

## Community Alliance of Sarasota County

[www.sarasotaalliance.net](http://www.sarasotaalliance.net)

### Developmental Disabilities Strategic Planning Work Group

January 15, 2008

### Meeting Summary

#### Members present:

Kathi Coiro	Children's Medical Services
Peggy Connell	Community Haven
Ellen Hepner	Children's Medical Services
Margie Genter	Goodwill Industries-Manasota
Sarah Hickey	Sarasota County School Board
Peter Howard	The Florida Center
Teresa Johnson	Sarasota County Parent Liaison
Andrea King	Sarasota County Parks & Recreation
Ann McArdle	Easter Seals Southwest Florida
Susan Magers	Sarasota County Parent Liaison
Renee McQueen	Vocational Interagency Council
Richard Montemagno	Sarasota County Sheriffs Office
Michelle Pilkington	Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Mary Smith	Family Network on Disabilities
Ryan Stoyles	Community Haven
Benny Weaver	Loveland Center
Laurel White	Vocational Rehabilitation
Darleen Zimmerman	Goodwill Academy
Mary Ann Zylo-Smith	Easter Seals Southwest Florida

#### Staff:

Kathleen Marie Hall	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services

#### Welcome and Introductions

Peter Howard welcomed the participants to the meeting and introductions were made.

#### Work Group PowerPoint Presentation

Peter Howard stated that the focus for the meeting is to review and finalize the draft of their presentation for the January 28 Community Alliance Steering Committee meeting. Peter mentioned that he hoped that a council will be created in Sarasota County to address developmental disabilities on an ongoing basis that will use the presentation as their starting point.

Pauline Tracy reviewed the presentation with the participants and asked for comments, deletions, and suggestions on each slide. Participant suggestions:

- The third slide should be the definition of Developmental Disabilities
- The single and second most important unmet service need....
  - Change “Services” to read, “Services/Funding”
- The single most severely underserved population....
  - Take out “Psychotic population” and replace it with “Dually diagnosed individuals”
  - Take out “Poor black” and replace it with “Low-income minorities”
- The second most severely underserved population...
  - Take out “Hispanic poor” and replace it with “Low-income minorities”
  - Correct the misspelled word “Down’s” to read, “Down Syndrome”
- Aspects of the service delivery system....
  - Staff will send out the list and participants will forward back their order of the priorities.
- What can be done to ensure...
  - Staff will send out the list and participants will forward back their order of the priorities
- Annual Housing Data:
  - Under CMS – delete “served” and replace it with “referred.”
- Annual Transportation Data:
  - Add SCAT data from slide 23 to this slide.
- Annual Respite Data:
  - Under CMS – delete “served approximately” and replace it with “has the capacity to fund respite for approximately 222 children enrolled in KidCare”
  - Change “Family Network” to read, “Family Network and Easter Seal provided respite to 195 children (0-22)” and delete “and 367 adults (23 and older)”
  - Add “APD provided funding for 367 adults”
  - Community Haven will provide data
- Annual Supported Employment Data:
  - Speaker will need to address the fact that Vocational Rehabilitation provides supported employment but does not provide the follow along services (not directly provided as services are contracted/referred out)
- Annual Early Intervention Data:
  - Spell out ITDS - Infant Toddler Developmental Services
  - Move “Early Steps” to the top
  - Easter Seals will provide number
  - Community Haven will provide Sarasota County’s annual number and the number of Sarasota County children participating in the Whole Child Project

- Florida Department of Education Data:
  - Delete “disabled = (16%)” and replace it with “Percent of students with disabilities = 16%”
- Exceptional Students (Unduplicated) Under Age 22:
  - Add graduation and drop-out rate information
  - Add number of students enrolled by exceptionality
- Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Data:
  - Transfer SCAT numbers to the Annual Transportation Data slide (No. 18) and then delete this slide
- Agency For Persons With Disabilities Data – Waiting Enrollment by age group
  - Speaker will need to explain to the Community Alliance what groups can actually access the Med-waiver (limited access)
- Actual Waiting List Much Higher:
  - Add a bullet after 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet stating, “Average length of time individuals are on the APD waiting list is 5 years”
  - Add a bullet after the above bullet stating, “The last individual (not in crisis) to be removed from the waiting list was February 2003”
- Additional slide for waiver enrolled – create second column to show How many are enrolled vs. how many should be enrolled (a side by side comparison to show the drastic difference in the numbers and what the future holds)
- Five Priorities Areas:
  - Housing – need information from Benny Weaver, Peggy Connell, and Jennifer Fehr
  - Transportation – Need further information from Ellen Hepner, Joanne Gepfert, Sarah Hickey and Renee McQueen
    - Last bullet should read, “young children, teens and adults”
    - Delete “Resources in other counties” and replace it with “Specialty services in other counties and unavailable in Sarasota County”
    - Add bullet before last bullet stating, “Medicaid transportation severely limited”
  - Family Support Services
    - Third bullet: delete “children” and replace it with “youth”
    - Add a fifth bullet: “Meaningful day activities for adults over the age of 22”
  - Supportive Employment
    - Peggy Connell and Ryan Stoyles will provide additional bullets
  - Early Intervention
    - Add Kathryn Shea’s bullets
- Add youth and adult pictures from the community throughout the presentation.

A discussion ensued on the data slides. Some participants felt that the numbers were low and did not give the actual picture of the need. Suggestions were made to either delete the data or just show the data from the Sarasota County School System. Other participants felt that the current numbers should be provided to show that the group did track data. Peter pointed out that Sarasota County is not as well funded in the disability movement as it is in mental health and addictions arena. The group needs to come up with a way to present this data that furthers their cause and at the same time shows their best effort.

Benny Weaver stated that this presentation is a work in progress that will be used as the developmental disabilities educational piece for the Community Alliance Steering Committee on January 28. There is no need to overwhelm them. The most important pieces of information to get across are the five developmental disability priority areas in Sarasota County that are not adequately being addressed.

Participants asked staff to email the revised presentation for all to review and make suggested changes. Pauline asked that all changes be made in red and emailed back to her by the close of business on Wednesday, January 23.

Peter mentioned that some of the initiatives that could come out of this group's participation may be after-school programs for the developmentally disabled, a one-stop computer database, a transition case manager position and a transportation system for the after-school program. This is the beginning of social marketing for the developmentally disabled.