

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY
Children and Youth Services Strategic Planning Work Group

Meeting Summary for August 27, 2007

Present:

Ken Alexander	Sarasota Memorial Hospital/Bayside
Mike Bigner	Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice
Karen Bogues	CYD
Lee Byron	Human Services Advisory Council
Rose Chapman	Jewish Family and Children's Services
Kay Glasser	Human Services Center
Jennifer Highland	Healthy Start Coalition
Kelsey Hitchingham	Friendship Volunteer Center
Edwina Jones	Community Haven for Adults and Children
Cheryl Kopmann	Easter Seals of Southwest Florida
Kim Kutch	DCF
Joy Mahler	Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Janice Mee	Child Advocate
Mark Porter	Sarasota Family YMCA
Katrina Rae	DCF
Sherri Reynolds	Sarasota County School Board
Nancy Shoemaker	Catholic Charities

Staff:

Jamie Mahadeo	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
---------------	---

Summary

Rose noted that there was some confusion at the last meeting about where to go with this assignment. In the end, the discussion led to the "Ready by 21" initiative. While this is a wonderful concept, it will take one to two years to complete. It is an initiative that should be pursued, but outside of the assignment given by the Community Alliance.

Rose advised that, should the committee not accomplish its mission, someone else will make the recommendations for them. That is not something that she felt the committee wanted to do. With that, she opened the floor for discussion.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- The outcome of the survey completed last month and whether or not to use these top three categories in response to the assignment from the Community Alliance,
- Possible survey bias should a majority of those responded represent one specific field,

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SARASOTA COUNTY
Children and Youth Services Strategic Planning Work Group

Meeting Summary for August 27, 2007

- The difficulty other committees are having in making these choices and whether or not they have considered more long-term processes like “Ready by 21,”
- The role of the Community Alliance and the impact of these decisions on the community,
- Resources required to accomplish the “Ready by 21” initiative,
- Whether or not the responses the committee brings forward are guaranteed to be on the Community Alliance’s final list of community priorities,

It was recommended that the committee bring forward the top three items from the questionnaire – quality/affordable child care, safe/affordable housing, and substance abuse/mental health with a caveat that the “Ready by 21” initiative be pursued in the future. Extensive discussion ensued resulting in a consensus that the proposed recommendation be brought forward to the Community Alliance as this committee’s response to the assignment.

No future meetings are planned at this time.