

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Community Foundation of Sarasota, 2635 Fruitville Road

December 12, 2007

MEETING SUMMARY

Members Present: Elliott Metcalfe, Chair
Ken Alexander
Karen Bogues
Bob Carter
Kay Glasser
Peter Howard
Tom Pfaff
Steve Queior
Stewart Stearns
Alex Young

Members Absent:
Bill Little
Sherry Reynolds
Beverly Stockton
Jerry Thompson

Staff Present: Chip Taylor
Pauline Tracy

Non-Profit Insurance Pool

There was discussion regarding the Non-Profit Insurance Pool and whether or not the Community Alliance needed to continue to be involved. The Nonprofit Resource Center has a presentation scheduled with a large number of people signed up to attend and Peter Howard brought together a small group of providers to learn more about the insurance pool. Peter was asked to monitor the issue and bring it back to the Executive Committee if needed.

Community Information Exchange

Chip Taylor stated that there have been several meetings and conference calls with the VisionLink staff regarding the Tapestry software platform. Staff will be taking a proposal to the Board of County Commissioners in February to secure

their support. The United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota Board of Directors approved the use of the Tapestry software system to replace the existing IRIS system. The Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness' contract for their existing Service Point software system ends in September so they are interested in using Tapestry beginning October 2008. The issue will be presented to their Board in early January. It is anticipated that the disaster component of the system will be completed prior to June 1, 2008.

Chip reviewed plans to hire a systems administrator to oversee the Community Information Exchange, including the Synthesis software system which will be used by the Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health. The County should know the outcome of two grant applications by early February which will help fund the position.

Invitation to DCF SunCoast Regional Administrator

Pauline Tracy reported that in several different conversations recently, it was brought up that the Community Alliance should invite the Department of Children and Families' SunCoast Regional Administrator Nick Cox to Sarasota to learn more about the Alliance. DCF is currently trying to form the community alliance that is required in Chapter 20.19, F.S. Pauline will call Nick's office and invite him to Monday's Steering Committee meeting as well as the next Executive Committee meeting.

Forum on Property Tax Reform

Steve Queior reported on the Property Tax Reform Forum which was held on December 4. There was good attendance and the speakers presented valuable information with each speaking from their different perspectives.

Committee and Work Group Updates

Planning and Outcomes Work Group (POWG)

Karen Bagues reported that at the last Planning and Outcomes Work Group meeting, Monica Strunk with Senior Friendship Centers, presented information that a work group of aging and adult services professionals had compiled in their quest to develop indicators and targets for older adults. They will continue to meet and will present their recommendations on a final list of indicators and targets to the POWG after the first of the year. Karen Bagues has scheduled a similar meeting with existing providers of children and youth services to discuss the need for positive youth development indicators. The Alliance has struggled over the past few years to find data in both of these areas.

Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD)

Stewart Stearns reported that his goal for the next year is to concentrate on COAD's formal structure and leadership. There are several trainings and exercises planned during 2008. The last exercise identified both strengths and areas that need to be improved.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium

Chip Taylor directed members to the [report](#) in their packets for the Consortium's activities over the last month. The cover page now lists highlights of the report.

Data Group

Elliott Metcalfe and Stewart Stearns reported that the Data Group had met several times, including one meeting in which the group heard from a number of agencies that the demand for human services has increased significantly over the past few years. The Data Group decided to look at the following two issues:

1. Getting the community through during the short term by providing some type of emergency assistance and possibly hiring a case manager.
2. Based on the financial stability presentation by the Economic Self Sufficiency Strategic Planning Work Group, there are immediate ways to increase the amount of income available to low-income families, such as through increasing participation in EITC; however, the community needs to address the underlying causes and provide the tools to people to help them become and continue to be financially stable.

The Data Group will meet on January 2 at 1:30 p.m. at the Community Foundation to begin to develop a community plan to address the immediate issue and develop systems as well as a 2 to 5 year recovery plan. The Data Group needs to be open to anyone who has an interest in addressing this problem.

New Business

There was no new business.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on January 23, at 1:30 p.m., at the Community Foundation.