

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY

“Partnering Assets Together for Human Services”

Sarasota School Board chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd.

MEETING SUMMARY

May 15, 2006

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Evelyn Barritt	CHIP
Karen Bogues	Community Youth Development
P.J. Brooks	Manasota Safe Children Coalition Advisory Council
Rose Chapman	Jewish Federation of Sarasota and Manatee Counties
Kirstin Fulkerson	Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice
Kay Glasser	Community Planning
Stanley Godleski	Seniors Advisory Council
Sarah Gorman	Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County
Peter Howard	Florida Center for Child and Family Development
Janet Kahn	Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County
Katie Knight	United Way of Sarasota County (for Alex Young)
Kim Kutch	Department of Children and Families – SunCoast Region
Curtis Lavarello	Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCOSA)
Erin McLeod	Senior Friendship Centers (for Bob Carter)
Elliott Metcalfe	Public Defender - Twelfth Judicial Circuit
Sherri Reynolds	Juvenile Justice Council
Daniel Schmelzinger	Office of Housing and Community Development
Nancy Shoemaker	Diocese of Venice
Shannon Staub	Sarasota Board of County Commissioners
Beverly Stockton	SunCoast Workforce Development Board
Dennis Stover	Friendship Volunteer Center
Bert Tanner	Salvation Army--Sarasota Corps
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health Department (for Bill Little)

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Dave Beesley	First Step of Sarasota
Samantha Berkey	STAR
Steve Brett	United Way of South Sarasota County
Lynore Dickinson	Loveland Center
Ginny Donovan	Department of Juvenile Justice
Nancy Hanshaw	Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court
Patrick Kilbane	Young Professionals Group (YPG)
Kathy Kleinlein	School Board of Sarasota County
Richard Lockhart	City of North Port
Renee McQueen	Vocational Interagency Council
Janice Mee	SCOPE
Richard Lockhart	City of North Port

Capt. Richard Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Scott Moore	Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County
Tom Pfaff	Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity (SURE)
Steve Queior	Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Alberto Suarez	Manasota 2-1-1
Vicki Taylor	City of Venice
Jerry Thompson	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Bill Wallace	Mental Health Community Centers
Tammy Zappa	National Alliance for the Mentally Ill

OTHERS PRESENT:

Karen Eber Davis	Karen Eber Davis Consulting
Chief Lawrence J. Leon	Sarasota School District Police Department
Mark Porter	Sarasota YMCA

STAFF PRESENT:

Kathleen Marie Hall	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pam Meunier	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
James Schulz	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services

The Community Alliance of Sarasota County met on May 15, 2006 at the Sarasota School Board chambers, 1980 Landings Blvd. at 1:30 p.m.

Vice-Chair Elliott Metcalfe welcomed the members of the Steering Committee and guests and introductions were made.

COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP UPDATES

Planning and Outcomes Work Group (POWG)

Ken Alexander reported that the Planning and Outcomes Work Group met with Mike McHugh, Director of Pupil Support Services/Charter Schools, at the school board chambers and agreed that the Superintendent's proposed outcomes would be appropriate for inclusion in the County's human services policy framework. Ken announced that the work group has received some data on the child and adult abuse rates from Department of Children and Families (DCF) and is in the process of analyzing the data. The School Readiness measure will be replaced with a literacy measure. An additional measure will be added to the Gold Seal status measure to show improvement rather than just simply pass/fail.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium (SAMHSC)

Pam Meunier reported that the Department of Children and Families (DCF) offered to coordinate a local Baker Act training since the May 31 training by Martha Lenderman is already full. The next meeting of the Consortium will be June 23, 9:00 a.m. at the Sarasota County Health Department with a discussion on initiating a sub-committee for legislative issues.

Pam reported on the Community Alternative Residential Treatment (CART) Initiative:

- Phase 1 – the Addictions Receiving Facility (ARF) is scheduled to open on July 31. The Board of County Commissioners approved the ARF operations contract with start-up funding for recruiting and hiring staff.
- Phase 2 – the VIP-ER overall successful completion rate is 75%. The Project Management Team (PMT) is meeting weekly to discuss both operational and higher level issues. Their governing structure is working well with a management model of collaboration and a good potential for the community. PMT has applied for a SAMHSA grant that will enhance the program and are preparing to apply for a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant (through the county) which will go before the Board of County Commissioners on May 23. This grant will enhance the mental health services with additional funding for medications, psychiatric services, and a work readiness piece for the graduates of VIP-ER.
- Phase 3 – The Office of Housing and Community Development has awarded Coastal Renaissance, Inc. (CRI) a \$750,000 grant for transitional housing. There was a discussion on whether the funding will be used for renovations or a new building.
- Phase 4 – There is ongoing discussion regarding permanent housing.

Chip Taylor reported that the CART Initiative's first year evaluation is being conducted by the Florida Mental Health Institute at USF. The interim report just released, showed the accomplishments of outcomes and how the management team is working together. Some of the issues that were addressed in this report were the need for housing, caseworkers, and job counselors to handle the number of successful graduates. This report will be brought to the Board of County Commissioners within the next 10 days with a request to continue the program and to add additional services to enhance the program. Bill Janes, the new Director of the Florida Office of Drug Control, is very supportive of this program and has offered to write letters of support from his office and the Governor in support of the BJA application.

