

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

Meeting Summary for June 16, 2008

Present:

Mike Bigner	Third Wave Consulting Group, Inc.
PJ Brooks	Juvenile Justice Council/First Step of Sarasota
Rose Chapman	Jewish Family and Children's Services
Kay Glasser	Human Services Center
Janet Kahn	Early Learning Coalition
Jamie Mahadeo	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Kristie Skoglund	The Florida Center
Rob Tabor	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare

PJ Brooks explained that the purpose of today's meeting is to identify the unfunded 'low hanging fruit' and funded service enhancements for each of the logical age groupings identified in previous surveys. Dr. Glasser led the discussion. The results of this exercise are as follows:

Age 0 to 4

Unfunded:

- Advocacy for quality child care
- Social marketing to educate the community about the importance of quality child care
- Regularly scheduled meetings of all agencies who serve this age group to collaborate
- Social marketing of existing programs/resources
- Recommend funders use the Quality Child Care Rating System in their funding decisions

Funded:

- Affordable quality child care for working parents who do not qualify for subsidies
- Funding for training of child care providers

Age 5 to 10

Unfunded:

- Regularly scheduled meetings of all agencies who serve this age group to collaborate
- Social marketing to attract appropriate volunteer mentors

Funded:

- Screening, background checks and training of volunteer mentors who are appropriately supervised
- Early intervention/prevention activities available in elementary schools

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Age 11 to 13

Unfunded:

- Social marketing to enlist youth volunteers for involvement in community activities
- Regularly scheduled meetings of all agencies who serve this age group to collaborate

Funded:

- Funding for prevention, intervention and treatment services for substance abuse and mental health

Age 14 to 18

Unfunded:

- Regularly scheduled meetings of all agencies who serve this age group to collaborate
- Engage the school principals to collaborate in the development and implementation of community-based and school-based services

Funded:

- New approaches to school-based substance abuse and mental health intervention services

The next step is for the Community Alliance to identify or delegate who is to be in each workgroup. There may already be groups in the community that can incorporate these purposes in their activities.