

**FAMILY CARE COUNCIL  
APD AREA 13  
FEBRUARY 8, 2010**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**MEMBERS:** Isabel S deMartinez, Betty Kay Clements, Jennifer Knowles, Tina Renwick, Sandy Dayton, Sandy Shorey, Caryn Jones, Eileen Reidy, Phyllis Novak,

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Anna Brynild, Norman Price, Michael Payne, Karen Huscher

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:** Eva Knowles, Virginia Taylor, Don Taylor

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Stephanie Hopper

**APD STAFF:** Brenda Stevens, David Johnston

**VISITORS:** Aaron Nangle, Waiver Provider.com

Meeting called to order at 10 AM by Chairperson Isabel. She shared that a movement from Disney for volunteerism is occurring again this year. Organizations signed up with volunteer opportunities can be viewed online for doing a volunteer day and receiving a day at a Disney park. She went on line and got the Give a day; Get day information for her and Christina to do volunteer work at LRMC. The Disney ticket can be used by the person doing the work or may be donated.

**MINUTES REVIEW/APPROVAL:**

Chair Isabel asked for a motion to approve January minutes. Jennifer made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Sandy Shorey. Minutes approved by consensus.

**BUDGET REPORT/BUDGET REVIEW:**

In absence of Norm Price, Betty Kay reported that finances are in good shape. The budget balance is according to APD report \$6, 979.

**AREA ADMINISTRATOR REPORT/UPDATE:**

David Johnston, read a memo from Jim DeBeaugrine announcing the Agency Management Team for the Agency.

Chief of Staff-Tamara Demko

Deputy Director for Operations-Pedro Moreno who started January 29, 2010

Deputy Director for Budget & Planning-Karen Fisher who started Jan. 29, 2010

General Counsel-Michael Palecki who started Dec. 18, 2009

Communications Director-Melanie Etters

Chief Operations Officer-Mac McCoy

David announced that Delmarva training for providers and individuals/families will be held at the Wildwood Community Center Friday Feb. 26, 2 sessions 10am-12n and 2pm-4pm. They

will address the new Quality assurance assessment tool. It is a new approach with more involvement from families and consumers.

Jim DeBeaugrine will attend the Forum March 13. Presenters from Soc. Security, VR and Medicaid are being contacted. Betty Kay has sent a note to Melinda Coulter APD regarding Guardianship presentation. She has been well received at past Forums and really addresses individual families questions and concerns very well, she said. If Melinda unable to travel, Aaron offered to assist with presenter on this subject.

CDC+ trainings in Dec. and Jan. for Area 13 trained 70-80. 114 were signed up. Other trainings will be done in small groups or individual basis as indicated.

APD Connects is an electronic case management system provided by APD. It is being piloted in Area 2. The goal is for this system to take the place of the Central Record and access to providers and individuals/families will be possible. APD can monitor for QA, and case notes, billing information. It will be free to providers. Other private vendors are trying to sell it but providers need to realize that it will be free from APD. It will be comprehensive, and more information can be available in real time. At present if a file is needed, WSC must be called to bring in the file to APD Area office for review by the Area or Central office review.

iBudget will be discussed on Feb. 20 in Orlando and had to be to the legislature by Feb. 1. Health Care Appropriations will be reviewing this week. It may possibly go forward, and be phased in by 2011. There may be pilots started in 2010.

Rebasing has had some starts and stops. Area 13 #'s have dropped and may be completed by end of month. If the individual is still in disagreement they can ask for reconsideration, and then a hearing appeal if they still disagree. Many may be resolved and can withdraw appeal if one was filed.

David said the Governor's Budget looks favorable for APD at this time. Details about the money for the waitlist not known. Tier 4 dental would depend on passage of budget as is.

Discussion of dental care issues ensued. Caryn's daughter gets dental care in Michigan but difficult to find dentists that take Medicaid. That is true all over. In response to a question from Eileen regarding State Medicaid for dental, Sandy Shorey told of her recent experience that treated an abscessed tooth. They did x-rays, provided treatment and then wanted to pull the tooth. It is very limited what State Medicaid will provide. The serious health implications of poor dental care is just not addressed.

APD Billy Rish Park, a disability engineered Park on the Gulf of Mexico is reopening David said. It has undergone renovations and can provide overnight family camping. Discussion of visiting by members for opening, but distance prohibitive. Consideration given to arranging visits or overnights at a later time. It is at least a 3-4 hour trip or more from most of Area 13.

