

**COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY**

***“Partnering Assets Together for Human Services”***

***Sarasota School Board chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd.***

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**December 4, 2006**

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Evelyn Barritt	CHIP
Samantha Berkey	STAR
Karen Bogues	Community Youth Development
P.J. Brooks	Manasota Safe Children Coalition Advisory Council
Rose Chapman	Jewish Federation of Sarasota and Manatee Counties
Ginny Donovan	Department of Juvenile Justice
Kay Glasser	Community Planning
Barbara Gross	City of North Port (for Richard Lockhart)
Jennifer Highland	Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County
Peter Howard	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Janet Kahn	Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County
Patrick Kilbane	Young Professionals Group (YPG)
Kim Kutch	Department of Children and Families – SunCoast Region
Adrienne P. Lazeroff	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness
Renee McQueen	Vocational Interagency Council
Janice Mee	SCOPE
Elliott Metcalfe	Public Defender - Twelfth Judicial Circuit
Tom Pfaff	Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity (SURE)
Bob Piper	First Step of Sarasota (for Dave Beesley)
Sherri Reynolds	Juvenile Justice Council
Nancy Shoemaker	Diocese of Venice
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Dennis Stover	Friendship Volunteer Center and Senior Friendship Centers (for Bob Carter)
Bert Tanner	Salvation Army--Sarasota Corps
Alex Young	United Way of Sarasota County
Caroline Zucker	School Board of Sarasota County

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Janis Alberti	Loveland Center
Steve Brett	United Way of South Sarasota County
Carolyn Eagen	Mental Health Community Centers
Kirstin Fulkerson	Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice
Stanley Godleski	Seniors Advisory Council
Nancy Hanshaw	Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court
Curtis Lavarello	Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA)
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health Department
Frank Lopez	Hispanic Latino Coalition

Capt. Richard Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Scott Moore	Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County
Steve Queior	Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
Daniel Schmelzinger	Office of Housing and Community Development
Shannon Staub	Sarasota Board of County Commissioners
Beverly Stockton	SunCoast Workforce Development Board
Alberto Suarez	Manasota 2-1-1
Vicki Taylor	City of Venice
Jerry Thompson	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Tammy Zappa	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Lee Johnson	Sarasota YMCA
Christie Lewis	Community Foundation of Sarasota
Kathryn Shea	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Ann Voorhees	Department of Children and Families

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Kathleen Marie Hall	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Jamie Mahadeo	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pam Meunier	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 December 4, 2006 at the Sarasota School Board chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd. at 1:30 p.m.

Stewart Stearns welcomed the members of the Steering Committee (including new members Jennifer Highland, Adrienne Lazeroff, and Caroline Zucker) and guests and introductions were made.

**Committee and Work Group Updates**

**Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster (Sarasota COAD)**

Alex Young reported that in lieu of a November meeting the Sarasota COAD conducted a mock drill at the Health and Human Services Department. Alex explained that during the communication and system drill there were a number of people role-playing, which assisted in gathering good information with lessons learned. Alex stated that a report on the mock drill will be presented at a future meeting.

**Planning and Outcomes Work Group**

Ken Alexander reported that work on the community outcome targets for FY 2010 has been completed and recommendations were presented to and approved by the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) at its November 17 meeting. Ken announced that the outcome targets will be brought to the February Community Alliance meeting for approval and then on to the Board of County Commissioners to update the outcome targets within the Human Services Policy Framework for FY 2010. Chip Taylor pointed out that the outcome targets consist of health care; substance abuse; positive youth development; benchmark/protective and risk

factors; abuse, neglect, violent behavior; and early childhood development. A number of changes occurred to the measures including several that reached their outcome targets and the bar was raised to three-year rolling averages, two were deleted, two were moved according to a statistical perspective, and one new measure was created (high school graduation rate among minority students).

### **Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership (ECMHP)**

Pauline Tracy reported that the ECMHP Governance Board held a retreat with Shelly Robertson in November and a decision was made to hold the Executive Committee meetings on a monthly basis and the Governance Board meetings every other month. The next Executive Committee meeting will be on December 14 at the Sarasota County Health Department. Several work groups have been created and will begin meeting in December, including the Community Support Work Group chaired by Karen Bogues and the Care Review Process Work Group chaired by Phillip Tavel.

Pauline mentioned that the Partnership recently collaborated with the Florida Center on a roll-out plan and will serve 80 children and their families before the end of September 2007. This will require hiring 10 Wraparound Coordinators by that date. Two coordinators will be hired by each of the partnering agencies, which include the Florida Center for Child and Family Development, Children First, Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, First Step of Sarasota, and Jewish Family and Children's Services. This will also increase the need for Family Advocates who will be hired through the local Federation of Families chapter, the Sarasota Family Support Network. The network is currently advertising for part-time Family Advocates.

Pauline announced that Doreen Benson has been hired as the Communications Coordinator and that the Youth Coordinator position is in the process of being established. Interviews for the Project Director position will be held in mid-December. Pauline mentioned that Sherry Crelin (Training Coordinator) has been making presentations to various organizations within the community. Anyone who would like to receive this presentation should contact Sherry at 684-0090, extension 1252.

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

Pam Meunier reported that there was a handout in the members' packet with an overview of the committee's activities during the past month. Some of the highlights include:

- Acute Care System Task Force (ACSTF) is working on the initial stages of a data collection system which will include information from various emergency providers such as CSU, ARF, and emergency rooms and will be working closely with County IT. The next step will be to utilize the data to enhance services, to look at the service barriers, solutions, and best practices that are ongoing within the community.
- CART Initiative – Phase 1: Representatives from the Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF), Sarasota County Jail, Ambitrans, Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, and Sarasota Memorial Hospital have been meeting on a regular basis to address concerns/issues. The Sarasota County Jail will begin submitting reports to the committee on the Marchman Act current activity. First Step is doing an outstanding job in keeping the communication flowing with law enforcement, hospitals, and Coastal Behavioral Healthcare. The committee has begun collecting data on law enforcement's time frame of handling patients being taken into the ARF.

- VIP-ER Program - Phase 2: In FY 2006 the VIP-ER Program graduated 9 classes of 15 participants with a 76% completion rate (two 10-week classes running every 5 weeks) and met or exceeded all outcome measures. The Board of County Commissioners approved an additional \$241,000 to enhance the program by adding supported employment and aftercare case management services for graduates. Coastal Behavioral Healthcare will hire the two employment counselors and First Step of Sarasota will hire the two aftercare case managers.
- Transitional Housing Committee - Phase 3: The Transitional Housing Committee is proposing a three-part funding opportunity for providers to offer the “Sober Housing” model, including start-up costs up to \$10,000 per house, a management fee based on \$1,600 per bed per house to equal \$8,000, and rental vouchers during the transition. This proposal has been endorsed by the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) and the Stakeholders’ Consortium and will be taken to the Board of County Commissioners on January 9 for approval. First Step has agreed to act as the fiscal agent for the voucher program and the Project Management Team (PMT) is in the process of creating a committee which will make recommendations on voucher requests pending approval. Major Tanner announced that The Salvation Army has recently opened its first house with 6 graduates. Coastal Renaissance has contracted to purchase two pieces of property with a portion of their \$750,000 CDBG/SHIP grant and will house another 12 graduates.
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Committee - Stewart Stearns reported that he attended the last CIT graduation in October at the SCTI Police Academy and was very impressed with the training and the decision tree that was created for law enforcement officers. Pam Meunier stated that Captain Matosky announced at the graduation that the department will now be able to offer a salary incentive for officers who attend the training.

### **Juvenile Assessment Center**

Chip Taylor stated that a temporary solution has been identified for the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) issue. The City of Sarasota has stepped forward and offered space available on the corner of East Avenue and Adams Lane. On Friday, December 1, James Schulz and Ginny Donovan toured the space (previously the Communities Aids Network Building) and assessed that the minor renovations would include new flooring and the replacement of several doors and windows. An inspection of the air conditioning and plumbing is forthcoming. Ginny mentioned that the JAC would use one-third of the building and Sarasota Police Department would use the other part of the building for storage. Chip pointed out that in the meantime, juvenile delinquency has had a precipitous “drop” and the sooner the renovations can be completed the better. Commissioner Barbara Gross stated that the North Port Police Station has a special holding facility for juveniles along with other available space that could possibly be used for a JAC facility.

### **Legislative Update**

Elliott Metcalfe reported that on Monday, November 15, the legislative proposals were reviewed and approved through a conference call among the Executive Committee members. The 7 approved proposals were Medicaid Reform Initiative, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Initiative, Florida 2-1-1 Network, Voluntary Pre-kindergarten Program Implementation, Affordable Housing, Additional Funding for HIPPIY Program, and Foster Parent Automobile Insurance Pilot Project. On November 16, Stewart Stearns gave a presentation on the

Community Alliance proposals to the legislative delegation. Elliott stated that he will follow up as the session progresses and will inform the Community Alliance on any new developments. The proposals have been emailed to all members and are available for review on the Community Alliance website (<http://sarasotaalliance.net>).

### **Strategic Planning Retreat**

Stewart Stearns reported that the Strategic Planning Retreat will be on January 22 from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the Sarasota County Health Department, with Shelly Robertson as the facilitator. Stewart stated that during the retreat the Community Alliance will explore ways to take the community issues to the next level, to think creatively in terms of the future direction of the Community Alliance, to assist the community in understanding the critical health and human services issues within the community, and to construct a model to make this happen.

### **SURVEY**

Chip Taylor announced that in the members' packet there was a "Zoomerang" survey that will be sent out electronically to the Community Alliance members by email with a link to the survey and the Community Alliance website. Chip stated that this survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete and asked that all members complete the survey by December 13 in order for the committee to compile the information to structure the retreat. Chip gave a history of the Community Alliance for the benefit of the newer members and explained that the survey will assist in setting the Community Alliance's future course, what the focus should be, where to place more attention and what the Alliance can evolve into.

Several new members were concerned about completing the survey since they have only been on the Alliance for a short period of time. The consensus was that all members input was important no matter how long they have been on the committee.

It was mentioned that the Sarasota County Openly Plans for Excellence (SCOPE) was in the process of going through a similar retreat process and perhaps the two organizations should meet to discuss where each is headed to make sure there is no duplication in their efforts.

### **January and February Meeting Dates**

Chip Taylor announced that due to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on January 15, the January meeting will be held on January 22 at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium at 1:30 p.m. Chip further stated that since the February meeting falls on President's Day and all County offices will be closed, the February 19 meeting will also be held at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium at 1:30 p.m.

### **New Business**

Bert Tanner announced that The Salvation Army had recently received a large endowment to build specific community centers through the Ray and Joan Kroc Foundation and that he would be leaving his current position in January to become the Project Coordinator for the National Kroc Community Centers. Stewart Stearns thanked Major Tanner for all his work in the community and wished him well.

Sherri Reynolds announced that the Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA) will be holding their annual luncheon event to honor drug free work places on Wednesday, February 7

at the Meadows from noon to 2:00 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Bill Moyers, Jr. of St. Paul, Minnesota. Invitations will be sent out in January.

Jennifer Highland announced that the Healthy Start Coalition will hold an introduction program on January 4 at the Sarasota County Health Department.

**Public Comment**

None

*Next Meeting: Strategic Planning Session, January 22, 2007, 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Blvd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium, Sarasota (please note the change in the date/location of the meeting).*