

# **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium**

## **Criminal Justice Commission**

### **JOINT WORK GROUP**

**January 18, 2005**

### **Meeting Summary**

#### **PRESENT:**

Ken Alexander, Sarasota Memorial Hospital  
Chrissie Budd, Sarasota County Coalition for the Homeless  
Elaine Charyn, DCF—Suncoast Region  
Catherine Clouse, SCOPE  
Scott Eller, Renaissance Manor  
Cathy Emmett, Senior Friendship Centers  
Buddy Golson, Rosser International  
Sally Graham, SCOPE Mental Health Implementation Task Force  
Tobey Hockett, Public Defender's Office  
Dennis Liebert, Liebert & Associates  
Pam Meunier, Sarasota County Human Services  
Susan Nunnally, DCF—Suncoast Region  
Bob Piper, First Step of Sarasota  
Bryan Pope, Salvation Army—Sarasota Corps  
Colleen Reardon, Salvation Army—Sarasota Corps  
Rev. Skip Ritter, Sarasota County Sheriff's Office  
James Schulz, Sarasota County Human Services  
Debbie Spellman, DCF—Suncoast Region  
Lt. Paul Sutton, Sarasota Police Department  
Chip Taylor, Sarasota County Human Services  
Jerry Thompson, Coastal Behavioral Healthcare  
Pauline Tracy, Sarasota County Human Services

#### **Addictions Receiving Facility**

Chip Taylor chaired the meeting in Bill Little's absence. The addictions receiving facility work group reported that they met last Friday to consider a proposal from First Step of Sarasota for a secure 10-bed addictions receiving facility at their 18<sup>th</sup> Street location or a 15-bed non-secure facility. The estimated renovation costs are estimated between \$153,000 and \$230,000, with annual operating costs just under \$1 million. There is a question of how the operating costs would be funded. They proposed the funding to come from the state or the county. It is not known at this point whether such funding is available.

The committee toured the 35-bed secure adult addictions receiving facility operated by ACTS in Tampa. This program is called “transitional housing” but it is essentially a residential treatment program. Treatment is long-term with minimal clinical services. Clients are in full-time treatment for five months, then go into a program for six to twelve months where they work during the day and receive clinical services at night. The program receives 80% of its referrals from the faith-based community.

Chip suggested that the County’s Strategic Initiatives and Opportunities Fund could possibly be one potential source for operating funds for a secure addictions receiving facility. It could not, however, fully fund the program and other funding sources would need to be secured.

Bob Piper lead a discussion regarding the need for follow-up services once a person is stabilized at the detoxification unit. Without programs to refer these clients to for treatment after detoxification, you would essentially just be moving the “revolving door” down the street from the jail to the detoxification unit.

ARF clients receive treatment lasting from 5-14 days, with 7 days being the average. Bob suggested that First Step would prefer to go from a 15-bed to a 30-bed facility, with 15 beds being secure and 15 non-secure. The secure and non-secure beds would be operated simultaneously within the same facility, as they are in Tampa.

### **Lands Adjacent to Salvation Army**

Chip led a discussion on the \$750,000 available in CDBG and SHIP funding for a domiciliary facility, preferably to be located near the existing Salvation Army campus. It was brought up that, according to the CDBG guidelines, the transitional housing facility would have to be open for anyone who is homeless, not just people leaving the ARF.

Bryan Pope is in the process of expanding the Salvation Army’s transitional housing program. There is some property available on Cohen Way that his organization is looking at for possible expansion. Pam Meunier mentioned the possibility that the program could get VA participation for those homeless veterans in need of services. Scott Eller expressed a concern that the program could be limited in terms of clients eligible for services if CDBG funding is used to acquire and renovate the property as a result of the “all homeless” provision.

The consensus of the committee was to recommend that the Stakeholders’ Consortium and Criminal Justice Commission consider both pieces (ARF & domiciliary) at their joint meeting in two weeks.

### **Staffing Analysis of Jail, Intake and Booking**

Dennis Liebert, Criminal Justice Consultant from Boulder, Colorado, made a presentation on his study of the jail. It is a three-pronged study designed to look at renovating the existing booking area in the jail, reviewing and making recommendations on efficient staffing patterns in the jail, and reviewing court security from inmate transportation to the courtroom. He has completed his review and recommendations for the booking area. This piece needs to be completed before he begins looking at staffing in the jail as a whole, since intake is a large part of the process.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will include the full Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium and the Criminal Justice Commission to make a decision on the application for Community Development Block Grant funding for an addictions receiving facility. It will be held on February 4, 2005 at the Sarasota County Health Department.