southeastern Connecticut
Regional Human Services Coordinating Council**

*A steering committee of the
Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments*

Draft Minutes

**Friday, October 16, 2020
8:30 AM**

Conducted via Zoom

Attendees: Gino DeMaio, Joan Wessell, Stephanie Guess, Leanne Theodore, Nancy Bulkeley, Deb Monahan, Kathleen Stauffer, Mary DeMarco, Lee-Ann Gomes, Dina Sears-Graves, Ron McDaniel, Jennifer O'Brien, Michael Van, Sheila Turbes, Natalie Martinez, Jennifer Granger, Kevin Lyden, Sydney Phelps, Jim Butler, Amanda Kennedy, Carly Holzschuh.

1. Call to Order

Ms. Monahan called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Shared Services Survey Results

Ms. Kennedy reported on the results of the shared services survey. General discussion indicated a lot of support for board recruitment, as non-profit boards are often not representative of the population being served, and some board members are serving on multiple boards. New board members often need a lot of onboarding and education. There is interest in a coordinated strategy and database of contacts, creating a "brain trust" for outreach for broad recruitment efforts. It was noted that moving to virtual meetings has increased attendance, as travel time had formerly been a barrier. There was discussion of holding a follow-up conversation on board recruitment with a subset of interested participants.

4. Regional Long-Term Recovery

Mr. Butler and Ms. Monahan discussed the formation of the Regional Long-Term Recovery Task Force. Ms. Monahan shared that TVCCA is in charge of resources for those in quarantine – housing, getting groceries, prescriptions, etc. Some short-term temporary housing has been at hotels.

5. 2020/2021 Legislative Activity

Ms. Stauffer reported on legislative issues such as methadone treatment, revenue retention, expanding telemedicine, and a deficit mitigation plan. Many legislative activities may need to wait until after the election. Legislative issues will be discussed at the next meeting, currently scheduled for January 15th.

6. COVID Roundtable Discussion

UCFS is increasing community-based testing as we are now seeing a surge in cases. Schools are going virtual, which allows the empty buildings to be used for testing. Other concerns are job loss, food insecurity, rent payment, and the potential to lose the Affordable Care Act. Ms. Monahan reported that a lot of providers are experiencing pandemic fatigue, but this crisis is going to be for the long haul.

7. New Business

No new business.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.