

Behavioral Health Stakeholders' Consortium and Acute Care System Task Force Monthly Report

February 19, 2010

Acute Care System Task Force (ACSTF)

The last meeting was held September 23

- Representatives from the Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF) at First Step, Bayside Center at Sarasota Memorial Hospital (SMH), the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) at Coastal Behavioral Healthcare (CBH), Englewood Community Hospital (ECH), and Venice Regional Medical Center (VRMC) were at the meeting to represent the acute care facilities.
- There were 95 admissions to the ARF in July and 90 in August. These numbers are higher than normal.
 - The average wait time for law enforcement dropping off Marchman Act detainees has been five minutes.
 - See the detailed ARF report on page two and three of this report.
- The CSU reported that in July, 25% of the total adult admissions were initiated by a Baker Act (involuntary) and in August, 48%.
 - The children's unit Baker Act admissions were 32% of the total admissions in July and 84% in August.
 - There were 25 total admissions to the Children's CSU in July and 32 in August which is higher than unusual.
 - There were 7 admissions to the Juvenile Addictions Receiving Facility (JARF) in July and 13 in August. See the detailed CSU report on page four of this report.
 - The Short Term Residential Treatment (SRT) Program Liaison reported:
 - 14 people have been referred to the SRT to date—57% from Bayside and 43% from CBH
 - 5 people are presently at the SRT
 - The average length of stay has been 37 days.
 - 4 people were discharged and are now part of the FACT Team
 - 1 person was discharged to a group home
 - 2 persons were discharged to a family member
 - 1 person was discharged to another program
- SMH reported that the average daily census at the Bayside Center for August was below 28 people, although admissions have risen dramatically as of September 23.
 - In August, the Secure Emergency Care Unit (SECU) in the Emergency Care Center (ECC) in Sarasota was below the year-to-date average daily census of 2.59 and people moved through the system effectively.
 - The free standing ECC on Toledo Blade Boulevard in North Port opened September 1 to a brisk business.
 - There is a two-bed SECU at the North Port ECC as well which allowed for the secure care of 16 people under a Baker Act and 2 people under a Marchman Act, from September 1-23, as they awaited placement.
 - The representative from the North Port Police Department indicated that his officers have been instructed to transport all people under a Baker Act to the North Port ECC.
 - It was explained that only persons needing medical attention needed to be transported to the ECC—that the North Port ECC is not a designated Baker Act Receiving Facility.

- Ken Alexander, the Executive Director at Bayside, scheduled a meeting with the Medical Director of SMH, the Director of the Sarasota ECC, CBH, the two Baker Act receiving facilities in Charlotte County, law enforcement, Ambitrans, DCF, and Sarasota County staff to discuss how the North Port ECC fits in to the established system and procedures.
- ECH reported that ECC admissions are slowly increasing as are Baker Act admissions to the ECC.
- VRMC reported that since utilizing ECC technicians to ensure security for people under a Baker Act or Marchman Act in the ECC, there have not been any elopements.
- A representative from the Sarasota Sheriff's Office indicated that deputies are still getting tied up when transporting people under a Marchman Act or Baker Act that need a medical assessment before being accepted at either the Marchman Act Receiving facility or Baker Act Receiving facility.
 - Wayne Applebee, the Criminal Justice Policy Coordinator, recommended determining the scope of this problem by tracking the incidences to better address the specific issues.
 - It was also pointed out that law enforcement is not required to stay with a person at an ECC while they are being medically assessed. Ambitrans, the County funded transportation provider, needs to be called to transport when a person has been medically cleared to be transferred to the proper facility.
 - Wayne and Pam Meunier, the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy Coordinator, will gather data to determine what changes might need to be made to the system.
- At the July 21 meeting the Department of Children and Families (DCF) announced that with the passage of SB 456, which addresses the transportation of persons (under a Baker Act) by law enforcement to receiving facilities for involuntary examinations, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is now required between each law enforcement agency and the receiving facilities.
 - Prior to the passage of this law there has been an understanding without the formality of an MOU for law enforcement to transport to the nearest receiving facility.
 - This generated a discussion around the advantages and disadvantages of a Transportation Exception Plan (TEP) for adults, similar to the TEP for children that was developed several years ago in Sarasota County. A TEP would take the place of an MOU.
 - Although the affected agencies/facilities have been meeting to discuss the implications of this law it is the intention of DCF that whether MOUs are developed or a TEP that it be a community process with input from law enforcement, the receiving facilities, and any other stakeholders. No one agency needs to be working on this requirement in isolation.
 - An MOU/TEP Committee was identified at the meeting.

