

**FAMILY CARE COUNCIL  
APD AREA 13  
January 10, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**MEMBERS:** Isabel S deMartinez, Sandy Dayton, Sandy Shorey, Betty Kay Clements, Eileen Reidy, Michael Payne, Don Taylor, Karen Huscher, Phyllis Novak, Shawn Mims

**MEMBERS ON PHONE:** Anna Brynild

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Caryn Jones, Tina Renwick,

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:** Stephanie Hopper, Virginia Taylor,

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**APD STAFF:** Brenda Stevens, Clarence Lewis, Carmelo P. Abisso

**VISITORS:** Grant Harris, Caroline Gunderman Short, parent, Craig Greiner, Scott Greiner, Judy Carlton, Korey Huscher, Coleen Spillman,

Meeting called to order at 10 AM by Chairperson Isabel S deMartinez. She welcomed all and had everyone introduce themselves.

**MINUTES REVIEW/APPROVAL:**

Review of November minutes, with a motion to accept as written by Sandy Dayton , seconded by Michael Payne. Minutes approved by consensus.

**BUDGET REPORT/BUDGET REVIEW:**

Paul updated on the Budget reporting a balance of \$5, and reviewed the projections forecast of the allotted 10,000.

**AREA ADMINISTRATOR REPORT/UPDATE:**

Clarence discussed the 2.5 budget reduction to start Feb. 1, 2011. He shared that he had been asked recently about a 4% provider cut and he has not been advised of that.

Administratively, he shared there may be a 5% cut and positions open would not be filled. There is an internal freeze with 2 positions not currently being filled. Asked about Agency merger rumors, he said it was too early to predict, but does think there will be changes presented in the legislature this year.

Clarence reported on the IFS/GR project each year for the waitlist. This year, per the Director, with a cap of \$1500, it will provide services to those in Category 3, according to the waitlist prioritization. State Support Coordinators will call to identify services desired, such as ADT, respite, behavioral services, or companion. Questions arose as to how families know where they are on the list of the categories prioritization. The contact information was put on the board for each County. (Dennis Michon-Citrus, Debbie Hengstebeck-Lake, Tracey Aleziani-Marion, and Frances Mose-Sumter and Hernando).

Individuals have been assigned to a category. They have not been notified at this time, but should be soon. Central office categorized and sent to area for confirmation. Members stressed that people will want to know their category and need to be advised. Eileen's son is on the waitlist and she plans to contact Frances Mose. Discussion showed that people think that they know they will be on services soon based on how long ago they signed up. It is obvious that they have not grasped the categorization.

Clarence asked Isabel to bring everyone up to speed on the AmeriCorp project. There are 3 positions currently and not sure if the 4<sup>th</sup> can be filled now. Marion applicant has declined. Trainings are continuing. The Grant has been allocated with an educational benefit upon completion. Once they are trained, the AmeriCorp volunteers will do a survey of waitlist. Isabel said that she took the AmeriCorp message to the Lake Legislative Delegation. Don and Ginger Taylor attended with her. Senator Dockery and others were open to information asking for waitlist statistics for Lake County. Isabel provided them with FCC information and invited them to FCC meetings and Forums. iBudgetFlorida was discussed. Isabel spoke with Kathy Williamson for AARP whose legislative priorities Isabel shared as many of their goals match those for the DD population. Elderly Group partnership could be an important one. Wisdom can be gained from their lobbyists. Don said he observed the delegation lawmakers and saw them taking notes, asking questions and they really paid attention. He stressed how much is at stake over this legislative session. There were nasty campaign rumors circulating that are not in our favor, he added. We need to be alert and responsive.

Isabel stressed the importance of legislator visits and all were encouraged to go forward with legislators. Need to voice concerns on merger information arising for instance. Clarence encouraged members to get their neighbors out as well. Eileen pointed out that the Federal government needs to be contacted as well. She noted that waitlists in many states are becoming a real problem. She also noted the Nature Coast Arc has a lot of programs, grooming animals and many others.

