

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

*“Partnering Assets Together for Human Services”*

**Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
2200 Ringling Blvd.**

**November 17, 2008**

**Meeting Summary**

## **STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Dave Beesley	First Step of Sarasota
Rose Chapman	Jewish Federation of Sarasota and Manatee Counties
Sandy Gallagher	Catholic Charities
Kay Glasser	Community Planning
Len Gutoski	Department of Juvenile Justice (for Ginny Donovan)
Sarah Hickey	Vocational Interagency Council
Janet Kahn	Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health Department
Erin McLeod	Senior Friendship Centers (for Bob Carter)
Janice Mee	SCOPE
Elliott Metcalfe	Public Defender - Twelfth Judicial Circuit
Alana Monge	Twelfth Judicial Circuit
Capt. Richard Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Diana Olivieri	St. Jude's Hispanic Center
Tom Pfaff	Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity (SURE)
Bryan Pope	The Salvation Army
Mark Porter	Sarasota Family YMCA
Chief John Reed	City of Venice
Sherri Reynolds	School Health Advisory Council
Kathryn Shea	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Brena Slater	Department of Children and Families – SunCoast Region
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Dennis Stover	Friendship Volunteer Center
Capt. Paul Sutton	City of Sarasota
Jerry Thompson	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Karen Wilkinson	CHIP
Alex Young	United Way of Sarasota County

## **STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Diane Andrews	Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County
Karen Bogues	Community Youth Development
Steve Brett	United Way of South Sarasota County
P.J. Brooks	Manasota Safe Children Coalition Advisory Council
Cathy Duquette	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill
Carolyn Eagen	Mental Health Community Centers

Kirstin Fulkerson  
Stanley Godleski  
Curtis Lavarello  
Chief Terry Lewis  
Richard Martin  
Steve Queior  
Beverly Stockton  
Alberto Suarez  
Marjorie Tick  
Benny Weaver  
Caroline Zucker

Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice  
Seniors Advisory Council  
Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA)  
City of North Port  
Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness  
Sarasota Chamber of Commerce  
SunCoast Workforce Board  
Manasota 2-1-1  
NAACP  
Loveland Center  
School Board of Sarasota County

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Larry Eger  
Robert Howard  
Toni Hutchinson  
Ed McBride  
Susan Magers  
Nicole Martin  
Kameron Partridge  
Richard Sassone  
Ryan Stoyles  
Dorothy Zech

Public Defender's Office  
Goodwill Industries  
Safe Children Coalition/Family Preservation Services  
YMCA/Safe Children Coalition  
Sarasota County School Board  
Community Foundation of Sarasota County  
Easter Seals  
United Way of Sarasota County  
Community Haven  
Citizen

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Nancy DeLoach  
Kathleen Marie Hall  
Pam Meunier  
Chip Taylor  
Pauline Tracy

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#### **Welcome and Introductions**

The Community Alliance of Sarasota County met on November 17, 2008 at Sarasota County Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 226, at 1:30 p.m.

#### **Presentations**

##### **The Nonprofit Resource Center**

Nicole Martin, Program Associate for Training and Education for the *Nonprofit Resource Center* (NRC) gave a brief presentation on the available services and resources at the center. Nicole referred members to the [resource handout](#) in the members' packets and noted that their 2009 training and form fees will be reduced 50% due to the economic downturn.

##### **United Way's Financial Stability Partnership Initiative**

Alex Young gave a PowerPoint [presentation](#) on the United Way's *Financial Stability Partnership* Initiative and referred members to the handout in the members' packets. Alex spoke on the Partnership's purpose, goals, framework, potential community partners, stages of

development, market/feasibility assessment, design phase, and development strategy. This initiative will assist in increasing the health of the local economy and is particularly targeted to low-income households and will teach them how to increase their income, build savings and gain and sustain assets. Alex announced that Elliott Metcalfe will chair the Partnership's Development Committee to guide them through the design phase. Alex noted that this initiative will also implement the [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance](#) (VITA) Program to increase the amount of disposable income available to local hard-working citizens. It was suggested that the VITA information be forwarded electronically to the Community Alliance members for distribution.

## **Committee and Work Group Updates**

### **Nominating and Membership Committee**

Sherri Reynolds reported that the Nominating and Membership Committee met on October 30 and began the process of a selected proposed slate of officers, filling vacancies, and reviewing the attendance record. The next meeting will be immediately following today's Community Alliance Steering Committee meeting to finalize the nominees. The recommendations will be presented to the Community Alliance Steering Committee on December 15 for approval.

### **Developmental Disabilities Work Group**

Susan Magers reported that the Developmental Disabilities Work Group has distributed an "Aftercare" survey to Sarasota County parents through the ESE elementary and middle school teachers along with Oak Park School. There has been an ongoing conversation with SCAT on their premium transportation services to identify a collaborative solution for the agencies. The results of the "Aftercare" survey will be discussed at the December 8 meeting.

Chip Taylor reported that the Community Alliance Executive Committee is recommending elevating the status of the Developmental Disabilities Work Group to a standing committee of the Community Alliance. This will require an amendment to the by-laws. The Community Alliance Steering Committee unanimously approved the concept of changing the status of the Developmental Disabilities Work Group to that of a Standing Committee and to reflect that in amended by-laws.

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

Bill Little announced that there was a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium [report](#) in the members' packets for review. Bill commented on a few areas within the report:

- On October 29 the Board of County Commissioners voted to support the creation of the Community Corrections Center. A pilot program (a 100-bed facility) will be implemented as soon as a suitable existing facility can be located.
- Jerry Thompson suggested nominating the CART Initiative for the National Council for Community Behavioral Health Care's 2009 Excellence in Community Collaboration Award. The application has been submitted with the assistance of Pam Meunier and was accepted on Friday, November 14.
- A Tapestry software demonstration will be presented at meetings of the Transitional Housing Committee, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium on November 21, and the Community Alliance Steering Committee on December 15.

- The *Early Case Resolution* process has begun through the Sarasota County Court System. Judge Roberts is processing approximately 20 to 25 cases a week, with the result that technical probation violation cases are being moved through the court system at a faster rate.

Bill Little noted that at the upcoming November 21 Stakeholders' Consortium meeting there will be a discussion on the summary report from the Consortium's October 17 facilitated meeting. This conversation will include the future direction of the Consortium, getting all the right people to the table, being more inclusive, and creating a community plan for mental health and substance abuse.

### **New Business**

Ed McBride noted that the Department of Children and Families' Foster Care Program is still awaiting information from the state regarding budget reductions but has been advised that funding will be funding held back and there will be a reduction in the contract in the near future. The Department will begin working with the *Family Safety Alliance* starting in January 2009.

### **Public Comment**

None

***Next meeting: December 15, 2008, at 1:30 p.m., at the Health and Human Services, 2200 Ringling Blvd., Conference Room 226***