

**COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Community Foundation of Sarasota, 2635 Fruitville Road**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**September 10, 2008**

Members Present: Ken Alexander  
Karen Bogues  
Kay Glasser  
Peter Howard  
Steve Queior  
Sherri Reynolds  
Stewart Stearns

Guests Present: Kari Ellingstad  
Jon McKenzie

Staff Present: Chip Taylor  
Pauline Tracy

Steve Queior chaired the meeting in the absence of Elliott Metcalfe and welcomed everyone.

**Health Strategic Planning Work Group Update**

Kari Ellingstad provided an overview of the activities associated with the Health Interactive initiative which has developed seven action themes. The third action forum will be held soon. The last forum focused on “walkability” and how to promote activities such as the walking school bus.

**Information and Data Exchange Alliance of the Suncoast (IDEAS)**

Jon McKenzie provided an update on IDEAS. The system has gone live. Three training sessions have been conducted by VisionLink for the system operators. Jon is currently working on an MOU with Senior Friendship Center for data sharing for the ESF 15 (Volunteers and Donations) module that will be used for disaster volunteers. The next step is a system walk-through training and then the 2-1-1 conversion can be scheduled.

The IDEAS Policy Group met for the first time several weeks ago and there seemed to be a lot of interest in utilizing the system for non-CAN disaster-related case management services. Ed McCrane, Emergency Management Chief, has pledged \$5,000 to support the system. This group is still in its formative stages and will meet again on September 29.

Jewish Children and Family Services is in the process of applying for a Weinberg grant which will include wraparound services for seniors and their caregivers, based on the model developed by the Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health. They have expressed an interest in using IDEAS as the case management data system for that grant if it is awarded. Jon has also spoken with Emergency Management staff about using the system for their evacuation and shelter planning.

### **2009 Legislative Proposals**

Pauline Tracy reminded everyone to submit their legislative proposals for 2009 on the form she e-mailed the previous week. The Legislative Committee will meet on October 6 to develop their recommendations to the Executive and Steering Committees.

### **Committee and Work Group Updates**

#### Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium

Chip Taylor referred everyone to the detailed [report](#) in their packets. He stated the detention planning effort is moving forward fairly quickly. The consultants presented their recommendations for a new jail and community corrections center to the Criminal Justice Commission. It is estimated that by 2030 there will be a need in Sarasota County for 250 community corrections center beds and an additional 500 traditional, secure jail beds. Chip stated that the consultants estimate that it will be four years before new facilities could be built and opened for operations. The estimated cost of building a new correctional center is \$18 million; the price tag for a new jail is \$82 million.

The Criminal Justice Commission will make a report to the Board of County Commissioners on October 29 and will likely make a recommendation to create a pilot program which will provide half of the community correction center beds using an existing building that can be renovated. The estimated cost of the pilot would be \$2.5 to \$3 million in acquisition and renovation costs and \$2 million in operating costs, with a target opening date of January, 2010.

#### Developmental Disabilities Work Group

Peter Howard reported that the work group is looking at four different areas:

- Respite
- Advocacy
- Before and after school care
- Transportation

A major discussion item at the meeting revolved around demand-response transportation provided to clients of agencies serving developmentally disabled persons by SCAT-Plus. The provider agencies reported that they had been notified by SCAT that in January, 2009 they will incur a new charge for transportation of their clients to their facilities. Loveland Center calculated that this change in policy will cost the agency over \$100,000 annually.

Beverly Kent, SCAT, reported that this change was made to encourage provider agencies to develop a partnership with SCAT and to get more involved in service delivery. Fifty-one percent of all trips made by SCAT Plus are for the agencies serving the developmentally disabled. The implementation date is still up in the air as SCAT is scheduled to bring the issue back to the Board of County Commissioners in late September for discussion. Ms. Kent indicated that SCAT is willing to sit down with the provider agencies and try to reach a compromise.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

***Next Meeting: The next Community Alliance Executive Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 15 at 1:30 p.m. at the Community Foundation.***