

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

Health Coverage for Uninsured Children (HCUC) Subcommittee

February 7, 2006

Present: Nancy Shoemaker, Catholic Charities
Dr. Francis Kendrick, LOVN CHAT
Janet Kahn, Early Learning Coalition
Jamie Mahadeo, Sarasota County Human Services
Virginia Brockman, Sarasota County Health Department
Sarah Gorman, Healthy Start
Kim Kutch, DCF

KidCare Update

Virginia made a presentation on the current status of the KidCare Program. Enrollment continues to decline. It appears that clients have lost faith in the program. To exacerbate the situation, the red tape involved in the application process puts significant roadblocks in the enrollment process. The Governor has requested that \$197 million be cut from the KidCare Program next year.

Dissolution of the HCUC

Sarah reviewed the history of the HCUC from its formation to date. She discussed the January community meeting where three new groups were established. At that meeting everyone chose a group they wished to participate in and began discussion of the topics at hand.

Sarah recommended that the HCUC be disbanded in favor of these new groups. They are:

- Expanding insurance coverage
- Prevention through health promotion and education
- Chronic disease management

She asked the HCUC members to choose one of these groups to participate in. Leslie Clarke will be preparing notes from the January meeting and send them out to all participants. A follow-up meeting will be held in early May (at the Community Foundation) to evaluate the progress of the small groups and obtain more input on the process.

The University of South Florida has offered \$10,000 as start-up funding to assist in the development of the process. This seed money could be used to evaluate the feasibility of expanding the Charter Health Plan.

The group agreed to disband in favor of the new, larger effort.

Subcommittee Goal: 100% of children in Sarasota County have access to affordable, basic health care.