

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium and Acute Care System Task Force Monthly Report

August 21, 2009

Acute Care System Task Force (ACSTF)

The last meeting was held July 21.

- Representatives from the Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF) at First Step, Bayside Center at Sarasota Memorial Hospital (SMH), the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) at Coastal Behavioral Healthcare (CBH), Englewood Community Hospital (ECH), and Venice Regional Medical Center (VRMC) were at the meeting to represent the acute care facilities.
- There were 87 admissions to the ARF in May and 85 in June. The July admissions were already higher than normal.
 - The average wait time for law enforcement dropping off Marchman Act detainees has been four minutes.
 - See the detailed ARF report on page two and three of this report.
- The CSU reported that in May, 74% of the total adult admissions were initiated by a Baker Act (involuntary) and in June, 50%.
 - The children's unit Baker Act admissions were 82% of the total admissions in May and 70% in June.
 - There were 34 total admissions to the Children's CSU in May and 23 in June which is not unusual.
 - There were 20 admissions to the Juvenile Addictions Receiving Facility (JARF) in May and 6 in June. See the detailed CSU report on page four of this report.
 - The Short Term Residential Treatment (SRT) Program Liaison reported that the transition of the SRT from Manatee Glens Hospital in Bradenton to Mental Health Care (MHC) in Tampa went very smoothly.
 - 9 people have been referred to the SRT to date
 - 5 people are presently at the SRT
 - 1 person is waiting to be admitted
 - 3 people were discharged and are now part of the FACT Team
 - There will be a six month report provided, with the outcomes to date, by the end of January.
- SMH reported that the average daily census at Bayside Center was 25.9 people with an average length of stay of 6.4 days.
 - A free standing Emergency Care Center (ECC) will be opened in North Port on Toledo Blade Boulevard in September or October.
 - There will be a one-bed Secure Emergency Care Unit (SECU) for the safe and secure care of Baker Act and Marchman Act detainees awaiting placement.
- ECH reported that First Step provided an informational session about the Marchman Act for that facility and it was very helpful.
- VRMC reported that it recently hired an ECC technician to ensure security for Baker Act and Marchman Act detainees. This was prompted by seven elopements since January.
 - ECH reported that they too have ECC technicians available for this function as well.
- The Department of Children and Families (DCF) announced that with the passage of SB 456, which addresses the transportation of persons by law enforcement to receiving facilities for involuntary examinations, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is now required between each law enforcement agency and the receiving facilities.
 - Prior to the passage of this law there has been an understanding without the formality of an MOU to transport to the nearest receiving facility.

- This generated a discussion around the necessity for a meeting to explore the advantages and disadvantages of a Transportation Exception Plan (TEP) for adults, similar to the TEP for children that was developed several years ago in Sarasota County.
 - Although the affected agencies/facilities will be meeting to discuss the implications of this law, it was agreed that this issue will need further discussion on or before the next ACSTF meeting.
- Ambitrans, the County funded transportation provider for Baker Act and Marchman Act detainees, reported an increase in errors by the initiators when completing the Baker Act and Marchman Act forms.
 - It was recommended that training be provided for those identified persons.
 - In the month of May Ambitrans transported 163 Baker Act detainees and 66 Marchman Act detainees.
 - In the month of June Ambitrans transported 166 Baker Act detainees and 66 Marchman Act detainees.
- The Sarasota Sheriff's Office (SSO) reported that 10 Marchman Act detainees were brought to the jail in May and 10 in June. The numbers as of July 9 were already at 17—mostly due to no bed availability at the ARF.
- There were several representatives from the SSO at this meeting that reported that there have been issues around medical clearance for both Baker Act and Marchman Act detainees. Receiving facilities have not been accepting people who have not been medically cleared.
 - ECH indicated that all Baker Act detainees are brought to the ECC at the ECH first because the receiving facilities are not accepting people who have not been medically cleared.
 - After discussing the medical exclusionary criteria that were developed by the medical directors from the receiving facilities it was agreed that it would be helpful to have all the law enforcement jurisdictions come together to review and understand the medical exclusionary criteria in order to save transportation time and to minimize stress for the detainees. Susan Nunnally will send the document for review before a meeting is scheduled.
- An announcement was made to the group that Martha Lenderman will be providing another **Baker Act training, August 25 from 1:00-4:00 at Sarasota County Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., second floor auditorium.** This training will be specific to long term care providers and is a repeat of the April 21 training at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.
- **The next meeting of the Acute Care System Task Force is scheduled for September 15 at 9:00 at Sarasota County Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., second floor auditorium.**

