

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH STAKEHOLDERS' CONSORTIUM

April 28, 2006

Members Present:

Ken Alexander	Bayside Center for Behavioral Health
Allen Robison	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Bob Piper	First Step of Sarasota
Bryan Pope	The Salvation Army
Bill Newell	The Salvation Army
Katrina Rae	DCF- Substance Abuse and Mental Health- Suncoast Region
Kelly Lewin	Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership
Ann Kelley	Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership
Catherine Clouse	SCOPE
Steve Steiner	Jewish Family and Children's Service

Staff Present:

Bill Little	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pam Meunier	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
James Schulz	Sarasota County Health and Human Services

CIT Committee Update

James Schulz advised the group that the next CIT class has been scheduled for July 17 through July 21. It will take place at the Community Foundation on Fruitville Road. There should be 15 representatives of the Sheriff's Office participating in the training. The CIT Committee will be meeting next week. The agenda for that meeting is forthcoming. One of the agenda items will be to schedule the three classes for 2007.

Transitional Housing Update

Pam Meunier updated the group on the CART Initiative, Phase III, Transitional Housing. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) was recently awarded to Coastal/Renaissance, Inc. (CRI) to operate a transitional housing program. It is not clear at this time whether the funding will be utilized for existing

housing or for building new housing. The CDBG contract specifies that the housing units will be rented to VIP-ER graduates. If enough referrals do not come from the VIP-ER Program, which is highly unlikely with the present graduation statistics, units can be rented to other populations defined in the CDBG contract. It will be several months before the Transitional Housing Program will be ready to accept VIP-ER graduates. At this time, the graduates who do not have housing are staying at The Salvation Army TLC Program.

Planning Committee Update

Pam explained that a sub-committee of the Planning Committee met recently and decided on a format for the strategic plan. There will be four main areas:

- Prevention and Outreach
- The Acute Care System
- Assessment/Intervention
- Sustainment

In each of these areas the following questions will be addressed:

- What do we already have? (the inventory of mental health and substance abuse services matrix will be utilized to answer this question)
- What recommendations have been made? (the SCOPE Mental Health Report and the Acute Care Issue Analysis will be utilized)
- How far have we come to date? (status of the CART Initiative, CIT Training, etc.)
- What are the identified gaps/needs? (based on the focus groups, collective wisdom, and the SCOPE Mental Health Study)
- What are the priorities for the community?
- What are the strategies for action?

There will be a follow-up meeting scheduled for this sub-committee as soon as a draft is ready for their review.

Acute Care System Task Force Update

Ken Alexander updated the group on the last Acute Care System Task Force meeting. A concern arose in that meeting regarding Baker Act transportation. He said that when a provider needs to initiate a Baker Act for someone in their office, they could wait a significant length of time for transport. Law enforcement will only transport if the client is violent. Ken believes this issue needs to be addressed. With the Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF) opening August 1, more problems could arise, according to Ken. Pauline Tracy suggested an electronic version of the forms, rules, and regulations be made available on-line to assist those who need the information (providers, families, law enforcement, etc).

There will be a Baker Act training May 31, conducted by Martha Lenderman, which should inform the providers on the specifics of the Baker Act. Due to the restriction in the number of seats available for this training, Bill Little suggested that a 'train-the-trainer' be developed or perhaps Martha Lenderman could be invited back on another date to accommodate the number of people who could not get seating at the May 31 training session. Katrina Rae, from DCF, said she would look into whether DCF could provide this training locally. Steve Steiner, from Jewish Family and Children's Service said his agency could provide CEU's. Ken reminded the group of the upcoming visit to Manatee Glens Hospital in Manatee County. Ken said the group will be looking at a possible paradigm shift in Sarasota County to more closely mirror Manatee Glen's service strategies.

Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership

Ann Kelley updated the group on the latest activities of the Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership. They have moved to their new space at the Florida Center. The first logic model meeting was held with a great response from everyone. There will be a meeting in May to discuss how to put together a governance structure for the project. Staff will be holding an open house in honor of Children's Mental Health Awareness Day on May 8. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. The Board of County Commissioners has issued a proclamation that May 8 will be Children's Mental Health Awareness Day in Sarasota County.

Next Meeting

The next SAMHSC meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2006 at 9:00 a.m., at the Health Department, 2nd Floor Auditorium. This will be a joint meeting with the Acute Care System Task Force.