

**FAMILY CARE COUNCIL
APD AREA 13
MAY 11, 2009**

IN ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS: Isabel S deMartinez, Betty Kay Clements, Eileen Reidy, Phyllis Novak, Jennifer Knowles, Caryn Jones, Sandy Dayton, Sandy Shorey, Anna Brynild on phone,
MEMBERS ABSENT: Tina Renwick, Michael Payne, Norman Price
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Eva Knowles, Karen Huscher,
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT: Stephanie Hopper,
APD STAFF: Brenda Stevens, David Johnson
VISITORS:

Quorum Present

Meeting called to order at 10 AM by Chairperson Isabel. She welcomed everyone

MINUTES REVIEW/APPROVAL:

Chair Isabel asked for a review of the meeting minutes for last month. Jennifer made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Eileen. Motion Approved by consensus.

AREA ADMINISTRATOR REPORT/UPDATE:

David noted that the Legislative session ended on Friday. APD is in the planning process of adding appx. 2500 individuals to the CDC+ program. Details are not available at this time. Area Administrators will be in Tally next week for a leadership meeting where more details on APD activities will emerge. He did state that the Area offices are already working on encouraging WSC's to sign up for the training to work with CDC+ individuals. Training planned in Area 13 for second week in June. All QSI on waiver individuals have been done. Now they are working on a sampling of the waitlist in each area. Area 13 has 397 to complete by 6/30 and 140 have been done up to now. Tier and rebasing hearings are ongoing. 22 have been granted on Tiers in this area to date. 800 Statewide. This is a formal process but individuals and families should not be intimidated. He stated that the role of APD is to answer questions. Denial letters are being sent out and Area office is notified as this occurs. David said there are work groups being put together on Individual Budgeting that is projected in APD's future for individuals. Various processes will be taken into account to come up with a formula for determination of budget for each individual. Another issue arising is that of a flexible benefit for certain services that has been put into language by the legislature this year. The proviso language is not available at this time, but will be forthcoming. It is expected to encompass a fair and equitable way of managing some services and using cost plan money.

Anna asked about a situation regarding a deaf client of APD and the lack of adequate sign language interpretation where she is residing. Anna to communicate details with David after the meeting. One of the contributing factors is the fact that APD Med Waiver will not cover residential services in a facility over 15 beds she noted. Such a facility is available but client is restricted due to the Med Waiver issue Anna said. David reported that the Prado Steinman lawsuit settlement regulated that restriction.

AQL/LENS PROGRAM REPORT:

Brenda Stevens reported on the Lens training and participant list is full. There will be a great deal of activities going forward this week. She was very enthusiastic with the diverse group of individuals that have signed up and want to assist this important program. She will report on activities and outcomes at the next FCC meeting.

Brenda also addressed in her role as Area 13 FCC Liaison, the need for members/others to advise if they wish to use the phone/conference calling as a way of attending the FCC meeting. Arrangements are needed in advance based on how the connection is to be made. She encouraged contacting Chair Isabel or her once that decision or request is considered. She also added that it is a great way to maximize the attendance and contribution to FCC discussion etc. For instance, a group could call in from Hernando or elsewhere and participate actively in the meeting with minimal travel.

BUDGET REPORT/BUDGET REVIEW:

In absence of treasurer Betty Kay reported that Norm said there is only a \$12.46 difference between the report from the State and his report. The balance showing is \$4, 978 without travel, café and purchases being considered. Fiscal year ends June 30, 2009 so purchases and other activity will need to be in according to a timeline that has been distributed.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:

Chair Isabel stressed the need for individuals to visit the legislators in their home areas this summer. Build a relationship. She is meeting with Rep. O'Toole next week and taking Christina with her. She stressed using the document FCCF put together from Rep Proctor. She also stressed the diversity that is needed in talking about the various issues. Important that younger population engage now to help shape the future. Betty Kay shared a method that the elder affairs individuals promote which is to also approach those who are interested in running for the legislature. Find out what they know and educate them on DD as a way that you can support them if they run. Everyone must take responsibility in keeping the issues of DD, waitlist in the forefront.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Sandy, Phyllis and Eileen served on the nomination committee. Slate of officers announced was Isabel S deMartinez for Chairperson and Norman Price for Vice Chairperson. Nominations from the floor were requested. No nominations from the

floor for Chairperson. Isabel S deMartinez was elected chair by consensus. No nominations from the floor for Vice Chairperson. Norman Price was elected Vice Chairperson by consensus. They will serve for the 2009-10 year.

