

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

June 16, 2004

Members Present: Stewart Stearns, Chair
 Bob Carter
 Kay Glasser
 Sarah Gorman
 Peter Howard
 Bill Little

Members Not Present: Christine Cauffield
 Elliott Metcalfe

Staff Present: Chip Taylor
 Pauline Tracy

Committee and Work Group Updates

Health Coverage for Uninsured Children Subcommittee

Sarah Gorman distributed a copy of the matrix the subcommittee is working on to identify the unmet need for health coverage for children. Sarah will meet with Mark Lazarus, Sarasota Memorial Hospital, to see if the information he collected while conducting an industry analysis prior to establishing their health care coverage for minority businesses can help fill in some of the gaps. Discussion ensued regarding capturing data for adults as well if the information is readily available.

The estimated number of uninsured should be available through sources such as the Florida Statistical Abstract but it was felt that if we can gather data from the insurance providers directly, that the information would be a better reflection of the true status of the uninsured population.

Nominating and Membership Committee

Steve Queior was selected by the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce to fill their vacant seat on the Steering Committee.

The following pending appointments were discussed:

1. *City of Long Boat Key*--Kay Glasser will follow up with her contact in Long Boat Key to determine their interest in participating in the Community Alliance.
2. *City of Sarasota*--Pauline had spoken with Commissioner Lou Ann Palmer, who indicated the City was interested in participating. Although they would like to appoint a City Commissioner, the Steering Committee meeting conflicts with the City Council meetings. Pauline will contact Commissioner Richard Martin, the current Mayor, to follow up.
3. *Council of Neighborhood Associations*--Pauline corresponded with Mr. Zoller, President of CONA, through several e-mails but they have been unable to identify someone to fill the seat. It was suggested that she contact Casey Pilon, the County's staff person who works with the Neighborhood Associations, to try and identify someone who would be interested.
4. *Manasota Safe Children Coalition Advisory Council*--Shareet Pennino was appointed to fill the seat which was vacated by Lee Johnson. Lee, however, has contacted staff since that time to advise that Shareet will not be able to fulfill this role. The advisory council meets again on July 22. It was suggested that Stewart Stearns contact Carl Wienrich for his assistance in identifying someone from the council. Stewart agreed to contact Carl.

The seat on the Executive Committee vacated by Lee Johnson needs to be filled.

Sarah Gorman moved, Sherri Reynolds seconded, passed unanimously to nominate Ken Alexander to fill the vacant seat on the Executive Committee.

The vacant seat representing Business/Economic Development on the Steering Committee was discussed. Additional resources such as the Tourist and Economic Development Council and the Workforce Development Board were identified and members agreed to make contact with those resources.

The attendance report was reviewed. Discussion ensued regarding proxy votes vs. proxy representatives at meetings. The Committee members agreed to review the bylaws regarding attendance and the use of proxies at their next meeting.

The Executive Committee felt it was important for United Way 2-1-1 Manasota to be present at the Community Alliance meetings. Pauline will contact Alberto Suarez.

Planning and Outcome Work Group

The group discussed the existing community outcome targets for children and youth, adults and seniors. The “Communities That Care” Middle School survey results are not yet available. Once that report is received, the group will be able to refine existing targets or add additional targets addressing the middle school population.

It was decided to review the existing community outcome indicators and targets for youth in more detail at the next meeting. The health indicators, which were added in February, were also discussed and will be reviewed at a future meeting.

The work group decided not to meet in July unless the results of the CTC survey are available.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders’ Consortium

The Mission/Vision Committee and the Planning Committee of the Consortium both met during June. The Planning Committee will be reviewing the SunCoast Region’s Mental Health Plan and asked DCF staff to provide a report that reflects Sarasota data only. DCF will also provide the boilerplate report for the committee to use as they begin developing a community plan.

The group discussed the need to add more members to the committee who can provide valuable input and participate in the planning process. Additional members included:

- Consumers
- NAMI
- Community Based Care representative
- School Board of Sarasota County
- Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office
- Foundations
- Representatives from the southern part of the County
- HSAC

It is very important to the success of this committee to gain the full participation and “buy-in” of all the members.

Sarah Gorman brought up the issue of there no longer being any type of court intervention for newborns who test positive at birth for substance abuse if there are no other factors present to suggest abuse. At the next Manasota Safe Children Coalition Advisory Council meeting, DCF's Regional Legal Counsel has been asked to make a presentation on the issue. The Executive Committee asked for this issue to be brought up at the next Consortium meeting on July 6.

FAIR Amendment

The tax reform issue was one of the Community Alliance's legislative priorities in 2004. The Alliance had agreed to "vigorously support" the Constitutional Amendment referendum proposed by Floridians Against Inequities in Rates (FAIR) if the Legislature did not take action on its own initiative. Discussion ensued regarding possible action that could be taken such as a guest editorial and encouraging Alliance members to sign the petition. The item was added to Monday's agenda for further discussion.

Linkages Among Alliance, HSAC and CAAB

Dr. Glasser prepared a white paper outlining the relationships among the Community Alliance, SCOPE and HSAC. This information provides a good refresher to current Alliance members and good background information for new members. Copies will be distributed to Alliance members on Monday and will also be included in the new member's orientation books.

Steering Committee Agenda Items

- Work Group Updates
- Sarasota County Human Services Policy Framework
- FAIR Constitutional Amendment
- Linkages among Alliance, HSAC and CAAB

New Business

The latest version of the United Way's Legislative Link provides a summary of the legislative session and will be posted on the Community Alliance's website.

Discussion ensued regarding members of the Community Alliance being contacted by political candidates asking for support. It was decided that the bylaws should be reviewed and possibly contain language which would clarify that such activity is not appropriate.

Sarasota County Human Services staff have sent customer satisfaction surveys to each of its advisory councils and would like to include the Community Alliance. The Executive Committee asked that the survey also include questions that would measure the members' satisfaction with the Alliance.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for July 14, at 1:30 p.m., at The Senior Friendship Center, Center for Healthy Aging, second floor conference room.