

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

*“Partnering Assets Together for Human Services”*

Sarasota School Board Chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd

January 25, 2010

## Meeting Summary

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Karen Bogues	Community Youth Development
Bob Carter	Senior Friendship Centers
Rose Chapman	Jewish Federation of Sarasota and Manatee Counties
James Duplantier	Friendship Volunteer Center (for Dennis Stover)
Carolyn Eagen	Mental Health Community Centers
Kim Findley	Department of Children and Families – SunCoast Region (for Brena Slater)
Keliy Fordham	STAR Representative
Stanley Godleski	Seniors Advisory Council
Sarah Hickey	Vocational Interagency Council
Janet Kahn	Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County
Chief Terry Lewis	City of North Port Police Department
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health Department
Leslie Loveless	SunCoast Workforce Board
Laura McIntyre	Family Safety Alliance
Marlene Minzey	First Step of Sarasota (for Dave Beesley)
Sarah Pappas	Selby Foundation
Tom Pfaff	Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity (SURE)
Kathryn Shea	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Tammy Short	City of Venice (for John Reed)
Ryan Stoyles	Community Haven
Capt. Paul Sutton	City of Sarasota Police Department
Jerry Thompson	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Jessica Ventimiglia	Manasota 2-1-1
Benny Weaver	Loveland Center
Karen Wilkinson	CHIP
Alex Young	United Way of Sarasota County
Caroline Zucker	School Board of Sarasota County

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Humberto Alvia	St. Jude’s Hispanic Center
Judi Bell	Nonprofit Resource Center
P.J. Brooks	Juvenile Justice Council
Ginny Donovan	Department of Juvenile Justice
Larry Eger	Public Defender - Twelfth Judicial Circuit
Amy Farrington	Young Professionals Group
Kirstin Fulkerson	Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice

Kay Glasser	Community Planning
Jennifer Highland	Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County
Curtis Lavarello	Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA)
Dale Lux	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill
Richard Martin	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness
Janice Mee	SCOPE
Alana Monge	Twelfth Judicial Circuit
Capt. Richard Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Bryan Pope	The Salvation Army
Steve Queior	Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
Sherri Reynolds	School Health Advisory Council
Bill Russell	Sarasota Housing Authority
Dr. Tam Sicard	Catholic Charities
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

John B. Halcomb	Sarasota Family YMCA
Ed McBride	Safe Children Coalition
Kevin McKenney	Safe Children Coalition
Susan Scott	Sarasota County Government

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Nancy DeLoach	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Kathleen Marie Hall	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

The Community Alliance of Sarasota County met on January 25, 2010 at the Sarasota County School Board chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd., at 1:30 p.m.

#### **VITA Presentation**

Alex Young reported that the 2010 [VITA flyer](#) and [location schedule](#) (including AARP sites) were in the members' packets for review and distribution. Alex distributed another smaller version of the flyer. The Manasota 2-1-1 website has an up-to-date listing of the sites and hours of operation. It was suggested to place a link to the Manasota 2-1-1 tax assistance webpage on the Community Alliance website.

#### **Aging in Place Action Team**

Bob Carter announced that the Aging in Place Action Team and the Community Engagement Team have requested approval to be added as ad hoc work groups under the Community Alliance.

***Karen Bogues moved, Ryan Stoyles seconded, to approve the addition of the Aging in Place Action Team and the Community Engagement Team as ad hoc work groups of the Community Alliance.***

## **Florida Back to Work Program**

Leslie Loveless reported that information on the new initiative, [Florida Back to Work Program](#), was in the members' packets for review. Leslie distributed additional information and gave a brief overview of the program that is still in the planning stages. The program will assist employers in the public and private sector to create short-term employment opportunities through September 30, 2010. The program committee encourages agencies to submit their job openings as soon as possible.

In addition, Leslie distributed the [overview](#) of January's unemployment rates in the Southwest Region. Currently, there is a significant decline in the business and professional market and a drop in the leisure and hospitality market. The current job openings are not matching the job seekers. The workforce transition caseload has increased 20% since July 2009. The number of people seeking employment has tripled; over 300 are enrolled in training, with 67% training in the healthcare professions. The next highest percentage in training is in information technology. A bi-county Healthcare Committee is in the process of matching job seekers with employers and will create a mapping study over the next year. This study will ensure that academic offerings match the needs of employers. A discussion ensued on the deadline information, the funding awards, match data, time-frame of employment, and the time it takes for orientation and training.