Community Alternative Residential Treatment (CART) Initiative

- Phase 1-The Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF)
 - Admissions
 - As of January 31 there have been 3,156 total involuntary admissions—total admissions for January —81
 - 1,059 (34%) involuntary admissions resulted from Protective Custody Orders initiated by local law enforcement officers—total admissions for January —17
 - 545 were initiated by the SPD
 - 345 were initiated by the SSO
 - 138 were initiated by the VPD
 - 29 were initiated by the NPPD
 - 1 was initiated by the New College Police Dept.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Committee

- Fifteen CIT classes have been completed to date with a total of 380 persons trained. The majority of trainees are law enforcement officers although a number of corrections officers and call center staff have been trained as well.
- The next 40-hour CIT Class will be held April 12-16 at the Criminal Justice Academy at the Sarasota County Technical Institute (SCTI), at 4748 Beneva Rd., Sarasota.
- The next Florida CIT Coalition meeting is scheduled for March 5 at 10:00 a.m. at Lakeside Behavioral Healthcare, 1800 Mercy Drive, Orlando.

Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) Report

- Adult Crisis Unit— January
 - 114 total admissions
 - 53 Baker Act admissions—46% of total admissions
 - Average length of stay—5 days
 - 0 persons are waiting for Short Term Residential (SRT) placement
 - 0 persons are waiting for state hospital placement
 - 0 persons were placed at the SRT or state hospital
- Children's Crisis Unit— January
 - 24 total admissions
 - 4 Baker Act admissions—17% of total admissions
 - Average length of stay—6 days
 - Juvenile Addictions Receiving Facility (JARF) shared beds on the Children's Unit
 - 7 admissions
 - Average length of stay—4 days

Criminal Justice Update

- Court administration received a \$50,000 grant from the Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice to implement a Court Assisting Veterans (CAV) Program in the Twelfth Circuit (Sarasota, Manatee, and Desoto Counties).
 - The program will identify veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom at an early stage as they enter the criminal justice system.
 - The goal is to allow the court to intervene with these veterans post-arrest and provide a diversion alternative which provides mental health and substance abuse treatment, housing, and medical and employment services available through local agencies and the Veteran's Administration.
 - An implementation meeting was held on February 18 in Manatee County.
- The Sheriff and representatives from his staff and Sarasota County staff met with Manatee County officials this month to review the implementation of its Sentenced Defendants Work Crew Program.
 - This program would provide a sentencing alternative for the court in certain low-level offenses where a sanction other than jail is appropriate and has better outcomes for the community and the offender.
 - Sheriff Knight is finalizing the details and searching for a funding source to implement this program.
- "*Community Conversations*" will be scheduled over the spring and summer in order to have a dialogue with the community about best practices for reducing recidivism and increasing public safety as well as the concept of a Community Corrections Center.

- A second tour of the Washington County Community Corrections Center occurred February 3-5. The tour was coordinated with Lee County officials who, like Sarasota County, are developing a community corrections center model. Sarasota County participants included representatives from the Court, the Public Defender's Office, the Sheriff's Office, County staff and substance abuse treatment providers.
 - Representatives will discuss their trip at the Criminal Justice Commission meeting on February 22.

Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health

The Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health continues to strengthen the collaboration among agencies, programs, and families to support the mental health and well-being of young children and families. In the past few weeks, the Partnership has:

- Established a shared client data system through Sarasota County's IDEAS program called Tapestry. Jon McKenzie and Sherl Craft created the data system to centralize care coordination and family support information to improve continuity of care and program evaluation. The data system will initially be used by the five community agencies providing care coordination and parent support for the Partnership.
- Launched *The Observer and the Observed* collaborative project with the Sarasota Arts Center, seventeen artists, and four families to expand understanding and acceptance of cultures and mental health challenges.
- Continued the Chances for Children Infant Mental Health clinician training and therapy model supporting young parents and their babies in school and community settings.
- Shared evaluation data indicating that younger children with behavioral difficulties are more likely to show improvements in response to interventions than children whose difficulties are recognized and addressed in early elementary years.
- Participated in the Newborn Baby Bag project which provides educational materials to 3,000 new mothers who give birth at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.
- Began the collaborative work to establish a community early childhood website to link families with early childhood information, resources and activities.
- Welcomed Melinda Lloyd to the team as Family Involvement Coordinator. Melinda will collaborate with the Sarasota Family Support Network and other parenting education and support programs to enhance parent education, family support and advocacy/leadership training.

During the next few months, the Partnership will be hosting a number of important professional and community education opportunities, including:

- Cultural and Linguistic Competency
- Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Speaker Event
- National Wraparound Initiative Web-based Training
- Positive Solutions for Families Train-the-Trainer Workshops

The work groups are alive with activity and energy—please consider joining a team to help us achieve our goals! For more information, contact Cheri Boland at 861-1410 or Cheryl.boland@doh.state.fl.us

Behavioral Health Stakeholders' Consortium (BHSC)

The last meeting was held January 15

- Marcia Monroe, with Central Florida Behavioral Health Network, gave a more in depth explanation to the group about the need for a co-occurring action plan to address the community's co-occurring capability (the ability to provide services or refer people who have both mental health and substance abuse issues)—“no door is the wrong door.” She indicated that this is being driven statewide and most counties are either working on a plan or preparing to.

