

**COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY**

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

**ACUTE CARE SYSTEM TASK FORCE**

**May 15, 2007**

Present:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital/Bayside
Lucia Callaway	Doctors Hospital
Elaine Charyn	First Step of Sarasota
Nancy DeLoach	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Kathryn Fischer	Englewood Community Hospital
Sharon Hamilton	Value Options Consumer Advocate
Rik Jimison	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Cheryl LaFlame	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Pam Meunier	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Marlene Minzey	First Step of Sarasota
Rich Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Bryan Pope	The Salvation Army
Brian Ryals	First Step of Sarasota
James Schulz	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Alan Skavroneck	Ambitrans
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Jerry Thompson	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Ann Voorhees	Florida Health Partners/Value Options
Joe Whitehead	Venice Police Department

**Acute Care System Update**

*Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF)*

Marlene Minzey pointed out the highlights of the latest ARF Fact Sheet that was distributed. There were 73 involuntary admissions for the month of April. Of the 31 law enforcement officers who signed in at the facility, the average wait time was less than six minutes. The range was a low of one minute and a high of 14 minutes. Capt. Montemagno, from the Sarasota Sheriff's Office, reported that everything is running smoothly from a law enforcement perspective this month.

#### *Sarasota Memorial Hospital/Bayside*

Ken Alexander reported that the average length of stay for patients at Bayside was less than six days in the month of April. From the Emergency Room perspective, they have shown an increase in the number of individuals presenting under a Baker Act from January through April. Referrals are continuing to be made to partner agencies.

#### *Coastal Behavioral Healthcare*

Cheryl LaFlame reported that there were 102 individuals admitted to the adult Crisis Stabilization Unit in April which is down slightly from the March admissions. The average length of stay on the adult unit is up slightly due to individuals waiting for admission to the state hospital. Children's crisis stabilization admissions are down by one-third. Cheryl thought this was probably due to spring break.

#### *Englewood Community Hospital*

Kathryn Fischer, the new Director of the Emergency Department at Englewood Community Hospital, reported that she was not keeping data that would point to trends but will start gathering statistics to report at future meetings.

#### *Doctors Hospital*

Lucia Callaway reported that there has been a decline in individuals presenting under a Baker Act at the Emergency Room at Doctors Hospital in the last month.

### **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Update**

James Schulz advised the group that the next CIT training will be held at the Criminal Justice Police Academy at the Sarasota County Technical Institute from July 16 – 20. The committee meets on June 1 to get ready for that class. The committee is going to start evaluating CIT programs throughout the state and the nation via a new state coalition that meets quarterly. The next meeting of the Florida CIT Coalition is June 8 in Orlando. The next national CIT conference will be held in the birthplace of CIT, Memphis, from August 28 – 30.

### **Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) Update**

James Schulz distributed a decision support matrix that was developed by the Juvenile Assessment Center Advisory Board as they explored options the last six months for a temporary location for the JAC. This information will be shared with the Board of County Commissioners on June 5 to assist them in making a decision about where the JAC should be housed and how to fund it.

### **Medicaid Reform Forum Update**

Chip Taylor reported that the May 10 Medicaid Reform Forum consisted of a panel of representatives from Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Manatee Memorial Hospital, the Department of Children and Families, and the Manatee Rural Health Clinic. There was candid conversation about the local impact as well as a solution based discussion led by the two hospitals. There were also presentations by two separate evaluators of the Medicaid reform project.

### **Legislative Update**

Ken Alexander reported that Senate Bill 542 and House Bill 1477 passed and would be going to the governor for signature. This bill is allowing for the allocation of \$4 million-\$3,850,000 for matching grants with counties, \$30,000 for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation to administer the grant process, and \$120,000 to the Florida Mental Health Institute to start a technical assistance center.

### **Announcements**

The Family Emergency Treatment Center has moved from Bahia Vista to the Crisis Stabilization Unit on 10<sup>th</sup> St. The hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Acute Care System Task Force is scheduled for June 19, 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.**