

## COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

*“Partnering Assets Together for Human Services”*

*Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Blvd., Room 226*

### STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT SUMMARY

January 22, 2007

#### STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Evelyn Barritt	CHIP
Dave Beesley	First Step of Sarasota
Karen Bogues	Community Youth Development
P.J. Brooks	Manasota Safe Children Coalition Advisory Council
Bob Carter	Senior Friendship Centers
Rose Chapman	Jewish Federation of Sarasota and Manatee Counties
Carolyn Eagen	Mental Health Community Centers
Kirstin Fulkerson	Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice
Kay Glasser	Community Planning
Stanley Godleski	Seniors Advisory Council
Nancy Hanshaw	Twelfth Judicial Circuit Co
Peter Howard	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Janet Kahn	Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County
Patrick Kilbane	Young Professionals Group (YPG)
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)
Steve Queior	Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
Sherri Reynolds	Juvenile Justice Council
Nancy Shoemaker	Diocese of Venice
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Beverly Stockton	SunCoast Workforce Development Board
Dennis Stover	Friendship Volunteer Center
Alex Young	United Way of Sarasota County

#### STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Janis Alberti	Loveland Center
Samantha Berkey	STAR
Steve Brett	United Way of South Sarasota County
Vanessa Carusone	City of North Port
Ginny Donovan	Department of Juvenile Justice
Jennifer Highland	Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County
Kim Kutch	Department of Children and Families – SunCoast Region

Curtis Lavarello	Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA)
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health Department
Capt. Richard Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Scott Moore	Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County
Elsie Morales	Hispanic Latino Coalition
Daniel Schmelzinger	Office of Housing and Community Development
Shannon Staub	Sarasota Board of County Commissioners
Alberto Suarez	Manasota 2-1-1
Vicki Taylor	City of Venice
Jerry Thompson	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Tammy Zappa	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill
Caroline Zucker	School Board of Sarasota County

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Sally Graham	SCOPE
Lee Johnson	Sarasota YMCA
Cheryl Kopmann	Easter Seals Southwest Florida
Ann McArdle	Easter Seals Southwest Florida
Shelley Robertson	Robertson Consulting, Inc.

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

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

The Community Alliance of Sarasota County met on January 22, 2007 at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Blvd., at 1:30 p.m.

Stewart Stearns welcomed the members of the Steering Committee and guests to the Strategic Planning Retreat.

#### **Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund (EMPATF) Program Grant Application Endorsement**

Stewart Stearns reviewed the handout in the members' packet on the two grant applications (state funded) requesting an endorsement by the Community Alliance Steering Committee for emergency management funding. Stewart explained that the first application is being submitted by Health and Human Services in the amount of \$200,000 to assist in furthering the work of the Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster (Sarasota COAD) and the other application is being submitted by Senior Friendship Center/Friendship Volunteer Center in the amount of \$85,000 to further the work with the Volunteer Task Force of the Sarasota COAD and disaster volunteers. Both grants will address the action plan development of Sarasota County Health and Human Services and Emergency Management.

***Stanley Godleski moved, Janice Mee seconded that the Community Alliance Steering Committee endorse two grant applications from the EMPATF Program, submitted by Health and Human Services (\$200,000) and Senior Friendship Center/Friendship Volunteer Center (\$85,000) to assist in furthering the work of the Sarasota Community***

**Organizations Active in Disaster (Sarasota COAD) and sub-committee, Volunteer Task Force. Both grants will address the action plan development of Sarasota County Health and Human Services and Emergency Management. The motion passed unanimously.**

Stewart introduced the facilitator, Shelley Robertson, to the participants of the Strategic Planning Retreat. Shelley welcomed the members and guests to the retreat and introductions were made.

Shelley reviewed the outcome of the pre-retreat survey and explained that the results clearly showed the need to address the clarification of the role and purpose of the Community Alliance, discovering a way to identify key issues, and to set goals and priorities during the retreat.

### **Discussion: Is the mission still relevant? (20 year timeframe)**

Shelley pointed out that the current mission of the Community Alliance states: *The mission of the ALLIANCE is to provide a focal point for community participation, guidance and oversight for health and human services in Sarasota County by establishing a framework for the optimum achievement of an integrated health and human services delivery system which will enable citizens to achieve their maximum potential and improve their overall quality of life.*

Shelley asked the participants to envision and discuss headlines that members would like to see 20 years from now in the newspaper about the Community Alliance in order to develop a common sense of direction, guidance, and concepts to consider.

- Common themes: recognition and replication for the model/innovation, collaboration, increased resources, and a seamless integration of service delivery/universal access to services.
- Guidance: revision of the mission statement by shortening it, not being too specific on the issues, and to balance the ends and process.
- Concepts to consider: focus/advocacy on health and human services; provide the opportunity to communicate, collaborate, and move into action; community means all sectors/segments; seamless delivery – human services are fragmented and need coordination; and bring resources to bear on issues.

### **II. Discussion: Do the current purposes support mission accomplishment? (10 – 15 year timeframe)**

The members acknowledged that the original purposes did support mission accomplishments and then discussed combining the purposes into a model to determine the community priorities, conduct joint planning, facilitate coordination, collaboration and action, and communicate and celebrate.

### **III. Discussion: How can the Community Alliance address purposes better? (3-5 year timeframe)**

Members discussed how the Community Alliance currently operates and then broke it down into sections which represent a part of the model and detailed the strategies, as stated below.

### Determine Community Priorities

- Each member appointed to the Community Alliance Steering Committee representing a defined group (e.g. aging services, children and youth) would convene the organizations in their sector to compile a list of priorities and then would be shared with the Community Alliance for integration into its master priority list.
- The Community Alliance would request priorities from non-human service entities (SCOPE, County Government. etc) to synchronize with their list.
- The Community Alliance would convene funders to elicit their funding priorities and when possible, integrate expected impacts of long range changes into the systems (ex. Medicaid).

### Conduct Joint Planning

- Set up a taskforce, review the issues, bring together the right people including outside consultants to the table, brainstorm, and then develop a community solution that will make a difference within the community.
- Set up a process for community leaders to come to the Community Alliance with issues.

### Facilitate Coordination, Collaboration and Action

- Provide a forum for exchange of ideas, techniques, software, and information to explore quality improvement within the Community Alliance for collaboration and opportunities.
- Educate and advocate within the community by developing and making presentations on behalf of the Community Alliance's mission, goals, accomplishments, and the current projects to attract and increase the opportunities for collaboration and coordination.
- Coordinate human service delivery by strategically planning together with HSAC, SCOPE, United Way, and other organizations to identify issues, network priorities, determine leadership roles, and take action for the needs and services within the community.

### Communicate and Celebrate

- Present annual recognition to a master collaborator for their outstanding effort or accomplishment.
- Publish editorials to draw media involvement.
- Create a monthly/quarterly newsletter and link it to the website.
- Develop an annual report for the Board of County Commissioners and Legislation Delegation.

### **IV. Next steps**

Members agreed that the Community Alliance was prepared to move forward to set human service priorities for the community and discussed the need of creating task forces to strengthen its model.

- To revise the mission to reflect retreat comments. Steve Queior, Janice Mee, and Stewart Stearns agreed to be on this task force. The date, time and location will be announced at a later time.
- To develop the process for determining community priorities. The topics to discuss will include legislative priorities, proactive vs. a reactive approach, community outcomes, and a master plan. The concerns to discuss will include getting buy-in from all stakeholders (funders) and having a phased approach. This recommendation would include implications for the Community Alliance's structure (task forces, committees, meetings, agendas). The date, time and location will be announced at a later time.
- To develop internal and external communication activities as a way to promote the Community Alliance and its successes. Internal communication will be through a more frequent utilization of the website by the members. Internal and external communications will be used by creating a monthly e-newsletter and an annual report to the Board of County Commissioners and Legislative Delegation on community priorities. This recommendation would include implications for the Alliance structure (task forces, committees, meetings, agendas). The date, time and location will be announced at a later time.

Stewart Stearns thanked Shelley for facilitating the retreat. Stewart pointed out that this type of high level discussion was just what the Executive Committee was hoping for and now it is time to implement the next steps. Stewart reminded the members to contact Chip Taylor or Pauline Tracy if interested in serving on one of the new task forces.

### **February Meeting Date**

Chip Taylor announced that the February meeting will be held at the Sarasota County Health Department, second floor auditorium at 1:30 p.m. due to the President's Day holiday and all County offices will be closed.

### **New Business**

Sherri Reynolds announced that the Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA) will hold their annual luncheon event to honor drug free workplaces on February 7 at the Meadows. The keynote speaker will be Bill Moyers, Jr. of St. Paul, Minnesota. Invitations will be sent out shortly.

Tom Pfaff announced that Major Bert Tanner will be leaving the area on a new assignment for The Salvation Army and there will be a celebration in Major Tanner's honor on January 25 at St. Martha's Church.

### **Public Comment**

None

*Next Meeting: February 19, 2007, 1:30 p.m. at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Blvd., Second Floor Auditorium, Sarasota (please note the change in the location of the meeting).*