### **FCCF REPORT:**

Betty Kay told of an excellent presentation given by Arthur Barndt, Employment Liaison, and Transition Liaison for Agency for Persons with Disabilities. It was on Benefits Planning, at the January FCCF meeting. It was a 3 Hour Benefits Training to help members understand the Myriad of Rules and Regulations Governing SSI/SSDI, Medicaid, Medicare, Related State Programs and Work Incentives for People with Disabilities. It was suggested that arrangements might be able to be made for him to present at the Forum if those asked now are unable to attend. Isabel said that he is very dynamic and able to answer questions families and individuals can really understand. She noted just how beneficial his presentation was and if he cannot do the Forum, perhaps he would be able to attend an Area 13 FCC meeting. He is assigned to the Area 7 APD Area Office.

Betty Kay stated that the FCCF is working actively with other stakeholders on waitlist issues and proposals that could assist. In all matters of APD/DD she stressed the importance of keeping informed and being prepared to visit legislators, email, write letters, active advocacy is a must to get the DD issues out there and understood. Make friends with legislators aides; invite them to FCC meetings and events. They are very powerful. Empowerment has never been more important than currently for individuals and families. Betty Kay cautioned that another reason why it is important to advocate is because the 10% exercise that was sent in at the legislatures request has now been increased another 5%. BK said bulk of APD budget is waiver so that is why services are always at risk when cuts must be made. We will need to watch it closely.

Discussion followed with FCC members about opportunities to go to Tally on issues arising. Isabel reminded everyone that only admission to an institution is entitlement and Medicaid waiver can be taken away, so we need to remember that when we approach legislators.

Betty Kay reminded all to log on to the FCCF website [www.fccflorida.org](http://www.fccflorida.org) and look at the legislative links, and waitlist links to get information on how to approach legislators and other significant information. It is constantly updated to increase the information it provides.

### **AQL REPORT:**

Brenda Stevens said that there is an AQL Committee meeting today at 12:30 pm. Lens still working on their non-profit status fund raising. Ongoing Resource Information being collected. Brenda will be working closely with Delmarva and the new program contracted with APD. Person Centered Planning for WSC coming up in March. That is part of the QA contract. She continues to work on dental. Working on recruitment letters for dentists.

### **DISCUSSION OF QUARTERLY WAITLIST/FAMILY FORUM:**

Lengthy discussion and clarification of flyer content, speakers, and overall planning. Discussion of monetary commitment of FCC and APD. David confirmed that postage for mailout to the waitlist individuals/families would be covered by the Area office. Aaron will be

handling the payment for the tables with the Marriot, the food, DJ for the dance, and door prizes. He also noted that the Marriot has set up a block of rooms for \$89/night if needed.

Eileen made a motion for FCC to cover at least \$350 for supplies and the rental of the Marriot Courtyard for March 13. Sandy Shorey seconded the motion and it passed by consensus.

Announcements for papers will be done by individual members in their county. Personal invitation being sent to legislators from Isabel as in the past. Eileen suggested calling as well.

**VISITOR/MEMBERS INPUT:**

Eileen asked about the information about Guardianship. She heard you could get from Internet and send to Orlando. No one was familiar with that program. Concern is how to do guardianship without an attorney. Melinda should have some of this info for Forum. David to send Betty Kay some adoption information info to send out that he is familiar with.

Flyers available for Gator Invitational, Sportsability for physically challenged. It is last year to be sponsored by Kiwanis. Some question as to possibility FCC could sponsor at some point or for some support to be discussed further.

Aaron said he was asked by Jim DeBeaugrine to attend the Billy Rish Park Grand Re-Opening, Feb. 18. He will be reporting on it through his websites. Betty Kay has a DVD of the park prior to the reopening and will arrange for next meeting. Aaron suggested anyone needing information contact him. He can provide information on dentists that take Medicaid in the different areas. He also said that if anyone is interested in going to Disability Day at the Capitol in March let him know, as some arrangements being made. [WaiverInfo@aol.com](mailto:WaiverInfo@aol.com)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business, meeting was adjourned at 12 noon. Next meeting scheduled for March 8, 2010 at the APD office from 10:00 am–12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kay Clements  
Area 13 FCC Secretary