## **USF School of Social Work Update**

Pauline Tracy reported that a copy of the [response letter](#) from Dr. Guilford, Regional Chancellor of USF, regarding the continuation of USF's School of Social Work at the Sarasota/Manatee campus was in the members' packets for review. Pauline noted that the response stated that current students can stay in the program at the Tampa campus and that accreditation was being discussed with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) by 2011. Once accredited, this program could be offered at the Sarasota/Manatee campus as well, if it is determined that there is the demand and need for the program.

## **FRAN Update to the Board of County Commissioners**

Pauline Tracy reported that there was a draft [interoffice memorandum](#) to the Board of County Commissioners in the members' packets for review. This report provides an update on the FRAN initiative, the "Hope for Homeowners" seminars, and the various options for ongoing outreach efforts. Pauline asked members for approval for the Community Alliance to co-author this memo with the FRAN Tactical Team. Members agreed with this recommendation. A discussion ensued on changes to the criteria to access the \$500,000 FRAN fund approved by the Board of County Commissioners. It was noted that currently no one has qualified for the assistance and recommendations to change the criteria have been proposed to Don Hadsell of the Office of Housing and Community Development for consideration.

## **Standing Committee Updates**

### **Behavioral Health Stakeholders' Consortium**

Bill Little reported that the [summary report](#) was in the members' packets for review. Bill noted that the Consortium recently changed its name to the "Behavioral Health Stakeholders' Consortium". Other counties within the Suncoast Region are being encouraged by the Department of Children and Families to form a similar type of stakeholders' consortium.

## **Sarasota COAD**

Chip Taylor reported that the COAD had a presentation by Sarasota Memorial Hospital on its emergency planning/disaster plan. The Mental Health Strike Team was recently activated in anticipation of adoptive children from Haiti arriving in Sarasota, although this has not yet materialized. The team reported that the activation ended up as a practice session with good collaboration.

## **Developmental Disabilities Committee**

Ryan Stoyles reported that the Developmental Disabilities Committee is currently reviewing the community's gaps and overlaps in services for disable persons. In addition, a workshop was held on January 19 with Jim DeBeaugrine, Director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD). The workshop was well attended and a positive experience for all. Discussions were on community living options and rules along with APD's three-tier funding allocation, budget reductions, assistance from the community, the wait-list, client choice, and the need for dental services. The Loveland Center brought clients to the meeting and reported that the clients were very thankful for the opportunity. Mr. DeBeaugrine noted that there was a good possibility of his attendance at future meetings and commended the Committee for forming this group for Sarasota County.

## **Legislative Advocacy Committee**

Caroline Zucker reported that the Legislative Delegation has declined the invitation to attend a future Community Alliance meeting to share ideas on their needs and how the Community Alliance could assist them. Caroline suggested sending a follow-up letter expressing disappointment, emphasizing the number of agency members of the Alliance including the clientele they serve, and inviting the delegation to the August Alliance meeting.

## **New Business/Announcements**

### **Dr. Kay Glasser Day Proclamation**

Chip Taylor announced that Dr. Kay Glasser will be honored by the Sarasota Board of County Commissioners on February 10 with a *Dr. Kay Glasser Day* proclamation. Members are encouraged to attend this presentation in the Board Chambers at 1:30.

### **Community Outreach Initiative**

Karen Bagues inquired on the next step for the Impact Work Group of the Community Alliance. Pauline Tracy stated that the work group completed a survey, articles were written in the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* and a summary of the survey results was presented to the Committee by the Nonprofit Resource Center in August 2009 and to the Board of County Commissioners on October 14, 2009. Bill Little suggested forming a community outreach initiative. Karen Bagues, Kathryn Shea, and Janet Kahn volunteered to assist with this campaign. Bill stated that if other members would like to be a part of the group, they should contact staff.

## **Announcements**

Bill Little announced that Stewart Stearns will be retiring in May 2010. Sarah Pappas suggested that the Community Alliance take part in the Community Foundation's presentation at Stewart's retirement party.

Pauline Tracy announced that Dr. Kay Glasser recommended that the Community Alliance's Mission Statement be added to the bottom of the agenda so members can refer back to the mission during meetings.

Janet Kahn announced that the Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County recently won two WEDU *Be More* Awards: *WEDU's Be More Knowledgeable Award* for its "Look for the Stars" child care quality improvement program and *WEDU's Be More Informed Award* for its "Literacy Empowers All Families" (LEAF) social marketing campaign to encourage parents to talk, listen and read to their children. Girls, Inc. also won several awards: *WEDU's Be More Brilliant Award* for outstanding achievement in innovation and the "Nonprofit Organization of the Year".

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

***The next Community Alliance Steering Committee meeting will be held on Monday, February 22 at 1:30 pm at the Sarasota School Board Chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd.***