Isabel added information on resources like Centers for Art, a kitchen program, junior master garden program, for instance. She also advised of the May 7-11 AmeriCorp Fair that she is planning to make an important event. She asked for everyone to be working on a list of contacts and share with her. A main focus should be to contact civic groups to help fund events for those on the waitlist and for others not receiving optimal services. Everyone needs a meaningful day. Focus on nutrition due to sedentary status, gait issues, YMCA healthy living 8 wk course for exercise weight list and nutrition, are just some opportunities. She is working on waitlist individuals getting email at the library for instance. She has contacted Spanish speaking individuals. In closing she stressed the need to find solutions, share and break ground.

#### **FCCF REPORT:**

Vice Chair, Sandy attended the FCCF meeting and said she learned a lot. The conference calls were most informative. Taking copious notes, she was very impressed by the meeting of all of the FCC's. Betty Kay attended the Governor's Budget and Policy Focus group regarding the future of the HCBS and DD in Florida. It was a brainstorming of ideas and a

plan designed to leave in place for a new administration. She was also invited to attend Governor Scott's APD Transition team meeting at the Agency. The iBudget and support of Jim DeBeaugrine for Director was supported by all attending. In a work group, she also viewed a plan to merge several of the agencies. It was a basic proposal from the Governor's Commission on Disabilities. It was not well received by the participants of the group. The new Quality Council is a result of the contract with Delmarva. Betty Kay is attending as the parent representative. It is a small group of 9 members with other consultants etc. involved. Public is welcome as well. A report was given and minutes will be shared at the next meeting. She requested that the local QA person and or Delmarva rep attend a FCC meeting soon.

FCCF is making the Waitlist, managed care, retention of a DD Agency its priorities, along with a significant Grassroots effort.

There was a discussion and recommendation to attend DD Day in Tally, March 23. It was thought to be a good idea to get transportation together. Betty Kay will talk with Aaron Nangle on possibilities.

#### **WAITLIST FORUM:**

Discussion on the next Forum resulted in the choosing of 2 potential dates. Saturday, March 26 or April 2, 2011. Breakout rooms desired. Brenda will pursue the suggestions from the group. Anna recommended a speaker - Renee Mavros, regarding behaviors, discipline. She is an ESE specialist and speaks to conscious discipline. Stephanie Hopper will pursue obtaining her as a presenter for the Forum. Also, Guardianship recommended. A dance was suggested to be a sock hop. Aaron will be contacted to assist and follow up by Betty Kay and Clarence. Karen Huscher said she will do the scrapbooking that is so popular with individuals.

**SUPPORT PLAN UPDATE:** Support Plan update to be emailed to members

#### **MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES/DISCUSSION:**

Stephanie related to members that she had a meeting with Dennis who was meeting with clients and she was made aware that many do not have a picture ID and it has become so important to have one. Out of 9, 4 did not have. There was discussion on how to help this situation. It was suggested to talk to the local sheriff's dept to see if it can be done at the Forum. It could be a breakout. Get with Citrus. It was noted that it is important to check with each area for differences in what they do.

Isabel reported that Business cards will be done and distributed as they are important to have when visiting legislators and meeting families etc.

Shaun Mims reported with pride that he was appointed by the Governor as a FCC member. He was loudly applauded and was congratulated by all.

**VISITOR INPUT:**

Caroline Short is a parent from Sumter County who was a FCC member several years ago, and is considering applying again. She was encouraged to do so and will return to the next meeting with a decision and approval by members if she chooses to apply.

The Greiners from Citrus County are providers of an ICF/DD who invited members to visit their residential and day programs. They shared that there are 4 available beds. Regarding the waitlist issue, the Greiners brought up that placement in an ICF/DD is an entitlement. It is Medicaid, but not waiver money. Members noted that wanting to keep their loved one at home makes this a problem. Scott Greiner also shared position papers regarding managed care from FARF and Arc. He spoke to HMO's taking a % off the top. He addressed the Stakeholders coming together with a position and the capitated iBudget, therefore no need for managed care. He added that APD could be the managed care entity.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business, meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm. The next FCC meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2011 at the APD office from 10:00 am–12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kay Clements  
Area 13 FCC Secretary

**Area 13 FCC Mission:**

To Promote the Welfare & Dignity of the  
Individual with a Developmental Disability,  
Allowing Each Person to Achieve His/Her  
Full Potential while Preserving the  
Family's Ability to Function As A Unit