

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH
STAKEHOLDERS' CONSORTIUM**

ACUTE CARE SYSTEM TASK FORCE

April 17, 2007

Present:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital/Bayside
Terri Belcher	Venice Regional Medical Center
Jane Beese	Venice Regional Medical Center
Lucia Callaway	Doctors Hospital
Kevin Chinault	Mental Health Community Centers
Nicholas Daniels	Venice Regional Medical Center
Rik Jimison	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Cheryl LaFlame	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Ron Locke	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Pam Meunier	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Marlene Minzey	First Step of Sarasota
Rich Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Susan Nunnally	Department of Children and Families
Brian Ryals	First Step of Sarasota
James Schulz	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Alan Skavroneck	Ambitrans
Paul Sutton	City of Sarasota Police Department
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
April Teamer	Department of Children and Families
Lloyd Tucker	Venice Regional Medical Center
Ann Voorhees	Value Options

Acute Care System Update

Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF)

Marlene Minzey updated the group on the status of the ARF. There were 82 involuntary admissions for March which is a record high number. The average length of stay for involuntary admissions in March was 4.48 days. There were also 82 voluntary admissions. The emergency admissions numbers were the same as the protective custody orders for March. The drug of choice for involuntary admissions was alcohol (79%) with crack cocaine following at a distant 9%.

Sarasota Memorial Hospital/Bayside

Ken Alexander advised the group that there were 120 admissions at Bayside with an average length of stay of 6.5 days. Twenty per cent of the population was geriatric, requiring total care. Ken indicated admissions to the Special Emergency Care Unit (SECU) continues to climb with three patients admitted at all times in March.

Venice Regional Medical Center

This facility reports that they are having significant problems finding beds for Baker Act patients. Jane Beese, the Director of Case Management reports that they seldom find a bed on the first call to a facility. The patients are left in their facility for days without psychiatric treatment while awaiting placement.

Doctors Hospital

Lucia Callaway indicates that her facility is having the same placement problems as Venice Regional Medical Center with Baker Act patients staying in the ER for 48 to 70 hours awaiting placement. They are concerned that there is such a delay in treatment.

Coastal Behavioral Healthcare

Cheryl LaFlame noted that the Crisis Stabilization Unit numbers declined in January and February but are now on an upward trend. The average length of stay in the adult unit is 4.5 days.

Susan Nunnally, Department of Children and Families (phone number: 316-6152) commented that the Baker Act is vague in terms of how to deal with patients who cannot be placed immediately. She mentioned that Sarasota Memorial and Manatee Memorial ERs are not Baker Act receiving facilities. She met with the new Manatee Memorial CEO, Moody Chisholm and he is planning to expand their mental health services. In order to gather information on the mental health needs in the community, Susan plans to talk with each of today's attendees separately.

Rik Jimison offered to provide Baker Act/Marchman Act Transportation visor cards to those that need them. He noted that there was a meeting in February where it was decided that they need to develop separate flow charts for ERs, physician offices, and nursing homes. Pam noted that the cards are being used now by law enforcement officers and they report that they are helpful tools. The cards are now being utilized in the CIT trainings as well.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Update

James Schulz introduced Lt. Ron Locke who is the newest member of the CIT Committee from the Sarasota Sheriff's Office. He completed CIT Training two

years ago and he taught the last class. With the recent CIT graduation, the number of graduates has increased to 217. There are now enough officers trained that the implementation of CIT teams in the various police departments can begin. The CIT Committee is working on the written methodology to connect the CIT officer with the individuals in the field who need them. The CIT Committee has developed a newsletter that includes updates on procedures and items of interest for trained CIT officers. James distributed copies of the newsletter and advised the group to contact the editor, Sally Graham (sirsally@comcast.net), if they have new information that will benefit CIT officers. The next CIT classes will be held July 16-20 and October 15-19.

Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) Update

James distributed information on the status of the JAC that was presented to the Sarasota Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on April 3. April 1 was the six month anniversary of the Martin Lee Anderson Act and the six month anniversary of the date the JAC was moved out of the jail. Core intake services are being provided in Bradenton which makes it inconvenient for all law enforcement officers in Sarasota County. The numbers show that law enforcement has sent significantly fewer individuals to the JAC in the last six months. The BCC has asked that James provide several options for relocating the JAC in Sarasota County. A committee has considered locations like the CAIC, the Law Library, and an industrial center off Clark Road. The first floor jail renovations are scheduled for completion July 2008, allowing the JAC to move back to the jail, therefore the JAC relocation will be temporary.

Legislative Update

Ken Alexander reviewed Senate Bill 430/House Bill 587 which focuses on requiring certain data to be generated by public receiving facilities. This data includes:

- Number of licensed beds
- Number of contract days
- Number of admissions by payer class and diagnosis
- Number of bed days by payer class
- Average length of stay
- Total revenue

Senate Bill 542/House Bill 1477 provides \$4 million dollars earmarked for a criminal justice mental health and substance abuse reinvestment grant program. Counties will be able to apply for grants to provide planning and implementation. There is a county match required. This bill passed in both chambers and now awaits the Governor's signature, which is expected.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Acute Care System Task Force is scheduled for May 15, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Room 226.

Videoconferencing will be available for participants in the southern part of the County at the Venice Health Dept., 7810 Tamiami Tr., Building A, in the Catlin Room.