

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY
Joint Meeting
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH
STAKEHOLDERS' CONSORTIUM
and
ACUTE CARE SYSTEM TASK FORCE

July 18, 2006

Members Present:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Keith Backhaus	Senior Friendship Centers
Dennis Berry	Central Florida Behavioral Health Network
Lucia Callaway	Doctor's Hospital
Rose Chapman	Jewish Family and Children's Service
Elaine Charyn	First Step of Sarasota
Phyllis Cobb	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Chris Cooper	Englewood Community Hospital
Nicholas Daniels	Venice Regional Medical Center
Sally Graham	SCOPE
Tobey Hockett	Public Defender's Office
Courtney Jennings	First Step of Sarasota
Cheryl LaFlame	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Martha Lenderman	Baker Act/Marchman Act Consultant
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Marlene Minzey	First Step of Sarasota
Richard Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Dr. Kenneth Mroz	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Bill Newell	The Salvation Army
Nancy Page	First Step of Sarasota
Bob Piper	First Step of Sarasota
Mark Porter	YMCA
Shelley Rence	Sarasota County Health Department-Healthy Start
Kim Reuter	First Step of Sarasota
Sherri Reynolds	Sarasota County School Board
Raul Rivero	Hispanic Latino Coalition
Brian Ryals	First Step of Sarasota
Kathryn Shea	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Alan Skavroneck	Ambitrans
Heather Sniffen	Department of Children and Families
Debbie Spellman	Department of Children and Families
Lilarie Thomas	First Step of Sarasota
Lloyd Tucker	Venice Regional Medical Center
Ann Voorhees	Department of Children and Families
Linda Whitehead	First Step of Sarasota

Staff Present:

Anna Day	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Nancy DeLoach	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Rik Jimison	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Kelly Lewin	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pam Meunier	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
James Schulz	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services

CART Initiative Update

Pam Meunier provided a brief update of the CART Initiative:

- Phase 1, Addictions Receiving Facility, will be opening at First Step's 18th Street Detoxification facility on July 31, 2006. At that time there will be 30 secure beds available for medically-supervised detoxification services for both voluntary and involuntary admissions.
- Phase 2, 10-week Residential Treatment (VIP-ER Program), is a collaboration of six partners: First Step (substance abuse treatment), Coastal Behavioral Healthcare (psychiatric evaluation and medications), Jewish Family and Children's Services (family counseling), Salvation Army (room and board and resident management), Jobs, Etc (job readiness training), and Sarasota County Health Department (primary health care). These agencies have formed a Project Management Team to oversee the project.
- Phase 3, Transitional Housing, is being developed. A CDBG/SHIP grant has been awarded to Coastal Renaissance, Inc. for \$750,000 to provide housing to VIP-ER graduates.

Marchman Act Presentation

Martha Lenderman presented historical information on the Marchman Act. She advised the group that there are many ways that someone can receive services:

- Voluntarily
- Protective custody (via law enforcement)
- Emergency admissions (via doctor's certificate)
- Alternative involuntary assessment for minors (via parents)
- Court ordered involuntary assessment and stabilization (via courts)
- Involuntary treatment (via courts)

For court-related involuntary care, there are several criteria that need to be met. Overall, there must be a good faith reason to believe that the person meets these criteria:

- The person is substance-abuse impaired
- The person shows the potential to inflict physical harm to themselves or others
- The person's judgment is impaired to the point that they cannot make a rational decision. In this case, the potential to inflict physical harm is not necessary. Note that the person's refusal to accept services is not enough reason to assume their judgment is impaired.

Definitions:

Substance abuse is the use of any illegal substance. Even if it is not illegal, but is detrimental to the user, it is considered substance abuse.

Substance abuse impairment is any condition involving the use of alcohol or any other mood-altering substance inducing mental, emotional, or physical problems and causing socially dysfunctional behavior.

Ms. Lenderman went into great detail on the legalities surrounding involuntary treatment as it pertains to the duties of law enforcement and the activities of the court. Materials were provided outlining the details of this discussion.

FETC/Mobile Crisis Presentation

Dr. Kenneth Mroz, with Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, explained that the Family Emergency Treatment Center (FETC) is a free service to the community. They provide mental health and substance abuse assessments and referrals, Monday through Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. There are approximately 10 therapists available, two to three per shift.

The mobile crisis response team operates throughout the county. The county is divided into two areas, north and south, to improve service provision. The north county response team operates from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday. The south county response team operates from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Friday through Sunday. The purpose of the mobile response team is to work with law enforcement providing field assessments to assist the officer in determining whether an individual falls within the criteria required by the Baker Act.

Other Business

James Schulz advised the group that CIT training is currently under way for 28 officers, 5 from Sarasota PD and 23 from the Sheriff's Office. Ms. Lenderman will also be presenting Baker Act and Marchman Act training to these officers during the training. Graduation will be held Friday afternoon at 3:00 p.m.

There will be a joint meeting of the Stakeholders' Consortium and the Acute Care System Task Force held August 15, 2006.