

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium and Acute Care
System Monthly Report
Summary**

February 23, 2009

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

Acute Care System Task Force (ACSTF), January 20 (see pages one and two)

- Although Jeff Watts, with the Department of Children and Families (DCF), reported the dollar amounts for some of the recommended budget cuts for mental health and substance abuse services from the special legislative session, with the Governor's veto it appears that the cuts below are now on hold until the regular session re-visits the budget cuts that need to be addressed in the regular legislative session. These were the cuts recommend at the end of the special legislative session:
 - \$162,000 reduction in adult mental health services in Sarasota.
 - \$20,000 reduction in children's mental health services for Circuit 12.
- The ACSTF "Tapestry" Work Group re-convened January 20 to discuss data collection and sharing of certain data.
 - On February 20 this group met with representatives from Central Florida Behavioral Health Network (CFBHN) to discuss a form that they developed for releasing information and a memorandum of understanding for the mental health and substance abuse agencies within the network.
 - This work group will visit an agency in Pinellas County February 24 that has developed a data collaborative.

Community Alternative Residential Treatment (CART) Initiative (see pages two and three)

- Phase 2 - VIP-ER Program
 - 34 classes have graduated to date with a 78% completion rate (401/514).
 - Class 35 will graduate Friday, March 13 at The Salvation Army at 7:00 p.m. The community is encouraged to attend and show support. **Please note the change from 2:30 to 7:00.**

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium, February 20 (see page eight)

- The group was informed that letters were sent from Bill Little as the Chair of the SAMHSC to the Governor and local legislators to recommend support for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) as was requested at the January 16 meeting.
 - The Board of County Commissioners has added the PDMP to their legislative priorities.
 - For the purposes of tracking, the following bills have been filed to date:
 - HB 0143, HB 0145, SB 0440, SB 0462, HB 0583, HB 0585, HB 0612, SB 0612, SB 0614, SB 1354, SB 1356, SB 1402
- Jewish Family and Children's Service (JFCS) announced that they have received a grant that will provide them with the resources to assist veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts and their families.
 - JFCS will be able to provide mental health counseling, case management, financial assistance, etc. with this funding.

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 Community Alliance website above.

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

February 23, 2009

Acute Care System Task Force (ACSTF)

- The last meeting was January 20.
- Representatives from the Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF), the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) at Coastal Behavioral Healthcare (CBH), Bayside Center at Sarasota Memorial Hospital (SMH), and Venice Regional Medical Center (VRMC) were at the meeting to represent the acute care facilities.
- At the last meeting the ARF reported that there continued to be an increase in law enforcement transporting persons who agreed to be brought to the ARF without a Marchman Act being initiated, therefore considered voluntary. In many cases that person then decided to leave against medical advice after law enforcement left the premises.
 - At the last meeting Captain Sutton with the Sarasota Police Department (SPD) indicated that he encourages officers to initiate the Marchman Act as opposed to dealing with the same intoxicated person over and over with no opportunity given for change.
 - At this meeting Lieutenant Ron Locke with the Sarasota Sheriff's Office (SSO) and the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Coordinator indicated that the SSO deputies are given the same instruction as the SPD, and this is part of the instruction in CIT Training as well.
 - The result of this unified message has been a decrease in law enforcement transporting voluntary persons to the ARF and contributing to the "revolving door."
- The Sarasota Sheriff's Office reported that seven Marchman Act detainees were brought to the jail in November (six for combativeness and one due to no beds available at the ARF) and ten in December (all ten for combativeness).
- See the detailed ARF report on pages two and three of this report.
- The CSU reported that 96% of the adult admissions were initiated by a Baker Act (involuntary) and the children's unit Baker Act admissions were 86% of the total census in December. See the detailed CSU report on page three of this report.
- VRMC reported that they are actively recruiting psychiatrists which will result in better and faster dispositions for persons brought in to the ER under a Marchman or Baker Act.
- SMH reported that the number of persons under Baker Acts in the ER has decreased.
 - The secure unit that accommodates persons being held under a Baker or Marchman Act has had an average daily client count of 2.7 with very few days surpassing the four bed limitation.
 - The free standing ER in North Port should open mid to late summer. There will be two secure beds in that facility as well.
- Jeff Watts with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) reported that there are now dollar amounts for some of the recent budget cuts (since this meeting was held, the Governor vetoed the mental health and substance abuse cuts the legislature recommended—putting these cuts on hold for now).
- There will be a \$162,000 reduction in adult mental health services in Sarasota. Jeff does not have an agency break out yet.
 - There will be a \$20,000 reduction in children's mental health services for Circuit 12. That amount has not been broken out yet.