Pam Meunier reported that the Acute Care System Task Force (ACSTF) discussed their action plan and steps to address the excessive demand on the system. Members of the task force will be visiting Manatee Glens in Manatee County to see how their acute care system works. There was a discussion on educating the community on the Baker Act Transportation issues. Rik Jimison will be presenting a Baker Act training packet on May 24 at a Baker Act/Marchman Act Transport Finalization meeting, on May 31 at the Baker Act training by Martha Lenderman, and in July at the CIT training. The next ACSTF meeting will be on May 30, 9:00 a.m. at the Sarasota County Health Department.

James Schulz reported on the Crisis Intervention Treatment (CIT) meeting and announced that they were in the process of recruiting students for the next training on July 17 – 21 which will be held at the Community Foundation on Fruitville Road.

Chip Taylor reported that the Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership (ECMHP) will hold a meeting on May 19 at the Sarasota County Health Department to discuss the governance structure for the project, what the board's role will be for the partnership and who should be included on the board. There will likely be one additional meeting prior to officially constituting the board as a sub-committee of the Stakeholders' Consortium. The next Logic Model meeting will be on May 16 in Venice. Contracts and subcontracts are being finalized in order to commence services to children and their families by July 1.

Community Disaster Preparedness Committee (CDPC)

Elliott Metcalfe mentioned that the Community Disaster Preparedness Committee (CDPC) meeting would follow the Community Alliance meeting.

Strategic Planning Session Update

Members of the Executive Committee (Peter Howard, Ken Alexander, Sarah Gorman and Kay Glasser) reported on the update of the Strategic Planning session. The topics will be identified in July and the session will take place in the fall.

- Look at the history of the Community Alliance by reviewing the accomplishments in relation to the Community Alliance mission.
- Use the results of the self-evaluation survey section (member roles, contributions, use of talents, and description of unaddressed issues) to assist in forming the agenda for the session.
- Put time and energy into broken programs/projects.
- Look at ways to continually engage members in current and future projects.
- Discover ways to become the best human service continuum in the nation.
- Look at models of other states such as Minnesota, Massachusetts, or New York, where they provide human services through one centralized system.
- Look at various successful human service models in the county such as, the Project Management Team (PMT) and the Glasser/Schoenbaum Human Services Center of Sarasota Inc., for use in future projects.
- Research ways for agencies to come together to become more creative and flexible in permitting interaction by utilizing as many services efficiently and effectively as possible to capitalize on available funding.
- Look at solutions for growth in the South County in terms of social and human services.

NEW BUSINESS

Legislative Update

Chip Taylor reported that in the members' packet there was a legislative update from Children's Campaign, Inc. on the 2006 session. Chip requested that members forward human services updates to his office, to be placed on the Community Alliance website. Elliott Metcalfe suggested that the legislative update packet be completed by the July meeting. Some of the members comments on legislation updates:

- Florida Partners in Crisis's legislative session outcome focused mainly on mental health and substance abuse with an increase of \$10 million for adult mental health statewide, \$6.8 million for additional forensic beds at Northeast Florida State Hospital, \$2 million for additional beds at South Florida Evaluation and Treatment Center, \$4.8 million to replace non-recurring funding for the DCF budget, \$10.6 million for adult substance abuse, and \$1.1 million for children's substance abuse.
- The YMCA received an overall increase in funding for Foster Care with a slight increase for foster care parents.

- The Children's Campaign update on Healthy Start services received their first increase in state funding since the program was created in 1991 and will offer services to another 20,000 families statewide, 300 in Sarasota County.
- The Fetal Alcohol Diagnostics Center pilot program received \$75,000 in Jacksonville.
- Human services and criminal justice received very little funding, whereas education received a 14% increase across the board.
- Hurricane preparedness and the Citizens Insurance Fund received \$1 billion in funding.
- The failures were: \$6 million for the continuation of the Department of Correction's substance abuse services, the state-wide jail diverted programs received no additional funding, and 2-1-1.

STAR Leadership Prom Fundraiser

Karen Bogues announced that on Saturday, June 3, there will be a prom fundraiser for the STAR Leadership.

Sarasota County School Prevention Program

Karen Bogues and Nancy Shoemaker pointed out that in the next fiscal year, the school district will eliminate 3 out of the 4 positions within the Prevention Program. This program has been successful in helping to lower the youth substance abuse rate in the community over the past ten years. There was a request for the Community Alliance to consider advocating for this specific issue and the entire area of prevention and including it as an agenda item at a future meeting.

Friendship Volunteer Center

Dennis Stover announced that hurricane season was right around the corner and suggested that all agencies update their Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP). Dennis pointed out that the Friendship Volunteer Center is prepared for the season and is working together closely with the Community Disaster Preparedness Committee. Dennis mentioned that there will be a training prior to the hurricane season to train volunteers for the Volunteer Reception Centers (VRC) on May 31 at Fruitville Library. For further information go to <http://friendshipvolunteer.com> or call 953-5965.

Critical Incident Stress Management Training

Major Bert Tanner announced that on May 25-26 there will be certification training for Critical Incident Stress Management at the Salvation Army's 10th Street facility. This training is for pastoral intervention for pastors, lay people or anyone who will be providing spiritual counseling during a disaster. Dennis Stover requested that this information be sent electronically to him to forward to the faith-based community.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

NEXT MEETING:

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