MEMBER DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CAFÉ assistance was addressed. It was noted that vouchers need to be submitted at the FCC meeting June 8, immediately following CAFÉ. Jennifer, Karen (Korey), Caryn Jones will attend and be sponsored. Eileen and Phyllis may attend as well and will let Betty Kay know as soon as possible. As there is sufficient budget money available some others may be considered. In the future a raffle or method of sponsoring individuals needs to be developed in order to be fair to all who may seek assist members agreed. Anna indicated that funds have been low for CAFÉ this year and persons were not assisted as in the past.

Discussion followed regarding the budget. A motion was made to purchase needed items up to \$2500.00 by Eileen and seconded by Jennifer. Some of the items are, Spider phone for maximizing participation of persons across the Area, portable projection screen, digital camera with accessories, needed office supplies for printer etc. Anna suggested memory sticks be purchased to assist with programs. She will put together a power point for Area 13 FCC. Betty Kay has one that can be adapted and she will send to Anna and work with her on a presentation. This can maximize the outreach to families and individuals and assist trainings, legislative issues etc. Anna listed the opportunities available with school ESE parents' day, etc. for FCC to participate in.

Discussion of concern for children in current situation with Schools and APD. Varied experiences by individuals that may not really meet needs exist members said. Sandy Shorey shared that not only do the schools not educate but also they do not really teach skills. Karen stated that Dr Franklin has said that, separation of education in and of itself is inherently unequal and the Education system and the State perpetuate it by decreasing or taking away services.

Other outreach issues brought up by members were meeting with WSC's, sending postcards or newsletters for individuals and families to respond with their addresses/ contact information. Sandy Dayton stressed that communications with WSC's can be significant in approaching families. It was also suggested that business cards are important for members in outreach, as well as flyers and brochures. Isabel said the budget for next year would include business cards.

Eileen and Phyllis asked about plans on the Hernando Forum. That needs to be addressed at the next meeting. Getting a place to hold it early is important. Isabel to contact Stephanie to get in touch with Eileen or Phyllis on her recommendation of contact person.

REPORT ON FCC/FCCF:

Betty Kay reported that the legislature passed a study to be done on providing a pre-paid service for individuals with DD, based on the programs regarding prepaid tuition services

now available. It was unanimously passed by the House and Senate and includes language that the Chair of FCCF and another FCC parent are to be on this study. ARC of Florida had presented this bill for consideration. A report is due back to legislators in 6 months. She also reported that we are waiting to see about the language on prioritization of the waitlist that should be in proviso soon. Providers did not get a rate cut but it is possible that APD staff with certain salaries could get a 2% cut in pay. She also noted that Jim DeBeaugrine was confirmed by the legislature as the Agency for Persons with Disabilities Director. He is the first confirmed Director of APD. Betty Kay is meeting with JR Harding tomorrow who is now Chief of APD's new external affairs dept. FCC's are now under this department and he wants to work closely with the FCCs. There are some issues surrounding Governor appointments that need to be worked out and she is to learn of that tomorrow. She will report on this at the meeting in June. FCCF meets this weekend and Anna will be attending for Area 13 FCC, as Isabel is unable to attend. Sandy Dayton is scheduled to attend the FCCF meeting in July as representative for Area 13 FCC.

VISITOR/CITIZENS INPUT:

No comments or questions

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, meeting was adjourned at 11: 45 am. Next meeting June 8, 2009 at the APD office from 10:00 am –12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kay Clements
Area 13 FCC Secretary