

# Make your voice heard!

## Join us at our monthly meetings

The Developmental Disabilities Committee's **monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.** at the **Sarasota County Health and Human Services Building, 2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 226, Sarasota.**



All meetings are open to the public for any person who has an interest in participating in the process. Individuals with developmental disabilities and family members are encouraged to attend.

Do you have a great idea that you would like to share with the Developmental Disabilities Committee? Would you like to work with others to offer solutions? If so, please fill out the form below or contact (941) 861-2563 for further details.

## Keep me informed!

Participant's Name:

Mailing Address:

City, Zip:

Telephone No.:

Email Address:

**Mail to:**

Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
2200 Ringling Blvd., Suite 2001  
Sarasota, FL 34237  
Attn: Jamie Mahadeo

## Members

- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Children's Medical Services
- Community Haven
- Easter Seals Southwest Florida
- Family Network on Disabilities
- Goodwill Industries - Manasota
- Loveland Center
- Manasota ARC
- Parents
- Sarasota County Health and Human Services
- Sarasota County Parks and Recreation
- Sarasota County School Board
- Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
- Sarasota YMCA
- Senior Friendship Centers
- Suncoast Center for Independent Living
- The Florida Center
- United Cerebral Palsy
- Vocational Rehabilitation



### For more information contact:

Mail: Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
2200 Ringling Blvd., Suite 2001  
Sarasota, FL 34237-6102  
Attn: Jamie Mahadeo

E-mail: [jmahadeo@scgov.net](mailto:jmahadeo@scgov.net)

Phone: (941) 861-2563

Fax: (941) 861-2573

To learn more about the Developmental Disability Committee go to: <http://sarasotaalliance.net/ddc.asp>

## *The Developmental Disabilities Committee of the Community Alliance of Sarasota County*



**"Providing One Voice"**



## Mission

The mission of the Committee is to advocate with one voice for the needs of Sarasota County citizens with developmental disabilities.

## Purpose

The committee is founded on the principles of prevention and early intervention. Its purposes shall be to:

- Conduct joint planning for resource utilization to meet the needs of citizens with developmental disabilities.
- Facilitate coordination and collaboration among funders and service providers which encourages shared decision-making and shared accountability.
- Serve as a catalyst for community resource development by exploring and responding to new funding opportunities at the federal, state, and local levels and seizing opportunities to leverage existing and new funding.
- Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on developmental disabilities.
- Provide for community education and advocacy on developmental disabilities issues.
- Improve issue-focused planning which is based on research and analysis and emphasizes results-based accountability and program impact.



## The Committee's Definition of Developmental Disabilities

A citizen with developmental disabilities is an individual who developed a condition prior to age 18 years old that limits one or more life functions and affects each individual person uniquely with diverse needs at different stages of their life.



## Legislative Statement

The Sarasota Developmental Disabilities Committee supports a recommendation to increase funding for people with disabilities so they can afford to purchase appropriate services that are necessary to provide support and safety to ensure a quality life. Increased funding will allow community providers to continue to offer services provided by well trained personnel. The continuing trend of reducing reimbursement rates for providers has the potential to increase the risk of abuse and neglect of people with disabilities.

## Accomplishments:

- ◆ Improved Transportation
- ◆ Developmental Disabilities Strike Team



"The Developmental Disabilities Committee is a place where all stakeholders are welcomed and valued for their various perspectives. Members share a common goal of making Sarasota County a great place for people with developmental disabilities to live, play, and thrive. Working together makes a difference!"

Susan Magers, Member of the Developmental Disabilities Committee