

# Community Alliance of Sarasota County Developmental Disabilities Committee

## June 8, 2010 Meeting Summary

### Present:

Jim Doherty	Community Haven
Stephanie Hoffman	Area Agency on Aging
Ben Kunkel	Manasota 2-1-1
Susan Magers	Family/Caregiver Representative
Jamie Mahadeo	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Judi Martin	Community Haven
Milena Park (for Caitlin Trask)	United Cerebral Palsy
Kameron Partridge	Easter Seals
Michelle Pilkington	Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Carol Burmeister Prichard	Special Education Professional
Myriam Reyes	Manasota ARC
Mary Smith	Family Network on Disabilities
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Shirley Walker (for Margie Genter)	Goodwill Industries
Benny Weaver	Loveland Center
Laurel White	Vocational Rehabilitation

Kameron Partridge welcomed the participants and self-introductions were made. The meeting summary for the May 11, 2010 meeting was approved without corrections.

### **Work Group Reports**

#### *Community Awareness Work Group:*

- Focus on a website and brochure rather than on one event
- Create a marketing packet (including a form letter requesting agencies or individuals to join the committee)
- Create Committee letterhead
- Target vacant and additional seats on the membership list (youth, secondary educators, workforce, faith-based, leaders of business/ industry community and the Department of Juvenile Justice)
- List attendance sheet by agency rather than by individuals
- Expand the caregiver category to six (include family members)
- Create a PowerPoint to educate businesses on developmental disabilities etiquette

A discussion ensued on the membership list, meeting the needs of the Committee, having a voice from constituents and caregivers, the time of the meeting and the bylaws. Jamie Mahadeo suggested changing the bylaws to

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specify agencies as members rather than by individuals. Members asked the Membership Committee to discuss this issue further. Kameron Partridge asked Jamie to revise the attendance to only reflect agency attendance.

### *Tracking and Identifying our Population Work Group:*

- Utilize the “Agency Fair” list as the work group’s master list to collect the gaps and overlap data; 24 agencies have completed the form. The Work Group will continue to gather data by phone through the summer from the remaining 39 agencies.
- Invite Federico Valadez from Project 10 to the September 14 meeting to complete the community mapping process. It was requested that this meeting be entirely devoted to the process and be extended to 3:00 p.m.
- Confirm that another group is not already gathering this data in order to not reinvent the wheel.

### *Engaging Those in Need and Delivering Services Work Group:*

A draft survey was presented to the members. Mary Smith stated that the survey will be made available electronically and on paper as well as placing it on the Community Alliance website. It was noted that the survey includes a mission and purpose paragraph to explain the need for the survey. Mary reviewed the questions on the survey:

- Questions 2-4 will weed out duplication efforts.
- Question 5 explains the Committee’s definition of developmental disabilities.
- Question 6 is a laundry list of every need in the community.
- Question 7-9 inquires on funding.

A discussion ensued on the survey. Susan Magers stated a concern with Question no. 7. Mary suggested creating a definition button to explain the jargon in this question. Other suggestions noted under Question No. 6: “Medical” should include “medical health care” and change “Summer Camps (K-12)” to “Summer Camps (children)”. Jamie Mahadeo suggested placing the content in Zoomerang. Members agreed. Mary stated that the work group’s next step will be to determine how to disseminate and collect the survey and the time-frame. It was suggested to add an end date on the survey but to leave it open for at least a week thereafter. It was also suggested to somehow tap into Manasota 2-1-1.

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### **Legislative Update**

Susan Magers asked members to report on any agency impact or change to their programs. Michelle Pilkington stated that the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) Medwaiver received a 2.5% reduction in several service rates including the "Tier One" which will cap off at \$150,000 per year instead of being unlimited. Kameron Partridge stated that Easter Seals Early Steps mileage minute reimbursement rate was decreased by 10-cents a minute. There will also be a decrease in reimbursing interpreters to \$25 per hour and have been told that they will receive a large reduction in FY2011-12. It was noted that the diagnostic criteria has changed quite a bit and will affect many children with speech and language issues. Milana Park noted that the United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) has experienced administrative cuts. A discussion ensued on managed care for persons with developmental disabilities and the fact that the Legislation has placed it on hold for a year.

### **Developmental Disabilities Strike Team**

Michelle Pilkington reported that the team discussed roles and responsibilities, its current contact information, and reviewed the disaster brochure. Susan Magers stated that the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Café Conference will be held in Orlando on June 18-20 and will be implementing a series on disaster preparedness for persons with disabilities.

### **Community Alliance Update**

Kameron Partridge reported that at the May Community Alliance meeting discussions were on the upcoming Marketing Workshop on June 21, the suggested "Legislative Session Debrief" at the September 20 meeting with the local delegation, and the Behavioral Health Strategic Planning Work Group's initiative in implementing a one-year moratorium on licensing of new pain clinics in Sarasota. Kameron suggested discussing a change in the Developmental Disabilities category within the Steering Committee at a future meeting.

### **Announcements**

Susan Magers announced that there was an unnecessary incident at a local park involving a family with autistic children and asked the Community Awareness Work Group to consider tackling "acceptance awareness" through a PSA or another form. It was suggested to offer education and awareness etiquette to the community and businesses through a short PowerPoint.

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**Next Meeting**

Members elected to not have a Committee meeting in July.

The next meeting of the Developmental Disabilities Committee will be held on August 10, 2010 at 1:00 at the Health and Human Services Building, Sarasota in Room 226.