

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Community Foundation of Sarasota, 2635 Fruitville Road

January 23, 2008

MEETING SUMMARY

Members Present: Elliott Metcalfe, Chair
Ken Alexander
Bob Carter
Kay Glasser
Peter Howard
Richard Martin
Tom Pfaff
Bryan Pope
Steve Queior
Sherri Reynolds
Jerry Thompson
Alex Young

Staff Present: Chip Taylor
Pauline Tracy

Elliott Metcalfe welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Community Information Exchange

Pauline Tracy and Chip Taylor provided an update on the Tapestry Software Project which is now being called the Community Information Exchange. The plan is to use Tapestry to support 2-1-1 as well as case management and information sharing following a disaster during the first year. During that same time, a determination will be made as to whether Tapestry can also be used to support HMIS as well as other community programs. Funding is being sought to support the initial technical support, software, and a half-time system administrator position for the project during Year 1. The Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health will fund the other half of the position as they are also in need of a similar position. Funding has recently been received from the Department of Health in the amount of \$50,000. The grant proposal to the Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice is still pending and will be determined in February.

Staff have been meeting with Manatee County Government as well as the American Red Cross, Sarasota County Emergency Management, the SunCoast Partnership to End Homelessness and Senior Friendship Centers to confirm their support of the project. Staff are looking to other funders to support the project in subsequent years.

Committee and Work Group Updates

Data Group

Richard Martin reported that the Data Group Sub-Committee met and will be developing a written plan to determine how a short term financial crisis fund would be administered in the community (see [summary](#)). The plan is based on a homeless prevention initiative that the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness had success with in the past and was awarded a best practice innovation award by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Planning and Outcomes Work Group (POWG)

Chip Taylor reported that the POWG is currently updating the outcome measures and targets and plan to bring the revised list to the Executive Committee and Steering Committee in February. The new measures and targets will also go to the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) for approval.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium

Chip Taylor referred everyone to the [summary](#) in their packets. Staff are still waiting for final word on the Reinvestment Grant but as of this time, it does not look promising. The Sarasota application was rejected due to not having letters of support; however, the grant writer asked the question regarding the need for letters of support during a Webinar and was told that they were not needed. There appeared to be a misunderstanding of what she was asking at the time. Chip has been in contact with the SAMHCorp staff regarding the application and officially requested the review committee to review the application and score it based on content. That request was denied.

Chip met Nick Cox, Regional Administrator for DCF, recently and explained to him what the Community Alliance was about and how the Consortium has been working on a community-wide mental health plan. Nick expressed his desire for DCF to work closer with the Community Alliance. Chip invited Nick to attend the February Steering Committee and Executive Committee meetings.

Sarasota Prosperity Campaign

Steve Queior reported that he, Alex Young and Doug Kerr met with the EITC Task Force to talk about the Prosperity Campaign and how to increase the number of Sarasota residents who receive EITC. Steve offered to get the word out through the Chamber members at several upcoming meetings. There is a potential of bringing in an additional \$20 million annually by making sure everyone who is eligible for EITC receives it. This will not only benefit the EITC recipient but local businesses. There was discussion at the EITC Task Force about putting a face to the issues by using a human interest story. Bryan Pope will work on finding a person or a family who would be willing to tell their story.

The Prosperity Campaign is a long term approach. Steve reported that in December 2007, the number of unemployed persons in Sarasota County increased 88% over December 2006 (from 4,800 to 9,000). He suggested a three-prong approach:

- Write a case statement to use to get the message out to others.
- Identify early champions and advocates.
- Develop a Planning Committee.

The short term plan being developed by the Data Group and the long term plan which will be developed by the Planning Committee need to inter-relate but they are separate plans. The long term plan includes increasing income, building savings and developing assets. The short term plan will protect the current standard of living while the long term plan will embrace things that can take years to work.

New Business

The February Executive Committee and Steering Committee meetings will be held at the Sarasota County Health Department.

January 28 Steering Committee Agenda

- Presentation by the Developmental Disabilities Strategic Planning Work Group
- Presentation USF on the MA Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program
- Community Information Exchange
- Presentation on EITC by Janice Socha, IRS
- Standing Committee and Work Group reports

Next Meeting: February 20 at 1:30 p.m., at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Blvd.