

**COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY AND
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL JOINT MEETING
Planning and Outcomes Work Group**

August 10, 2007 Meeting Summary

Present: Elmer Berkel, HSAC
Karen Bogues, CYD
Kathleen Houseweart, SMH
Kate Irwin, SCOPE
Janet Kahn, Early Learning Coalition
Sherri Reynolds, Sarasota County School Board

Staff: Chip Taylor, Sarasota County Human Services
Pauline Tracy, Sarasota County Human Services

Self introductions were made. Discussion ensued with Kathleen Houseweart regarding her expertise and insight on seniors and the aging process. Pauline explained that the only measurement data staff can find is negative such as abuse, neglect, etc. Kathleen agreed to bring a few positive outcome indicators pertaining to seniors with her to the next POWG meeting for discussion.

The question of acquiring new software for the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) came up. It prompted a discussion about the effort the Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD) is undertaking to find software compatible with several systems being used in the community for case management in general and case management during a disaster specifically. Pauline described the Tapestry software the COAD is looking at to share client information with other community agencies. Kathleen explained that the AAA is getting ready to roll out the Refer system which complies with AIRS. The question arose whether the Tapestry software is compatible with AIRS. Kathleen agreed to provide Pauline with a contact person who is on the AAA selection committee in order to invite them to the September 10 presentation of the Tapestry system.

Gold Seal and School Readiness Measures

Janet Kahn explained that the POWG had adopted a school readiness measure previously. Just over a year ago, they dropped this measure because the School Board changed the assessment tool. None of the previous year's information would be comparable. The new assessment tool has been in use for two years and appears to be the one they will settle on. This is the POWGs opportunity to adopt a new school readiness measure. Janet recommended to the committee adding the new readiness measure to the list.

The assessment tool is called ECHOS. The School Board now has school readiness data available as of the fall 2006. Presently, Sarasota County has 90% of all children 'ready' or 'getting ready' for school. This is higher than the state average at 86%. Janet will meet with Jamie Mahadeo to put this

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information in the correct format for the committee to consider at their next meeting.

The Gold Seal measure that is in the existing outcome measures is no longer viable. Janet recommended that it be deleted from the list. Discussion ensued regarding how the Gold Seal project ended. Janet provided an update to the committee on the status of its replacement, the Comprehensive Quality Rating System. They are in the process of developing that system and identifying funding sources for implementation. That may be a resource for additional measures in the future. The consensus of the committee was to leave the Gold Seal measure until spring 2008 to have more time to determine the status of the new Comprehensive Quality Rating System.

Janet recommended that the DIBELS evaluation of early literacy, currently with 4 years of historical data, remain as a POWG measure.

Communities That Care Data Validity and Alternatives to the CTC Survey

Sherri Reynolds commented that all of the students in middle school (6th and 8th grades) and high school (9th and 11th grades) are surveyed on alternate years. Half of the students take the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and the other half takes the Communities That Care (CTC) survey. USF does the YRBS analysis. They have changed their report to remove the notations on the invalid surveys because the survey sample is valid; it is just that each student is taking a different survey.

Chip noted that in 2004-05 there was a sample size of 985 9th graders and 824 11th graders and the confidence level was around 3% which is good. In 2006-07 there was a sample size of 821 9th graders and 553 11th graders. That is a significant drop from the previous survey. Sherri advised that there are several things to take into consideration regarding sample size:

- Some teachers choose not to do the survey.
- Due to block scheduling in high school, there are multiple grades in one class. They all take the test whether or not they are in 9th or 11th.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost to get school-by-school results for the CTC survey. It would cost \$500 per report or \$3,000 total. The YRBS is analyzed by school. This information is shared only with the Principal of each school. Also, it was noted that the local School Boards can add questions to the YRBS that can't be added to the CTC because of the way the survey is printed.

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With the information provided, the committee has a better feel for how the survey is administered, to whom and how valid it really is. The consensus was that they are satisfied that this survey can be used for comparative analysis of the characteristics of these students.

School Board usage of CTC Data

Sherri reported that the CTC data is shared with:

- School Board
- Principals
- Individuals in the school as selected by the Principal

Select school Principals may also choose to share the information with:

- Faculty
- Parents (PTA)
- Students (by using focus groups)

Updated CTC Data Sheets

The committee reviewed the new information that was generated by the 2006-07 CTC Survey as compared to the historical data. Much discussion ensued regarding the meaning of some of the variations in the data from 2002 to 2006. No changes to the CTC outcome measures were made. Karen asked the committee to think about what was presented today and come back next month with any recommendations.

Outcome Measures

Kathleen will come back at the next meeting with a report on her research on positive outcome measures for seniors. Karen mentioned the lack of positive outcome measures for children and youth, however, the search continues.

Next Steps

- Discussion on recommended changes to the CTC data sheets.
- Report on measures for seniors

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Next Meeting

**The next meeting of the Planning and Outcomes Work Group will be on
September 14 at 1:30 at the Health Department, Room 2063**