- Jeff also indicated that each provider has been asked to complete budget planning exercises for an additional 4% and 8% reduction scenario.
 - He said the 4% reduction could probably be accomplished without re-aligning the entire system. The 8% scenario would mean focusing on core services first and then looking at a better and more efficient way to make the mental health and substance abuse service system function.
- Jeff also announced that there is legislation pending to allow CSUs to function as ARFs. This is to coincide with the “no door is the wrong door” philosophy the state has adopted.
 - The CSU and ARF will work together in the next two months before the March meeting to determine how many times people needed to be transferred between the two facilities because they entered “the wrong door.”
- Immediately following this meeting the work group reconvened to give Jon McKenzie, Project Manager for the IDEAS/“Tapestry” system assistance in developing a data exchange system that will begin to meet the needs of the acute care system.
 - A good part of the conversation focused on the bureaucracy that could interfere with sharing the kinds of data this group would like to share.
 - Before the group meets again Marlene Minzey with First Step and Cheryl LaFlame with Coastal Behavioral Healthcare will work together to develop a list of fields that will be of value for the purpose of data sharing.
 - Before the next meeting the group will meet with a group in Pinellas County who has developed a data collaborative.
- **The next meeting of the Acute Care System Task Force will be March 17 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 January 31 there have been 2,168 involuntary admissions—total for January—73 admissions
 - 721 (34%) involuntary admissions resulted from Protective Custody Orders initiated by local law enforcement officers—total for January—25 admissions
 - 391 were initiated by the SPD
 - 221 were initiated by the SSO
 - 89 were initiated by the VPD
 - 18 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).
 - 1,104 (51%) involuntary admissions resulted from emergency admissions initiated by local ER physicians (SMH, Venice Hospital, Doctors Hospital, and the CSU)—total for January—32 admissions
 - 300 (14%) involuntary admissions resulted from *ex parte* orders (court orders) for involuntary assessment and stabilization—total for January—16 admissions
 - 42 (2%) involuntary admissions resulted from a “pick up order”—total for January—0
 - The highest numbers of admissions are during the 3:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. shift (40%).
 - **The average wait time for law enforcement officers at the ARF was 5 minutes in January (a low of 1 minute to a high of 23 minutes)—allowing the officers to be back out in the community quickly.**
 - Discharges
 - The average length of stay for participants in January was 4 days.

- 98% of involuntary participants admitted to the ARF to date have successfully completed medically-supervised detoxification.
 - 191 (9%) of involuntary participants discharged from the ARF were referred to the VIP-ER Program to date.
 - 1,290 (60%) 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 66 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 15, mostly due to combativeness.
- Phase 2 - VIP-ER Program
 - 34 classes have graduated to date with a 78% completion rate (401/514).
 - Class 35 will graduate Friday, March 13 at The Salvation Army at 7:00 p.m. and the community is encouraged to attend and show support. **Please note the change from 2:30 to 7:00.**
 - 73% of participants to date have restored their relationship with their families as a result of participation in the program.
 - 88% 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, 62%; and at the 12-month follow-up, 57%. These are remarkable results—the national average for sobriety at 12 months out is only 10%.
- Phase 3- Transitional Housing
 - The Transitional Housing Committee formed a work group to guide Jon McKenzie, Project Manager for the Information and Data Exchange Alliance of the Suncoast (IDEAS)/"Tapestry," in developing a housing inventory. Both housing providers and those who would use the system in both Sarasota and Manatee County have participated in the December 11 and January 9 work group meetings.
 - Jon discussed the housing inventory with a provider group in Desoto County, January 26 and encouraged their participation (the website has been licensed for use in Circuit 12).
 - Jon has submitted a customization request to the vendor for consideration that was developed by the work group.
 - The work group will reconvene when there is a response from the vendor.

Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) Report

- Adult Crisis Unit—January, 2009
 - 80 total admissions
 - 76 Baker Act admissions—96% of total admissions
 - Average length of stay—4 days
 - 3 persons are waiting for Short Term Residential (SRT) placement
 - 1 person is waiting for state hospital placement
 - 3 persons were placed at the SRT or state hospital
- Children's Crisis Unit—January, 2009
 - 30 total admissions
 - 16 Baker Act admissions—86% of total admissions