

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

“Partnering Assets Together for Human Services”

MEETING SUMMARY

Sarasota School Board Chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd.

February 23, 2004

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Midgalia Aponte	Hispanic Latino Coalition
Sandy Baar	Sarasota County Coalition for the Homeless
Dave Beesley	First Step of Sarasota
Karen Bogues	Community Youth Development
Christine Cauffield	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Rose Chapman	Jewish Federation of Sarasota and Manatee Counties
Richard Coccaro	NAACP
Kirstin Fulkerson	Gulf Coast Foundation of Venice
Dr. Kay Glasser	SCOPE
Stanley Godleski	Seniors Advisory Council
Sarah Gorman	Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County
Sally Graham	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) <i>(proxy for Dale Lux)</i>
Nancy Hanshaw	Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court
Peter Howard	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Marvin Huskey	United Way of South Sarasota County
Katie Knight	United Way of Sarasota County <i>(proxy for Alex Young)</i>
Frank Kovach	School Board of Sarasota County
Kim Kutch	Department of Children and Families – SunCoast Region
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health Department
Elliott Metcalfe	Public Defender - Twelfth Judicial Circuit
Nora Patterson	Sarasota Board of County Commissioners
Carl Penxa	Loveland Center
Tom Pfaff	Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity (SURE)
Lisa Phillips	Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA)
Sherri Reynolds	Juvenile Justice Council
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County

Beverly Stockton	Suncoast Workforce Development Board <i>(proxy for Mary Helen Kress)</i>
Bert Tanner	Salvation Army - Sarasota Corps

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Maureen Avila	Private Attorney
Sheriff Bill Balkwill	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Bob Carter	Senior Friendship Centers
Lee Johnson	Sarasota County Stakeholders' Advisory Group
Janet Kahn	Sarasota School Readiness Coalition
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health Department
Larrie Muncie	Department of Juvenile Justice
Jim Myers	Sarasota Council of Governments
Brett Rees	Northern Trust Bank
Judson Rees	Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
Nancy Shoemaker	Diocese of Venice

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dr. Chrissi Budd	Renaissance Manor
Kevin Chinault	Mental Health Community Centers
Tim Dutton	SCOPE
Stephanie Feltz	Girls, Inc.
Diana French	Volunteer Connections

STAFF PRESENT:

Becky Oliver	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
James Schulz	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services

The Community Alliance of Sarasota County met on February 23, 2004 at the Sarasota County School Board Chambers at 1:30 p.m. Stewart Stearns, Chair, welcomed the members of the Steering Committee and guests, and introductions were made.

Stewart welcomed new members Richard Coccaro and Kirstin Fulkerson.

WORK GROUP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating and Membership Committee

Sherri Reynolds reported that the NAACP has appointed Dr. Richard Cocco to fill that seat and the Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice has appointed Kirsten Fulkerson. Sherri noted that letters were sent to the Cities of North Port, Long Boat, Venice, and Sarasota for recommendations to fill those vacant seats. Sherri also reported that with the changes to the by-laws there are an additional five seats on the Steering Committee. The Nominating and Membership Committee recommends the following to fill those seats:

- Community Representative – Council of Neighborhood Associations
- Community Planning – Kay Glasser
- Homeless Persons – Continuum of Care Leadership Council
- Housing - Office of Housing and Community Development
- Mental Health – Mental Health Community Centers

The Steering Committee voted unanimously to endorse the recommendations made by the Nominating and Membership Committee to fill the five new seats.

Legislative Advocacy Committee

Elliott Metcalfe reported that he plans to meet with Legislators to discuss the 2004 Community Alliance legislative priorities. Two additional legislative issues were recommended by the Legislative Advocacy Committee to be added to the existing 2004 legislative priorities listing. They are Healthy Start funding and the Juvenile Detention Center funding. Elliott noted that an item not listed in the report that needed to be incorporated was First Step's Women, Infants, and Children program loss of funding in the amount of \$556,000.