Community Alternative Residential Treatment (CART) Initiative

- Phase 1- The Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF)
 - Admissions
 - As of July 31 there have been 2,656 total involuntary admissions—total admissions for July—95
 - 893 (34%) involuntary admissions resulted from Protective Custody Orders initiated by local law enforcement officers—total admissions for July—39
 - 475 were initiated by the SPD
 - 277 were initiated by the SSO
 - 117 were initiated by the VPD
 - 22 were initiated by the NPPD
 - 1 was initiated by the New College Police Dept.
 - 1 was initiated by the Sarasota/Bradenton International Airport Police Dept. (recently CIT trained).

- 1,322 (50%) involuntary admissions resulted from emergency admissions initiated by local ER physicians (SMH, Venice Hospital, Doctors Hospital, and the CSU)—total admissions for July—39
 - 389 (14%) involuntary admissions resulted from *ex parte* orders (court orders) for involuntary assessment and stabilization—total admissions for July—16
 - 55 (2%) involuntary admissions resulted from a “pick up order”—total admissions for July—3
 - The highest numbers of admissions are during the 3:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. shift (40%) and the 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. shift admits (38%).
 - **The average wait time for law enforcement officers at the ARF was 5 minutes in July (a low of 1 minute to a high of 20 minutes)—allowing the officers to be back out in the community quickly.**
 - Discharges
 - The average length of stay for participants in July was 4 days.
 - 98% of involuntary participants admitted to the ARF to date have successfully completed medically-supervised detoxification.
 - 248 (9%) of involuntary participants discharged from the ARF were referred to the VIP-ER Program to date.
 - 1,643 (62%) involuntary participants discharged from the ARF were referred to outpatient treatment programs in the community to date.
 - Other referrals were made to residential treatment programs, halfway houses, shelters, or homes/families.
 - A total of 77 clients who were admitted involuntarily to the ARF, and then referred to the VIP-ER Program, have graduated from the VIP-ER Program to date.
 - Prior to the ARF opening on August 1, 2006 an average of 70 Marchman Acts were brought to the jail monthly. The monthly average now is 14 mostly due to combativeness.
- Phase 2 - VIP-ER Program
 - 39 classes have graduated to date with a 76% completion rate (447/589).
 - 78% of participants to date have restored their relationship with their families as a result of participation in the program.
 - 84% of graduates are working within the first two weeks of program completion. The local job market has a number of service and retail positions available at this time which is advantageous for graduates who are typically well matched for this type of position in early recovery.
 - For clients who successfully completed the program to date and who could be located at the time of 3-month follow-up, 72% indicated that they were still sober; at 6-month follow-up, 63%; and at the 12-month follow-up, 62%. These are remarkable results—the national average for sobriety at 12 months out is only 10%.
- Phase 3- Transitional Housing
 - The Transitional Housing Inventory for Sarasota, Manatee and Desoto Counties will be going live on “Tapestry” soon.
 - Jon McKenzie, Project Manager for the IDEAS/“Tapestry” system, provided a training June 30 that was targeted to the persons the housing providers identified as the “secure person.” This group was instructed in entering the initial agency and housing information and shown the procedure for updates to the inventory.
 - Jon asked the providers to review and submit a Software Use and Data Sharing Agreement and a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement for execution.
 - Jon gave the providers an operations guide.
 - There will be additional training for those providers who did not attend the training and want to be included in the inventory.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Committee

- The next 40-hour CIT class is scheduled for August 24-28 at the Criminal Justice Academy at the Sarasota County Technical Institute (SCTI) at 4748 Beneva Rd., Sarasota. This will be class number 14.
 - The graduation for this class will be held at SCTI August 28 at 3:00. The community is encouraged to attend and show support for this community collaboration.
 - 344 officers have been trained to date
- The next Florida CIT Coalition meeting is scheduled for September 11 at 10:00 at Lakeside Behavioral Healthcare, 1800 Mercy Drive, Orlando.
- The next CIT Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 16 at 1:00 at Sarasota County Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 227.

Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) Report

- Adult Crisis Unit—July, 2009
 - 122 total admissions
 - 31 Baker Act admissions—25% of total admissions
 - Average length of stay—3 days
 - 2 persons are waiting for Short Term Residential (SRT) placement
 - 0 persons waiting for state hospital placement
 - 3 persons were placed at the SRT or state hospital
- Children's Crisis Unit—July, 2009
 - 25 total admissions
 - 8 Baker Act admissions—32% of total admissions
 - Average length of stay—5 days
 - Juvenile Addictions Receiving Facility (JARF) shared beds on the children's unit
 - 7 admissions
 - Average length of stay—5 days

Criminal Justice Update

- The Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) eliminated all properties under consideration for a Community Corrections Center (CCC) because no existing properties sufficiently meet the needs.
- The County has hired a jail siting consultant team to facilitate the process of selecting sites for both the new jail and the CCC. The team will provide expertise and expand the resources to this challenging part of the project. The team is presently soliciting public input and reflecting on the processes and criteria used to date.
- The CJC voted to televise future meetings, beginning at the August 24 meeting in the Board Chamber at 12:00, to provide a greater public awareness of issues facing the criminal justice system.
- The CJC voted to award the final Justice Assistance Grant, in the amount of \$207,298, to ensure flat-funding of the Mental Health Court and the Juvenile Assessment Center for FY 2010. The grant will also provide funding to provide an independent outside evaluation on the effectiveness of the programs.

Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health (SPCMH)

- The SPCMH was officially recognized by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for meeting the terms and conditions imposed on the cooperative agreement this past October. The letter details the significant effort and progress made to strengthen the system of care, including:
 - Redesign of the governance structure to allow broader family and community involvement
 - Recruitment of family members for Coordinating Council and work groups
 - Establishment of Community Partnership to support family support and involvement

- Improvements in intake, screening, and enrollment procedures resulting in expedited enrollment into services
- The SPCMH was commended for the commitment of families, child serving organizations, and the community for their support of the SPCMH and the investment in young children and families. The recognition was shared with the Sarasota County Commissioners in a presentation provided at the Board meeting July 22 by Sarah Cloud, Project Director and Janice Mee, Chairperson of the SPCMH.
- On July 13, The SPCMH teamed up with the Sarasota and Manatee Safe Children Coalition to provide workshops on providing family-centered, strength-based and culturally-competent child welfare services and supports. The training was well-received and will be expanded to reach other programs serving young children and families.
- The SPCMH co-sponsored the United Way Success by Six Ready, Set, Grow Family Fun Fair at Roberts Arena on July 25. This event attracted over 4,500 people and included children's activities, information booths, and entertainment. The Sarasota Partnership had a strong presence at the fair with a display and family activities to increase public awareness of social emotional development for young children.
- The Sarasota Family Support Network launched a highly successful Parent Support Group for Spanish-speaking families. By the second night, there were 20 parents and 39 children in attendance. Five parents from this support group volunteered at the SPCMH booth at the Ready, Set, Grow Family Fun Fair.
- On July 21, the Community Partnership held a workshop on Culture and Community Connections, led by Anne Ferrier, Cultural and Linguistic Competency Coordinator. The SPCMH engaged 50 family members, service providers, and community members in the workshop, which offered child care, dinner and special programs for youth.
- The SPCMH was well represented in the annual Systems of Care for Children's Mental Health conference in Anaheim, California this month. Kristie Skoglund (Clinical Director), Maria Jose Garcia-Casellas (Evaluation Director), and Elizabeth Morales (Family Member) presented a workshop on the Early Childhood Care Management Model at the conference. SAMHSA announced a policy change that allows for the inclusion of children at risk for mental health disorders for the SAMHSA system of care initiatives—a positive outcome of the efforts and recommendations of early childhood mental health programs across the country, including the SPCMH.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium (SAMHSC)

At the June 19 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium (SAMHSC) the following emerging issue was discussed:

