

**FAMILY CARE COUNCIL
APD AREA 13
JULY 14, 2008**

Meeting called to order at 10 AM by Chair Isabel S de Martinez in the APD Training Room.

IN ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS: Betty Kay Clements, Tina Renwick, Isabel S. deMartinez, Michael Payne, Sandy Shorey, Jennifer Knowles, Anna Brynild, Norman Price

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Stephanie Hopper, Eva Knowles, Sandy Dayton,

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT: Caryn Jones, Karen Huscher

APD STAFF: Brenda Stevens, David Johnson

VISITORS: Eileen Reidy, Karin Capehart, Linda Travis, Carleen Rice,

Chair Isabel, welcomed everyone and had visitors introduce themselves. A quorum was present. Packets for meeting were passed out. Chair had copies of commissioners from each County stressing the need to communicate at every level with decision makers.

Information sheet passed around to update contact information

MINUTES REVIEW/APPROVAL: Motion was made by Jennifer and seconded by Michael that the minutes of the June, 2008 meeting be approved as presented. Minutes approved.

BUDGET REPORT/BUDGET REVIEW: Norm reported APD shows a balance of \$8, 627.16 and when expenditures are all in FCC figures and APD should be very close. Some expenditures still out. Detail and balance will be known after end of fiscal year wrap up.

AREA ADMINISTRATOR REPORT/UPDATE: Chair introduced David Johnson who reported that little is occurring regarding talk of tiers etc., very quiet, though it is expected that the Administrative Judge will make a decision on or by July 28. There are no details on what that will mean. A lot of things are going on at the local level, awaiting decisions.

David stated that July rate changes have been implemented and Service Authorizations have gone out with few problems. Some fine-tuning and corrections to cost plans will be done and APD staff will be getting with WSC's to assist as able. He said that there were only 2 services needing amendments, which were done, and transport is mostly on board, including IB (Intensive Behavioral). Regarding closures of homes or programs, some readjustments to service have been done, but no closings or major changes announced. He also discussed the new fiscal agent for Medicaid at AHCA which is Electronic Data Systems. (EDS) It has had some initial problems making payments, though some went out with July 9 cycle. Delays have been felt by providers. APD and providers caught off guard and APD has no control over EDS or Medicaid payments except to report to AHCA these critical occurrences. He continued his update saying that 2 weeks ago Assessors were in for Intensive Behavior (I.B.) services and for reliability testing of new rates. Rates are expected to be implemented in 2-3 months. There is to be 1-6 rates, \$200 up to \$600. No details available yet.

The Area office received budget for this year. It is about the same as last year. Questioned as to the impact of the 4% hold announced on the budget, he indicated that it is not showing up at this point but is expected to be same as last year. As far as how FCC funds would be impacted he did not know. Members shared with him that it was removed from FCC last year and Jane Johnson ordered it returned which did occur.

Regarding Tiers David said we should know on July 28th. Norm asked about how rates would be affected when tiers come in, David said money won't change but there could be a change for the client based on tier assignment. Everyone will be notified of changes. Notice and process for appeal will also kick in at that time. Asked about assessments influence, he stressed that QSI assessment and Tiers are not tied together at this time.

Regarding QSI assessments, David said Area 13 is leading the State. Area 13 is hiring 2 new Assessors, 1 starts in August. The goal is to have the entire Waiver done by March and then the waitlist starts. Soon, he stated, a test retest for reliability will be started. The purpose is to justify the tool and inter rated reliability will be done. Once completed, Assessments will be looked at for trends, statistical analysis and correcting of cost plans if necessary. So he advised members that if they hear another assessment is being done on an individual, it is about reliability testing, not the individual. There was discussion on which assessment would be the one used. Stephanie speculated that the first one would be used and the other for quality control purposes. David said that retesting does not mean there was anything wrong with the first test and essentially should not change. A difference could indicate a problem with the use of the tool is the thought at this time.

Anna asked David a question about an individual placed under crisis with behaviors. They were placed on the FSL and then no behavior services used. If that occurs the question was, would they be removed from the waiver? Questioned if there is anything in the manual about it. David did not think so. His answer without knowing details of this particular placement, he said, was that once it is determined to be a crisis and as long as there is medical necessity, they would remain on the Waiver. A concern was voiced by a visitor, but Linda Travis WSC stressed that there may be other factors not known or apparent. It could be brought to APD attention and they will address if need be David offered. Asked why clients are not discharged once they are helped, David responded that developmental disabilities are not cured but supports and services continue to be a life long need. FCC members echoed his comments.

Stephanie Hopper addressed the issue telling the visitor that none of the individuals are served solely because they have a behavior issue. They all have more complex issues that may be accompanied by behaviors. David added that crisis is not an easy process, mostly homeless or caregiver issues involved. Linda Travis stressed that other resources need to be pulled together as the Waiver is not an entitlement program. Extensive discussion and other questions about the waitlist and concerns as to how the waitlist is triaged are a concern that members would like addressed. Betty Kay said that she knows legislators Rhonda Storms and Nan Rich have addressed this as well. She believes APD or legislators will address this in some manner this year. Norm added that the Waitlist is Area 13 FCC #1 project this year, addressed at the legislative level. A plan needs to be formulated, evaluated and budgeted for by legislators. Information from Colorado, where advocates are taking it to a ballot, was

spoken to, though their tax base is different from Florida. Norm again stressed that those on the waitlist or those with services cannot start fighting among themselves. All agreed.

