

**Community Alliance of Sarasota County
Developmental Disabilities Committee**

April 13, 2010 Meeting Summary

Present:

Committee Members:

Margie Genter	Goodwill Industries
Sarah Hickey	Sarasota County School Board
Deborah Hobson	Family Network on Disabilities
Teresa Johnson	Family/Caregiver Representative
Andrea King	Sarasota County Parks and Recreation
Susan Magers	Family/Caregiver Representative
Kameron Partridge	Easter Seals
Michelle Pilkington	Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Carol Burmeister Prichard	Family/Caregiver Representative
Mary Smith	Family Network on Disabilities
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Caitlin Trask	United Cerebral Palsy
Benny Weaver	Loveland Center
Alvin Woodall	Children's Medical Services

Participants:

Jody Guttridge	Children's Medical Services
Norma Israel	United Cerebral Palsy
Jamie Mahadeo	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Laura McIntyre	Family Safety Alliance
Kim Vorias	United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota

Kameron Partridge welcomed participants and self-introductions were made. The meeting summary for the March 9, 2010 meeting was approved unanimously without corrections.

Agency Tour Follow-up

Kameron Partridge noted that all the feedback she received from the agency tour was all positive. The lunch at Easter Seals went over very well. Sarah Hickey agreed with Kameron and mentioned that the people from the School Board who attended really enjoyed the tour. They were impressed at all of the different services being provided. The Oak Park staff could not attend due to a conflicting training on that date. They have requested that the tour be provided again in the fall so they can participate.

Oak Park Agency Fair

Sarah Hickey advised that 65 agencies have signed up and confirmed so far for the agency fair. It has become so large that they will have to find a new place to hold it next

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year. She suggested that the DD Committee share a booth with the DD Strike Team to hand out information on the committee. The brochure needs to be finalized and printed in time for this event. Susan Magers asked that each member of the committee who will have a booth at the fair have a stack of brochures to hand out in case clients miss the DD booth.

Presentation to HSAC

Kameron announced that the presentation to the HSAC will be made on Friday, April 30 at 3:00 at Twin Lakes Park. She provided the committee her notes on the topic. The presentation as it is now needs to be pared down to fit in the 20 minute time frame allotted. She asked that if anyone noticed any gaps or missing information in the presentation, to please bring it to her attention. Kameron invited everyone to attend the presentation.

Legislative Update

Susan Magers provided the following update:

- It is National Call-In Day for the federal government. Give your legislators a call. The legislation on restraint and seclusion is a hot topic right now at the federal level.
- Medicaid Reform Bill SB1484 – currently on its way to the Senate. It is an elder care bill that has bi-partisan support. It has some requirements that will apply to the developmentally disabled.
- Early Steps is still in great danger. The House has allocated some money but the Senate hasn't. This puts the federal matching grant in jeopardy.
- The community-based waiver has a Tier 1 cap of \$120,000 and elimination of behavior assistance in group homes. The national DD Council is urging everyone to get on the phone to federal legislatures since federal dollars are involved.
- Seclusion and Restraint Bill HB1073/SB2118 – an amendment was filed this morning but has not been posted on line yet for review. Note that there are two similar bills, one in Tallahassee and one in Washington.
- SB4 - The bill increasing graduation requirements has gone to the Governor for signature. All kids will have to pass geometry, biology, algebra II, and chemistry or physics. They amended the bill to provide a waiver for eligible kids. It will still have a great impact on others. The bill comes with no money attached.

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- SB6 – The Teacher Merit Pay bill passed on April 9 and has been sent to the Governor.

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day

Kameron mentioned that several people from our area attended the event in Tallahassee. Next year, more people need to attend. Attendance was very sparse. It would be nice if the committee could have a booth up there. They took some time to watch the Senate and the House debate different items. The atmosphere in Tallahassee is very grim right now due to budget reductions.

Developmental Disabilities Strike Team

Michelle Pilkington noted that the Strike Team has finalized the Disaster Resource Guide. This guide will be available to be handed out at the Oak Park Agency Fair. They are working on their disaster recovery role document which should soon be completed. They now have two co-chairs for the committee, Carmela Gaudet and Susannah Cripe. Their attendance is gradually improving.

Community Alliance Update

Kameron mentioned that she has attended one Community Alliance meeting. It was a joint meeting of the HSAC and the Community Alliance. She noted that there was a consensus that this meeting needs to happen more often. It is important that the people with the funding (HSAC) communicate regularly with the people who identify community needs (CA). There is another meeting tomorrow, but Kameron will not be able to attend. Chip Taylor explained that this is the meeting where the Community Alliance and the HSAC meet with the Board of County Commissioners. They will be discussing changes to the Human Services Policy Framework.

National Association of Councils

Susan Magers noted that the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities will meet in Orlando this year (Sept 27-28 at Sea World) for their national conference. They have a call for papers due on April 30. Susan suggested the DD Committee submit a presentation for their consideration. She asked the committee whether they agreed that this is a good idea. It was the consensus of the committee that they proceed with the presentation.

July Meeting Cancellation

Susan Magers suggested that the DD Committee meeting for July be cancelled as it was last year due to the number of people who will be on vacation. It was the consensus of the committee to cancel the July meeting.

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Work Group Assignments

Kameron reviewed work group assignments. Susan reminded them that they have agreed that non-voting members should participate in work groups as well. Everyone who wants an assignment will be assigned to a group.

- Community Awareness Work Group Marketing
 - DD Strike Team
 - Brochure
 - Membership
 - Website

- Tracking and Identifying our Population Work Group
 - Gaps and Overlaps – Community Mapping
 - Agency Profiles
 - Agency Resources Checklist

- Engaging Those in Need and Delivering Services Work Group
 - On line or written surveys
 - Tracking data gathering efforts - of other agencies
 - Tracking other local systems - that connect people to services

Susan reminded the groups that they need to identify a secretary or spokes person for each meeting to track comments to be reported to the full committee and for inclusion in the minutes. The work groups will meet at 1:00. The full committee will come together at 1:30 to 1:45.

Announcements

Andrea King reminded everyone that their fund raiser will be held tonight at McCurdy's Comedy Club. She encouraged them to attend. Tickets are \$5.00. Also, Wednesday is their annual beach party at Siesta Beach.

Kameron noted that there will be an autism walk/run at 7:00 a.m. in Lakewood Ranch this coming Saturday.

Susan mentioned that on Tuesday, April 20, there will be a webinar on what happens after the K-12 years. The speaker is well known and very good.

Kameron told the group that the Asolo Repertory Theater has offered to have actors go into agencies to work with the clients. Clients really seem to enjoy this. Contact Kameron if you are interested in having them come to your agency.

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Susan mentioned that the National Down's Syndrome Conference is coming to Florida this year. It will be held from July 16 to 18 in Orlando at the Disney Coronado Springs Resort.

Work Groups

The Work Groups broke up into separate areas of the room so the members could get to know each other.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Developmental Disabilities Committee will be held on May 11, 2010 at 1:00 at the Health and Human Services Building, Sarasota in Room 226.