Nora Peterson moved, Sarah Gorman seconded, motion passed unanimously, that the Steering Committee incorporate the First Step for Women, Infants and Children funding issue to the list of legislative proposals for 2004.

Nora Peterson moved, Stanley Godleski seconded, motion passed unanimously, that the Steering Committee incorporate the Healthy Start funding and Juvenile Detention Center funding issues to the 2004 legislative priorities.

The revised priority list will be e-mailed to Alliance members.

Planning and Outcomes Work Group

Bill Little reported on the collaborative effort between the Planning and Outcomes Work Group, SCOPE, and HSAC to produce additional outcome targets for FY2007. This information will go before the Board of County Commissioners on February 25 during an HSAC workshop.

Chip Taylor described the process the three groups took to revise the targets.

Karen Bogues moved, Elliott Metcalfe seconded, motion passed unanimously, that the Steering Committee accept the new Community Outcome targets recommended by the Planning and Outcomes Work Group for FY 2007.

Health Care for Uninsured Children Subcommittee

Sarah Gorman reported that they are clarifying the subcommittee's charge which is to identify policy recommendations to ensure that all children in Sarasota County have health care coverage. The goal of the subcommittee is to identify gaps in the health care coverage for Sarasota County and the group will be watching SB 2000 very closely.

Sarah noted that their interest is to have the KidCare Program eligibility be as broad as possible. The subcommittee has asked Healthy Kids Advisory Council to meet and become active in opposing SB 2000 and to propose alternatives.

Sarah stated they are revising a letter to The Herald Tribune on behalf of the Community Alliance to support funding of the KidCare program.

Sarah also stated that primary research to gather additional data is needed. The subcommittee may be looking for a planning grant to assist with the research.

Two new pieces of information she received were that 1) Sarasota Memorial Hospital is now offering small businesses health care insurance, and 2) the North County Health Clinic on the grounds of Emma E. Booker Elementary offers adult and pediatric health services.

Sarah noted that Sarasota Memorial Hospital is available to present their new initiative for small business owners.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training

Sally Graham reported that there were twenty-nine attendees for the first three days of CIT training. The specific goal was to focus on building relationships. Training will end March 19, 2004.

Sally stated that evaluations from both sides have been phenomenal and noted that Major Sam Cochran, the developer of this training, would be present on graduation day.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium

Bill Little reported that at the second meeting there was a unified feeling of the direction the group needs to take for finding solutions to the problems of substance abuse and mental health services in the community. Bill stated that time would be set aside at the April meeting to discuss the mission, vision, and goals of the Consortium and a facilitator will be brought in to assist the group.

Funding Catalyst Work Group

Peter Howard reported that the committee completed their research on Title IV-e. Peter stated that the Legislature asked DCF for a report on the status of Revenue Maximization by January, but it is unclear at this time whether a report was submitted. He has asked the local DCF office to research this.

Education and Advocacy Work Group

Karen Bogues reported that the alliance website www.sarasotaalliance.net was updated and all meeting summaries, agendas, and meeting schedules are available on the website. These items will no longer be e-mailed.

Karen provided an update on the result of the Key Issue survey completed during the January Alliance Steering Committee meeting. She stated that homelessness and affordable housing received the most mention of key issues in our community. The work group will discuss the survey results again at their March meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Karen Bogues reported that the federal government has allocated funding in the past three to five years for major statewide initiatives for positive youth development. Karen discovered that Florida is not aligned to receive this funding and that only thirteen of the fifty states are being funded. Karen stated she will do some research and work with Kim Kutch to see what can be done to access this funding.

Stewart Stearns asked Committee members to be thinking of national resources that they know so that we can contact them about the available funding. Stewart reported that he had spoken with Senator Katherine Harris and she will carry the issue further.

Karen Bogues announced that the 2004 Girls Summit for middle school girls is being held on February 28, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at Sarasota High School. Stephanie Phelps distributed flyers.

Sandy Barr distributed the first Quarterly Newsletter for the Sarasota County Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.

NEXT MEETING:

March 15, 2004, 1:30 p.m. at Sarasota School Board Chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd.