

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

“Partnering Assets Together for Human Services”

Sarasota School Board, 1980 Landings Blvd.

MEETING SUMMARY

June 21, 2004

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sandy Baar	Sarasota County Coalition for the Homeless
Karen Bogues	Community Youth Development
Bob Carter	Senior Friendship Centers
Rose Chapman	Jewish Federation of Sarasota and Manatee Counties
Richard Coccaro	NAACP
Ed Firquin	Department of Juvenile Justice (proxy for Ginny Donovan)
Kirstin Fulkerson	Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice
Dr. Kay Glasser	Community Planning
Stanley Godleski	Seniors Advisory Council
Eva Goodwin	STAR
Sarah Gorman	Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County
Peter Howard	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Janet Kahn	Sarasota School Readiness Coalition
Kim Kutch	Department of Children and Families – SunCoast Region
Delores Lopez	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) (proxy for Dale Lux)
Patricia McGuillen	United Way of South Sarasota County (proxy for Marvin Huskey)
Tom Pfaff	Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity (SURE)
Bob Piper	First Step of Sarasota (proxy for Dave Beesley)
Mark Porter	Juvenile Justice Council (proxy for Sherri Reynolds)
Millicent Puleo	Hispanic Latino Coalition
Nancy Shoemaker	Diocese of Venice
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Beverly Stockton	Suncoast Workforce Development Board
Jerry Thompson	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare (proxy for Christine Cauffield)
Bert Tanner	Salvation Army - Sarasota

Jessica Ventimiglia
Alex Young

Mental Health Community Centers
United Way of Sarasota County

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ken Alexander
Sheriff Bill Balkwill
Vanessa Carusone
David English
Don Hadsell

Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
City of North Port
Continuum of Care Leadership Council
Office of Housing and Community
Development

Nancy Hanshaw
Frank Kovach
Bill Little
Elliott Metcalfe
Jim Myers
Nora Patterson
Carl Penxa
Lisa Phillips

Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court
School Board of Sarasota County
Sarasota County Health Department
Public Defender - Twelfth Judicial Circuit
City of Venice
Sarasota Board of County Commissioners
Loveland Center
Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse
(SCOSA)

Steve Queior
Brett Rees
Bob Saltonstall
Coral Thorsen

Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
Northern Trust Bank
SCOPE
Vocational Interagency Council

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stephanie Feltz
Doug Kerr
Janice Mee
Dr. Carrie Springer

Girls, Inc.
Boys and Girls Clubs
Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC)
Coastal Behavioral Healthcare

STAFF PRESENT:

Nancy DeLoach
Becky Oliver
James Schulz
Chip Taylor
Pauline Tracy

Sarasota County Health and Human Services
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The Community Alliance of Sarasota County met on June 21, 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.

Sarasota County Human Services Policy Framework

Stewart Stearns introduced Janice Mee, who reported on the human services policy framework for Sarasota County. Janice distributed a chart showing the priority outcome areas that were adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in January 2002 for FY 2005. Janice noted that over the past two years, both the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) and the Board have recognized that some “priorities” are more important than others, and that this should be reflected in the policy framework which guides the Grants-in-Aid Program funding allocations.

Sarah Gorman reported that the HSAC believes that “prioritizing the priorities” is essential and will enable the Council to be more prescriptive about the types of programs and services the County intends to fund through its Grants-in-Aid Program. Sarah noted that when ranking the sub-areas, the HSAC addressed two key questions: “Is this type of service a priority?” and “Is it something the County should be funding?”

Janice stated that the four priority outcome areas were ranked by the commissioners and the HSAC members in the following order:

1. Building Strong Children, Youth, Adults and Families
2. Supporting People in Crisis
3. Empowering People to be Self Sufficient
4. Building Community Capacity and Enhancing Infrastructure

Janice explained that to enable funding allocations to reflect the priorities, HSAC recommended that 5% of the funds spent in FY 2004 on the Supporting People in Crisis, Empowering People to be Self Sufficient, and Building Community Capacity and Enhancing Infrastructure priority outcome areas be redistributed to the top-ranked priority outcome area of Building Strong Children, Youth, Adults and Families in FY 2005. Janice stated that the Council also recommended that the projected 5% growth in funds available for FY 2005 be allocated to the top priority outcome area. The Board of County Commissioners approved. Janice distributed a chart showing the recommended funding allocations for FY 2005.

Linkages among Alliance, HSAC, SCOPE, and Community Action Agency Board (CAAB)

Dr. Kay Glasser distributed a document she developed that summarizes the relationships among the Community Alliance, the Community Action Agency Board (CAAB), SCOPE, and HSAC and requested members to review periodically. Dr. Glasser explained that the information provides a good refresher to current Alliance members and background information for new members.

Karen Bogues asked for clarification on what service the CAAB provides and Pauline Tracy gave an overview of their mission and reported that their current focus is assisting families in jeopardy of becoming homeless.

Chip Taylor suggested that the document be included as part of the new member orientation packages and that the SCOPE, HSAC and CAAB members be given the summarized documentation.

Stewart Stearns stated that a Communications Committee needs to be organized so that the work of the alliance is made available to the public and requested anyone interested in volunteering for this committee to contact him.

CIT Committee Report

James Schulz reported that a Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) curriculum committee was formed with a mission to develop and implement CIT training. James distributed the summary from the first meeting held April 9, and the CIT evaluation summary from the first training session. James noted that copies of both would be posted on the Community Alliance website at www.sarasotaalliance.net.

Dr. Carrie Springer with Coastal Behavioral Healthcare reported that Coastal received a \$2,500 grant from USF to cover operational costs for the training sessions. Carrie noted two important issues remain: 1) Who takes ownership or leadership of this training and 2) How to implement formal commitment and process from law enforcement. Carrie suggested a couple of scenarios for a process and noted that there is still a need for a continuing education program for law enforcement.

Chip Taylor reported that the initial funding came from the Sheriff's office and there are funds available for additional training until September. Chip noted that funding was set aside for two more CIT classes. Chip requested assistance from the Steering Committee members to help with the logistics of the training.

Ed Firquin stated that for this training to be successful it needs to be implemented as required training for all officers.

Health Coverage for Uninsured Children Subcommittee

Sarah Gorman reported that the subcommittee is gathering data for a matrix to identify the unmet need for health coverage for children under 19 and stated that the report will be presented at the July 19 Steering Committee meeting.

Bob Carter suggested that if the data exists, it should include the older population of Sarasota County as well.

Nominating and Membership Committee

Sarah Gorman reported that the following three appointments to the Steering Committee seats were made:

- Vanessa Carusone - City of North Port

- Steve Queior - Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
- Coral Thorsen - Vocational Interagency Council

Sarah noted there are four pending appointments:

1. *City of Long Boat Key*
2. *City of Sarasota*
3. *Council of Neighborhood Associations*
4. *Manasota Safe Children Coalition Advisory Council*

Sarah noted that the committee is pursuing a minority business representative for the vacant Business/Economic Development vacant seat.

Sarah stated that the Committee members agreed to review the bylaws regarding attendance and the use of proxies at their next meeting.

Sarah reported that the Nominating and Membership Committee passed a motion to nominate Ken Alexander to fill the vacant seat on the Executive Committee.

A motion passed unanimously to nominate Ken Alexander to fill the vacant seat on the Executive Committee.

Pauline Tracy reminded committee members that a signed proxy form is needed to designate a representative at Steering Committee meetings. The proxy form can be found on the Community Alliance's website at www.sarasotaalliance.net.

Planning and Outcomes Work Group

Pauline reported that the group discussed the existing community outcome targets for children and youth, adults and seniors. Pauline reported that the "Communities That Care" Middle School survey results are not yet available and when it is received, the group will be able to refine existing targets and add additional targets addressing the middle school population. Pauline noted that the health indicators which were added in February will be reviewed at a future meeting.

Pauline noted that the work group decided not to meet in July unless the results of the CTC survey are available.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium

Chip Taylor reported that the Mission/Vision Committee and the Planning Committee of the Consortium both met during June. Chip stated that the next meeting of the Planning Committee will be on June 29 and the Consortium will be on July 6. Chip explained how the Planning Committee will be reviewing the DCF-SunCoast Region's Mental Health Plan and has asked DCF staff to provide a report that reflects Sarasota data only. Chip noted that DCF will also provide

the template of the plan for the committee to use as they begin developing a community plan.

Chip reported that the group discussed the need to add more members to the committee who can provide valuable input and participate in the planning process. Additional members will include representatives from:

- Consumers
- NAMI
- Community Based Care representative
- School Board of Sarasota County
- Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
- Foundations
- Representatives from the southern part of the County
- HSAC

Chip also reported that he attended a Baker Act Transportation committee meeting to discuss the issue of transporting Baker Act patients to Punta Gorda as a result of Dr. Jerry Ross' (Executive Director of Charlotte County Community Mental Health Center) comments at last month's Steering Committee meeting. Chip reported that a Transportation Exception Plan (TEP) for children-only was agreed upon that would allow the North Port police to transport children to CBH's facility in Sarasota instead of Charlotte County. Chip noted that a committee has been formed to develop this plan so it can be brought to the Board of County Commissioners.

FAIR Constitutional Amendment

Chip Taylor reported that the tax reform issue that was one of the Community Alliance's legislative priorities in 2004 needs 500,000 signatures and there are currently only 165,000 to certify this gets on the ballot. Chip distributed a petition that members can mail and noted that the Alliance's platform was to support the Constitutional Amendment referendum proposed by Floridians Against Inequities in Rates (FAIR), if the Legislature did not take action on its own initiative.

Nancy Shoemaker moved, Dr. Kay Glasser seconded, motion passed unanimously that the Alliance show support to the FAIR Constitutional Amendment by writing a guest editorial.

New Business

Stewart Stearns reported that a comprehensive study of the legislative session provided by United Way of Florida is available on the Alliance's website at www.sarasotaalliance.net.

Stewart explained that e-mails that are received by members from political candidates asking for support are not appropriate, because the Alliance does not support such activity.

Pauline Tracy reported that the Executive Committee felt it was important for the United Way 2-1-1 Manasota be present at the Community Alliance meetings, so Pauline contacted Alberto Suarez, who expressed an interest in participating.

NEXT MEETING:

July 19, 2004, 1:30 p.m. at Sarasota School Board chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd.