

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

“Partnering Assets Together for Human Services”

Sarasota School Board chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd.

MEETING SUMMARY

March 20, 2006

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
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
Lynore Dickinson	Loveland Center
Ginny Donovan	Department of Juvenile Justice
Cathy Emmett	Senior Friendship Centers (for Bob Carter)
Sarah Gorman	Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County
Nancy Hanshaw	Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court
Peter Howard	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Janet Kahn	Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County
Patrick Kilbane	Young Professionals Group (YPG)
Curtis Lavarello	Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA)
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health Department
Renee McQueen	Vocational Interagency Council
Capt. Richard Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Scott Moore	Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County
Bob Piper	First Step of Sarasota (for Dave Beesley)
Steve Queior	Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
Sherri Reynolds	Juvenile Justice Council
Nancy Shoemaker	Diocese of Venice
Shannon Staub	Sarasota Board of County Commissioners
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Beverly Stockton	SunCoast Workforce Development Board
Alberto Suarez	Manasota 2-1-1
Jerry Thompson	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Steve Brett	United Way of South Sarasota County
Vanessa Carusone	City of North Port
Kirstin Fulkerson	Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice
Maria Garcia-Casellas	Hispanic Latino Coalition
Kay Glasser	Community Planning
Stanley Godleski	Seniors Advisory Council
Frank Kovach	School Board of Sarasota County
Kim Kutch	Department of Children and Families – SunCoast Region
Janice Mee	SCOPE
Elliott Metcalfe	Public Defender - Twelfth Judicial Circuit

Tom Pfaff	Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity (SURE)
Daniel Schmelzinger	Office of Housing and Community Development
Bert Tanner	Salvation Army--Sarasota Corps
Vicki Taylor	City of Venice
Bill Wallace	Mental Health Community Centers
Alex Young	United Way of Sarasota County
Tammy Zappa	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lee Johnson	Sarasota YMCA
Judy Jones	Project H.O.P.E.
Ted Quigly	Project H.O.P.E.
Dennis Stover	Friendship Volunteer Center

STAFF PRESENT:

Kathleen Marie Hall	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Dr. Ann Kelley	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pam Meunier	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Boban Pesic	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 March 20, 2006 at the Sarasota School Board chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd. at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Stewart Stearns welcomed the members of the Steering Committee and guests and introductions were made.

Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership

Chip Taylor introduced Dr. Ann Kelley, Project Director for the Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership (ECMHP). Ann gave a brief summary of her previous experience and clinical expertise in the field of early childhood mental health.

Ann stated that as the Project Director of the ECMHP she will be responsible for assisting Sarasota County in putting together a system of care for young children that will continue long after the federal grant has ended. She explained that the ECMHP will serve children from 0 – 8 with serious emotional disturbances and their family members. Community referrals will be directed to the lead service agency, the Florida Center for Child and Family Development, where the child will be screened to determine eligibility. Once eligibility has been established, the child will receive an extensive evaluation and then a team of care coordinators will develop a well-designed, individualized care plan for the child and their family. Teams of care coordinators will be housed at the Florida Center, Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, First Step of Sarasota, Jewish Family and Children's Services, and the Early Steps Program. This project will be a community venture with collaboration between many organizations.

Ann pointed out that as a research and demonstration project, the ECMHP will have an extensive evaluation component and the County has contracted with The Florida Mental Health Institute to handle this assessment. Dr. Ilene Berson will be the lead evaluator, with two evaluators co-located at the Florida Center.

Ann mentioned that she is in the process of meeting with partners from the community in order to become acquainted with them and their agency. The next step will be to establish a Governing Board to oversee the project.

Ann stated that all Administrative Team positions have been filled except one. The first three care coordinators will be hired by July and cases will be accepted in August. The Administrative Team is temporarily housed at the Sarasota County Health Department, but will be moving out to the Florida Center offices on 17th Street by April 15. Ann mentioned that in the near future she will be setting up training opportunities for the community to better understand their system-of-care with ECMHP. For further information, Ann can be reached at 861-2884 (temporary office number) or 915-8123 (cell). Her email address is ann_kelley@doh.state.fl.us.

Revisions to Bylaws

Stewart Stearns reported that the Nominating and Membership Committee recommended revising the bylaws by adding 2 seats to the Steering Committee and changing the name of the "Community Planning" category to "Community Planning and Resources". One of the two additional seats would be in the Health Category, with a representative from CHIP filling the seat, while the other new seat would be in the Community Planning and Resources category, with Friendship Volunteer Center filling the seat. These revisions, if approved, would increase the number of seats in both categories from two to three.

Steve Queior moved, Shannon Staub seconded, the motion passed unanimously that the Community Alliance Steering Committee amend its by-laws by changing the name of the "Community Planning" category to "Community Planning and Resources"; by increasing the number of seats in the Health category from two to three, with CHIP filling the new seat; and by increasing the number of seats in the Community Planning and Resources category from two to three seats, with Friendship Volunteer Center filling the new seat.

Strategic Planning Session Update

Stewart Stearns reported that the Executive Committee made a decision to reschedule the strategic planning session to June 19 from noon to 5:00 p.m. This will allow more time to plan the session in the most efficient way possible. The Executive Committee will develop a list of priority topics to be discussed at the June session. Stewart requested that members e-mail topic suggestions to Pauline Tracy.

COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP UPDATES

Community Disaster Preparedness Committee

Boban Pesic gave a report on the Community Disaster Preparedness Committee's recent meeting on March 13, distributing a handout showing the sub-committees that were formed as a result of the 2006 action plan. They are Public Awareness/Media, Sharing Client Information,

Developmentally Disabled, Homeless, Hearing/Vision Impaired, and Non-English Speaking Population. The Elder Care, Youth and Families, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health strike teams, as well as the Volunteer Task Force, are continuing to meet on a regular basis. Boban stated that the following challenges for the upcoming season are being addressed in the action plan: integrating information; coordinating services; identifying other organizations who should be at the table; connecting and communicating with surrounding counties on their action plans; providing training and technical assistance to the community; and connecting with volunteers.

Boban pointed out that in the members' packets was an article that Dennis Stover shared on lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina titled *Critical Challenge: Non-governmental Aid*. Ken Alexander mentioned that one of the lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina was that there is a need for institutions to input their data into an electronic system versus the traditional paper format. This is due to many organizations losing their information during a hurricane.

Boban announced that there will be Incident Command Systems Training (ICS) available to all members and a listing of the dates and times was provided.

Alberto Suarez mentioned that at the last Sharing Client Information meeting a decision was made to have each member of their committee give a presentation on their respective data system so that they can correlate this data information and determine what the needs of the community will be during a disaster.

Bill Little stated that all the public information officers for agencies represented on the CDPC are now using the County's public information office to dispense all public information. They also have "canned" documents prepared for this purpose and will have a consistent flow of information through pamphlet distribution, radio, newspaper and/or TV.

Planning and Outcomes Work Group (POWG)

Ken Alexander reported that the Planning and Outcomes Work Group is in the process of reviewing the performance measures, targets and outcomes that fall into the categories of health care; substance abuse; positive youth development; abuse, neglect, and violent behavior; and early childhood development. The work group is currently using three-year rolling averages for some of the outcome indicators with smaller "Ns", such as low birth weight, early entry into prenatal care, early entry into prenatal care for teens, repeat births, immunizations, and reported AIDS cases. In the positive youth development category, the work group is looking at educational outcomes that have been proposed by the Sarasota County School Superintendent, Gary Norris, to supplement those already included in the human services policy framework. They will be reviewing targets and outcomes between positive youth development and senior population where they have found a very large gap. The 2004-2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey is now available electronically if anyone is interested in reviewing this information.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium (SAMHSC)

Bill Little reported that Michael Theall has resigned as the County's Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy Coordinator. At the present time his duties have been split among existing staff while a search is underway to fill the position.

On March 10, the CIT class graduated 15 participants. The next class has been scheduled for July 17-21.

The Planning Committee meetings have been suspended temporarily. There will be a meeting on Thursday, March 22 with several members to discuss how to get the committee mental health and substance abuse plan back on track.

At the end of this month the VIP-ER program will have graduated 5 classes. The Project Management Team is meeting on a weekly basis and recently decided to make a collective effort in applying for a \$2 million SAMHSA grant to provide additional treatment services over a five-year period.

Bob Piper reported for Dave Beesley on the CART Initiative. The secure Addictions Receiving Facility for adults is now projected to open on July 31. Phase II is going very well, with 5 agencies coming together in providing services with a great team effort. Chip Taylor announced that the Office of Housing and Community Development has awarded \$750,000 to Coastal Renaissance to develop transitional housing as Phase 3 of the CART Initiative. Bob mentioned that there is also discussion on creating a Phase 4 that would provide permanent affordable housing.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter of Support

Rose Chapman announced that her agency would appreciate a letter from the Community Alliance supporting their effort to receive a grant for the Food Stamp Outreach Program. By receiving this grant they will be able to work with the agencies around the table, go to facilities and educate eligible people to apply in order to receive food stamps for proper nutrition.

Karen Bogues moved, Sherri Reynolds seconded, motion passed unanimously that the Community Alliance Steering Committee would provide a letter of support to Jewish Family and Childrens Services for the Food Stamp Outreach Program initiative.

Davis Productivity Award

Chip Taylor mentioned that the staff who manned the Katrina Assistance Center recently won a Davis Productivity Award through the State of Florida.

Pandemic Flu Presentation

Bill Little mentioned that there will be a presentation on the Pandemic Flu at the next Community Alliance Steering Committee meeting in April.

CYD - 10th Annual Celebration

Karen Bogues announced that on Thursday, April 6, from 6-8pm there will be the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the creation of the CYD program at the Chelsea Center. If anyone would like further information please call 922-5126.

Earned Income Tax Credit

Pauline Tracy mentioned that in the members' packets is a brochure on the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for their review and distribution. AARP is providing assistance in filing income taxes and the EITC credit. For further information on the locations, call 2-1-1 or go to their website at www.uw211manasota.net

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Planning Session

Jerry Thompson announced that on Friday, March 31 from 9 to noon the south region members of Central Florida Behavioral Healthcare Network, First Step of Sarasota, and Manatee Glens will host a mental health and substance abuse planning session at the Sarasota County BOB Building off Fruitville Road.

SCOSA Upcoming Events

Curt Lavarello announced that on March 21 there will be a forum at the Venice Community Center's Town Hall on underage drinking. On March 24 the Senior Focus Committee will host a program on addressing the needs of substance abuse for the elderly population in Sarasota County at the Community Foundation on Fruitville Road.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

NEXT MEETING:

April 17, 2006, 1:30 p.m. The meeting will be at the Sarasota School Board Chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd.