

Family Care Council Area 15 – August 11, 2010 Meeting Minutes Draft

In attendance: Chairperson Lisa McGlone, Vice Chair Nancy Moody, Secretary Ruth Wingate, Treasurer Heather Misner, Members Sonja Bielecki, Cathy Allore, Pending Member Chantai Snellgrove, Agency for Persons with Disabilities Director Peter Karlan, APD representative Mary Edwards, FCC Liaison Beatrice Dejoie, Karen Nystrom, Tamara Moore, Diane Ciccarelli and Ian Allore. Member Brian Boulahanis' absence was excused.

Meeting called to order at 10:08 a.m. and introductions were made.

Approval of minutes was tabled until the September meeting.

Peter Karlan of APD spoke about the upcoming Treasure Coast Transition Conference. He indicated that event would also serve as the informational wait list meeting for families in Area 15. The Transition Conference will be held on Saturday, September 25 at Indian River State College Fort Pierce Campus at 3209 Virginia Avenue in the Kight Center – Building V. Check in registration begins at 8:00 a.m., with the conference running from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required prior to the event by contacting Christine Jordan at 772-429-4585 or by email at Jordanc@stlucie.k12.fl.us. The event is sponsored by Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource System, St. Lucie, Martin, Okeechobee and Indian River County Schools, Agency for Persons with Disabilities and the Center for Independent Living Options. Breakout sessions will include interviewing skills presented by Publix, SSI and SSDI information by Brevard Achievement Center, Portfolio for Realistic Exit Planning by Cathy Allore, BAE and Mary Lou Duffy PhD, Interviewing and Resume Writing – Getting and Holding a Job and Advocacy by the Center for Independent Living Options, Guardianship and Special Needs Trusts presented by Center for Autism and Related Disorders along with information on Microenterprises, the IEP process and Social Security Work Incentives. Provider Booth participants will be Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Vocational Rehabilitation, Goodwill, Helping People Succeed, ARC, Blind Services, Center for Autism and Related Disorders, Center for Independent Living Options (CILO), Indian River State College, the Agency for Workforce Innovation, the Division of Blind Services and Butterfield Medical Supply. Employer booths will include Aegis, Buddy's Holiday Mobility, Publix, Martin Memorial Hospital and the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce. The keynote address will be presented by motivational speaker and businessman Greg Rice.

The Family Care Council will also be present to pass out information on its mission to provide families with educational opportunities and advocacy. It was noted that the Statewide Family Care Council will also be held that weekend, and representation by Area 15 FCC is needed at both events.

Ms. Edwards of APD will contact Ms. Allore to coordinate use of a room at Florida Atlantic University for the next wait list meeting proposed for December.

Chair McGlone indicated that the State FCC recommended each local FCC attend a two day seminar sponsored by the Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities on August 24-25 regarding managed care. Mr. Karlan stated that APD is offering the iBudget as a cost predictive alternative to managed care, with the individual's budget tailored specifically to their needs. This will replace the current Tier system, with individualized cost and support for each participant. Families from other

states will present their experiences with managed care, and Florida attendees will be evaluating the potential effect of managed care on people with disabilities in this state. The event will be held in Clearwater, and FCCF will send their local area FCC member to attend on its behalf. It was moved by Ms. Moody and seconded by Chair McGlone to send Ms. Wingate and Ms. Ciccarella to attend this conference. After discussing the requisite expenses, the motion was withdrawn. As a cost-efficient alternative Ms. Allore will arrange for FARF Board Member Keith Muniz from the Martin County ARC to speak on the issue of managed care at the September, 2010 FCC15 meeting.

Discussion continued on further alternatives to presenting FCC15's viewpoint on managed care. Chair McGlone appointed Ms. Nystrom, Ms. Snellgrove and Ms. Allore to a subcommittee to identify methodology and language to present opposition to managed care to legislators, press, through the internet and how to enlist friends of people with disabilities to join these efforts. Ms. Nystrom additionally volunteered to create a FCC15 Facebook page. Families were reminded that from May to September legislators are available in their local offices, and that cordial contact with their staff can forge successful relationships. Mr. Karlan ended with the comment that a bill on Medicaid managed care will certainly be presented at the next session, but hopes that with community effort, individuals with disabilities will be excluded or "carved out" of managed care participation.

Chair McGlone reminded everyone who attended CAFÉ through FCC funding that they won't be asked for a written presentation, but for a verbal report on a class of their choice at future meetings.

Ms. Ciccarella noted that she had just received information on the Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentages, or FMAP issue, and that Florida will receive over \$700 million from the Federal Government to extend the enhanced Medicaid funding to avoid reductions in Medicaid benefits. Florida will also receive more than \$500 million for education, which could be used to employ over 9,100 teachers. The relationship of these funds to upcoming increases proposed by local school districts for education is unknown.

Ms. Dejoie and Ms. Edwards noted that the Area 15 Office has a new management tool that includes the Family Care Council/Agency for Persons with Disabilities resource guide. The FCC is asked to contribute to this guide, and suggested that these resources be discussed with families at the December wait list meeting. This project is proposed to be in both paper and CD format, and contributions to this resource guide can be submitted to Mary Edwards at Mary_Edwards@dcf.state.fl.us. It was also stated that APD is required to develop a specific number of community partners quarterly to address ongoing needs identified in APD's needs assessment.

Treasurer Misner noted that the most recent financial statement from Central Office indicated a \$2,304 year end remainder in the FCC15's budget. Chair McGlone said that at the July FCCF meeting, FCC15 was cited as the most successful Area in avoiding returning its budget allocation back to general revenue funds with an end-of-year balance of less than \$300.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

The Family Care Council Area 15 meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. to Noon at the Florida Atlantic University Treasure Coast Campus, 500 N.W. California Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida in Room MP205. Upcoming meeting dates include September 8, October 13 and November 10, 2010. Committees meet on dates and times determined by committee members.

Respectfully submitted as draft for approval, Ruth Wingate, Secretary FCC-15.