- The Sarasota County National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) representative, Dale Lux, announced that May is Mental Health Month at the May 15 meeting and asked the group if they would support an event in May 2010 as a way of bringing attention to the issues surrounding mental illness. At that time the group recommended adding a substance abuse focus as well.
 - Dale indicated that a small group met to discuss the goals of the event and determined that awareness, access, and advocacy would be the overall theme.
 - Dale asked for volunteers to form a planning committee for this event.
 - Several members of the group indicated an interest in participating in the planning for this event.
 - If you would like to help with this effort please email: Pam.Meunier@doh.state.fl.us
- Shelley Rence, with Healthy Start, presented information about substance exposed newborns in Sarasota County.
 - A Substance Exposed Newborn Prevention Sub Committee was formed as a work group of the Children's Committee to work towards better outcomes for newborns that are substance exposed prior to birth and to develop a solution based dialogue

- with SMH and DCF regarding the laws and protocols that sometime prevent a newborn from receiving care.
- Positive drug screens for pregnant women have doubled from 105 in 2007 to 220 in 2008. Of great concern is that opiate use has tripled. This is a shift from cocaine use.
 - The court no longer orders drug screens for pregnant women but SMH does still drug test without a court order.
 - Healthy Start has nurses and social workers out in the community with pregnant mothers and their children to educate them about healthy behaviors.
 - P.J. Brooks, a co-chair of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Strategic Planning Work Group, reported that this group has met twice to start to develop a community action plan that will be specific to substance abuse prevention first and then the group will focus on mental health issues.
 - DCF asked that a work group of the SAMHSC assume this task for Sarasota County in order to be able to make data driven funding decisions, with local input, in the future.
 - DCF requires a Call to Action proposal to be completed by this group in order to contract with DCF to provide funding for a part-time coordinator position that will assist with developing the community action plan.
 - The first task is to gather local data from all sources in order to identify the conditions that are contributing to certain problems that can serve as points for intervention, collaboration, and change.
 - Monthly meetings of the work group have been scheduled for the first Monday of every month until further notice. The next meeting is scheduled for August 3 at 1:30.
 - If you are interested in being part of this work group and/or you can provide data that will be helpful in this effort, email: [Pam Meunier@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Pam.Meunier@doh.state.fl.us)
 - Captain Richard Montemagno, representing the Sarasota County Jail, informed the group that The Salvation Army was participating in a new concept at the jail—an Addictions Recovery Pod. This is a special section of the jail that has been set aside for up to 48 eligible inmates who are being taught how to break the cycle of addictions and returning to jail. Eligible inmates must meet the requirements set by the classification department and have an interest in sobriety and redeveloping their lives.
 - Local volunteers from the recovery community along with instructors working with The Salvation Army provide recovery meetings and classes.
 - This new approach is providing exposure to the corrections staff for a different operating model that could possibly be utilized in a future Community Corrections Center.
 - An announcement was made that the Prescription Monitoring Program Bill (SB 462) was signed by the Governor and will go in to affect July 1. This law will make it more difficult for persons seeking prescription drugs illegally and the doctors who are prescribing in an unethical manner. Eventually a tracking system will be established as a result of this new law.

The next meeting of the **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Day Planning Committee** is scheduled for Friday, **August 21** at 10:30 (following the SAMHSC) at Sarasota County Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., second floor auditorium..

The next meeting of the **Acute Care System Task Force** is scheduled for Tuesday, **September 15** at 9:00 at Sarasota County Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., second floor auditorium.

The next meeting of the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Strategic Planning Work Group** is scheduled for Monday, **September 17** at 1:00 at Sarasota County Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 2063.

The next meeting of the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium** is scheduled for Friday, **September 18** at 9:00 at Sarasota County Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., second floor auditorium.

Please note this change: Videoconferencing will NOT be available until further notice for the Acute Care System Task Force participants (scheduling conflict with the equipment) yet will still be available for the Stakeholders' Consortium participants in the southern part of the County at the Venice Health Dept., 7810 Tamiami Tr., in the Healthy Start suite if you **indicate that you will be attending the meeting in Venice.**

This monthly report can be viewed at: www.sarasotaalliance.net as well as the summaries of several other meetings/task forces of the Community Alliance of Sarasota County.

A Community Calendar of Events can be accessed at the Information and Data Exchange Alliance of the Suncoast (IDEAS) website at: <https://suncoastos.org/cms/> or as a link from the website above.

For questions about the information on this report please contact Pam Meunier at 941-861-2578 or Pam.Meunier@doh.state.fl.us