

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sarasota Health and Human Services
2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 226

February 20, 2008

MEETING SUMMARY

Members Present: Elliott Metcalfe, Chair
Karen Bogues
Bob Carter
Mary Crowley (for Jerry Thompson)
Kay Glasser
Peter Howard
Tom Pfaff
Steve Queior
Stewart Stearns

Members Absent: Ken Alexander
Bill Little

Guests Present: Nick Cox
Richard Martin
Bryan Pope
Jeff Watts
Alex Young

Staff Present: Chip Taylor
Pauline Tracy

Elliott Metcalfe welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Committee and Work Group Updates

Planning and Outcomes Workgroup

Karen Bogues distributed a [report](#) outlining proposed changes to the Community Outcome Targets for 2011 and specific areas of emphasis. The group has made great progress in developing new measures for seniors which will be presented for inclusion in the revised report.

There was discussion at the POWG meeting that once areas of concern are brought to the attention of the Community Alliance and to the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC), how do we ensure these areas are addressed by the appropriate groups? The example of the low graduation rate of minority youth from high school was used. There needs to be some communication to the School Board that the Community Alliance finds these rates to be of great concern and how we, as a community, can address the issue. A suggestion was made to make a presentation to the School Board on the school-related issues and to work with SCOPE to get information on all of the outcomes out to the public.

Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disasters

Stewart Stearns reported that a small work group of the COAD will meet soon to begin developing a draft or model of how long term recovery will be handled after a disaster. The COAD plans to conduct long term recovery training this year.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium

Chip Taylor distributed the [Consortium's report](#) and highlighted the information on transitional housing and criminal justice. There are now three providers of transitional housing: Transitional Resources, Inc., Tammi Recovery with Gateways for Positive Living, and First Step of Sarasota.

Wayne Applebee, Criminal Justice Coordinator, has drafted an ordinance which will allow for a public hearing to discuss the substance abuse trust fund which will allow persons with drug and alcohol convictions to be assessed a court fee of \$15. In addition, the judge could order an additional fee of up to 100% of the fine for the offense. This new revenue could allow for annual prevention and treatment services grants in the community.

Sarasota Prosperity Campaign

Steve Queior reported that he has distributed EITC information at several Chamber of Commerce events. At some point soon, the group needs to talk to the County Commission and staff about implementing the Prosperity Campaign countywide.

Data Group

Richard Martin reported that the Data Group has not met since his last report. He is trying to coordinate a meeting on Friday afternoon and should have something to report at the Community Alliance Steering Committee meeting.

Richard reported he recently heard that there are 44 foreclosures in Manatee County per day and Tropicana received over 1,000 applications for 25 position openings. The group discussed strategies such as convening conversations

among the Chambers of Commerce, financial institutions, mortgage companies and homeowners.

Discussion with DCF Regional Administrator Nick Cox

Elliott welcomed Nick Cox and thanked him for taking the time to attend the Steering Committee meeting last month and the Executive Committee meeting.

Nick stated that his focus in Sarasota has been around improving the Community Based Care (CBC) system and involving the community more than it has been in recent years. The agency also has an interest in mental health and substance abuse diversion (from jail) services for both misdemeanors and felonies. He and his staff are trying to determine how to handle the reduction in budget at the state level without affecting programs.

Chip Taylor commented that Sarasota County funds approximately 40% of the mental health and substance abuse services in the county so it makes sense for the County to better coordinate and plan with DCF how to maximize the utilization of resources. The Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health is a prime example where there has been very little coordination with DCF. Staff from the Partnership have indicated they would like training from DCF on identifying signs of abuse and neglect. Nick provided Chip with a contact name and number to set up that training.

Community Information Exchange

Chip provided an update on the Community Information Exchange initiative and distributed the [proposed budgets](#) for Years 1, 2 and 3. Staff have met with Manatee County staff and are waiting to hear whether that county will be able to provide some funding for the first year. The target date to implement Tapestry for the disaster and 2-1-1 modules is June 1, 2008.

Strategic Planning Work Group Results—Next Steps

The last two strategic planning work groups will make their presentations to the Steering Committee on February 25. The next step is to determine what the Community Alliance will do with all of the information, including the identified priorities from each work group. The group decided that the main focus of the March 12 Executive Committee meeting will be to discuss next steps. The recommendation was made to bring in an outside facilitator to help determine next steps.

New Business

There was no new business.

Steering Committee Agenda

- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Strategic Planning Work Group presentation
- Children and Families Strategic Planning Work Group presentation
- Standing Committee and Work Group reports
- Community Information Exchange

Next Meeting: March 12 at 1:30 p.m., at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, 2635 Fruitville Road.