- Marcia provided the CO-FIT tool that would be completed in this process. She reviewed some of the questions and explained how some of them might be scored based on a consensus from the community.
 - After discussion the group agreed that in order to move forward with what would be a day long assessment process that the group would need to reach out to a variety of community members who are not already at the table.
 - A few dates in late March and April will be looked at for venue availability and participation from the largest percentage of the group.
- Brooke Baker, the Planning Coordinator for the Behavioral Health Strategic Planning Work Group (BHSPWG) and Detective Kennard with the Pharmaceutical Diversion Investigative Unit reported the progress being made with both groups to address prescription drug issues in this community
 - The two groups are meeting jointly on a quarterly basis or as needed to coordinate efforts specifically with the Operation Medicine Cabinet initiative.
 - The BHSPWG is moving forward with a logic model that has identified mortality rates in the 20-24 year old age group as an area that can be impacted with intervention strategies. The data that the community has provided has driven the logic model process.
 - Brooke is working with the community to gather information about resources that address substance abuse prevention specific to prescription drugs in order to develop a resource and capacity assessment.
 - The Substance Abuse Response Guide (SARG) process being used requires approval of the logic model and resource and capacity assessment by DCF before a Community Action Plan (CAP) can be submitted and approved.
 - Each priority (prescription drug misuse being the first priority for the community) requires the development of a CAP for DCF approval.
 - The data provided by the community will continue to identify additional priorities.
 - Contact Brooke_Baker@doh.state.fl.us or 941-685-3324 to provide her with data that you believe needs to be considered by the work group.
- Monica Becket, a volunteer with the North Port CHAT, informed the group that it kicked off the North Port Drug Free Youth Initiative January 14 with a large representation from the community in attendance.
 - This is an initiative that is driven by the youth in the community to:
 - Participate in fun activities (that they choose) with others who share a commitment to be drug-free.
 - Receive discounts and scholarship opportunities.
 - Learn life and job skills.
 - Build positive relationships with peers and community members.
 - There will be a forum in March to determine if the community wants to move forward with this initiative.
- The Salvation Army asked the group to support a proposal they are submitting to SAMHSA to provide peer-to-peer support services for substance abuse rehabilitation in its Community Recovery Program.
 - The group unanimously agreed to support this application and asked Bill Little, the Chair of the BHSC, to submit a support letter on behalf of the group.
- Coastal Behavioral Healthcare asked the group to allow them to shift some of the Short Term Residential (SRT) funding to allow for flexibility for things like housing, medications, and transportation for those being discharged from the SRT and those who are diverted from the SRT.
 - After some discussion the group agreed that this would be a good use of the funding.

Upcoming Meetings:

Date	Time	Meeting	Location
2-22-10	12:00 p.m.	Criminal Justice Commission	Sarasota County Administration, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Think Tank
2-22-10	3:30 p.m.	Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health Sustainability Work Group	Sarasota Partnership 1751 Mound St., Suite 205
2-25-10	9:30 a.m.	Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health Care Review Work Group	Sarasota Partnership 1751 Mound St., Suite 205
3-1-10	9:30 a.m.	Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health Coordinating Council	Sarasota County Health and Human Services 2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 226
3-1-10	1:00 p.m.	Behavioral Health Strategic Planning Work Group	Sarasota County Health and Human Services 2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 226
3-2-10	10:00 a.m.	Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health Family and Youth Involvement	Sarasota Partnership 1751 Mound St., Suite 205
3-8-10	2:00 p.m.	Juvenile Assessment Center Committee	Sarasota School Board, The Landings, Blue Awning Building, Room 219
3-8-10	3:00 p.m.	Juvenile Justice Council	Sarasota School Board, The Landings, Blue Awning Building, Room 221
3-11-10	9:30 a.m.	Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health Cultural and Linguistic Competency	Sarasota Partnership 1751 Mound St., Suite 205
3-16-10	9:00 a.m.	Acute Care System Task Force	The Salvation Army, 1400 10 th Street, Media Room
3-16-10	10:00 a.m.	Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health Social Marketing Work Group	Sarasota Partnership 1751 Mound St., Suite 205
2-19-10	9:00 a.m.	Behavioral Health Stakeholders' Consortium	Sarasota County Health and Human Services 2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 226

This monthly report can be viewed at: www.sarasotaalliance.net as well as the summaries of several other meetings/task forces of the Community Alliance of Sarasota County.

A Community Calendar of Events can be accessed at the Information and Data Exchange Alliance of the Suncoast (IDEAS) website at: <https://suncoast.communityos.org/cms/> or as a link from the website above.

For questions about the information on this report please contact Pam Meunier at 941-861-2578 or Pam.Meunier@doh.state.fl.us