On a different issue, Norm asked David if APD is going through bank accounts of individuals on the waiver and David said there was no authority to do so. Norm was looking into information he received but did not want to address further at this time.

AQL REPORT: Brenda attended the LENS workshop in Orlando put on by the Council on Quality Leadership (CQL) and reported on it. See attached. Primrose in Orlando hosted the workshop and there were work groups of 6 people, who went into the community to learn everything about it. A plan for Primrose was prepared. Areas addressed were transportation, housing, safety and others. Community experts on topics spoke and there is a plan for Primrose to partner with organizations to solve issues related to the subject matter. Each group did a presentation on their area of exploration. Area 13 AQL Steering committee wants to participate and is looking for a host company in a community. Resource books for each County would be end product. It is for everyone in the community regardless of services. Focus on transportation in Citrus is needed Stephanie said, as students cannot get to jobs, a major barrier. Natural supports are needed for more than just 1 person so need to focus on more than just disabilities but all with that need. They may have a learning disability not DD, older, poor, others with needs would also benefit from this concept. Brenda said it would be Feb. or March before it starts. She suggested gathering what is there now to share. Linda Travis mentioned 211 for resources, but some shared 211 not active in their counties.

GO TO MEETING PRESENTATION: Anna Brynild did a “Go to Meeting” presentation. Individuals and families could use to access FCC meetings, minimize travel and maximize participation. Members discussed the presentation with a positive response and wanting more information at the next meeting. Chair asked Anna to check on cost and equipment needed to do this. Materials are scanned in and agendas used with conference calling, so all have ability for input Anna said. Trainings can be done; people could meet in a library or in a home and access. Meetings can be recorded, but cost unknown. Item will be on Agenda next month.

NEW BUDGET: Norm presented figures, 500 FCCF, Travel \$700 per quarter, for increased membership, \$600 for hotel + \$600 travel for Chair/Rep. for 6 FCCF meetings this year. Admin. Costs \$325/quarter, 2 family forums at \$2500, Special projects \$225/quarter, Conferences \$800, adds up to the \$10,000. Motion to accept budget as presented by Anna, seconded by Tina and passed.

FCC APPLICANTS APPROVAL: Eileen Reidy and Phyllis Novak, from Hernando County, were voted on for recommendation to Governor for appointment. Betty Kay made motion to approve, seconded by Anna, passed. They will be Associate members awaiting appointment.

SUPPORT PLAN 2008-2009: Betty Kay presented review of last years plan and a worksheet supplied for members to discuss. Mission statement and goals set up plan, and needs brainstorming. Some old items may be used. Waitlist, vigilance on services needed, and Legislative mandates main goals. Linda suggested specificity with assignments etc. Anna stressed communications, need for radio, TV, etc. Running a PSA and someone to put it

together as professional important, noted Norm. Isabel said to introduce ourselves to legislators and ask what we can do to assist, never be in attack mode. That is non productive. The need to teach families about resources emerged as well as a key goal. Lengthy discussion culminated in committee assignments of Anna, Linda Travis WSC, and Stephanie Hopper, with others as desired. Stephanie suggested all write down ideas on worksheet and send to Anna. They are to meet and develop a draft plan to bring back to the FCC members.

ORIENTATION CERTIFICATES: As Chair in Sept. 07, when orientations were completed, Betty Kay presented Brenda Stevens, Liaison/Trainer of the FCC Orientation a certificate. Members awarded a certificate were Jennifer Knowles, Eva Knowles, Michael Payne, Stephanie Hopper, Anna Brynild, Isabel deMartinez, Sandy Shorey, Tina Renwick, Norm Price, Betty Kay Clements. Dominic Christofaro's and Karen Huscher's will be mailed.

MEMBERS COMMENTS: Betty Kay noted an email rec'd about partnering with Area 3 FCC and others on regional trainings. Some members thought it was duplicative as their counties are already doing. Betty Kay said this involves Ocala. The Chair requested Betty Kay get more information and bring back for reconsideration if indicated.

Isabel urged members to go to their County ER preparedness, do paperwork and make needs known by phone or online where they can get applications. She did this in Lake Co.

VISITOR COMMENTS: Karin Capehert of Hernando County asked how she could be involved with FCC since she does not qualify for membership, but is avid advocate. A Vote for her to be an Associate member was taken and passed by consensus.

Carleen Rice of Hernando is a parent and is interested in participation in FCC. A vote was taken and approved for her to apply, which she later declined for now. She would be open to hosting FCC meeting of Go to Meeting at a library or other site in Hernando County and does want to participate in FCC activities.

Meeting adjourned at 12 noon. Next Meeting August 11, APD office from 10am- 12noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kay Clements
Area 13 FCC Secretary