

## **Family Care Council - Area 15 MEETING**

January 13, 2010 - Location APD, Ft. Pierce

**ATTENDANCE:** Nancy Moody, Brian Boulahanis, Melissa Volo, Barbara Hires, Sonja Bielecki, Patricia Moody, George Boulahanis, Karen Nystrom, Adrienne Dissis, Beatrice DeJoie for APD. Both Peter Karlan, APD, and Mary Edwards, APD attended briefly.

November 18, 2009 minutes read and approved. Moved by S. Bielecki, seconded by B. Boulahanis

Ruth Wingate is not in attendance. Per N. Moody, absence excused. Meeting minutes will be taken by K. Nystrom.

### **Old Business**

The Council was notified in a letter signed by APD Director Jim DeBeaurigrine that Adrienne Dissis's application for a seat on FCC -District 15 had been denied. The letter had been sent to the Council and did not explain the reason for the denial. Diane Cicerelli's pending application has also been denied.

Adrienne would like to appeal this denial as she would like to remain a FCC board member. Adrienne had previously been appointed to the FCC and had not given up her seat. She reapplied as a formality at the request of the FCC Chair N. Moody. She will pursue an explanation for the denial of her application through the Governor's appointment office and ask that it be reconsidered.

S. Bielecki made a motion stating that all of the FCC member's in attendance fully support A. Dissis's application for a position on the Board of the District 15 Family Care Council. Adrienne has been a valued Board member for many years and has been a great asset to the work of the Council. The FCC Board members present all urge A. Dissis to resubmit her application to the Governor's Appointment Office for reconsideration and approval. Motion seconded by B. Boulahanis. All present voted yes in favor of the motion.

N. Moody asked A. Dissis to submit a summary of her experience and her work with the FCC.

Brian Boulahanis received notification in December 2009 from Governor Crist's Appointments Office that he had been appointed to the Board of the Family Care Council.

Discussion ensued regarding Board appointments, rules and whether APD has a role in denying a seat on the Council. Per the statute, appointment to the Council appears to be strictly at the discretion of the Governor. Diane Cicarelli will be advised to consider appealing her denial and that the Council also supports her appointment.

### **FCC - New Meeting Room Rental**

Lisa McGlone is working to secure a new location for future FCC meetings. Full details about this location are still pending approval. L. McGlone expects to secure a location at the Florida Atlantic University, Port St. Lucie campus.

### **APD / FCC Waitlist Meeting - February 18, 2010**

The Waitlist meeting will be held February 18, 2010 at the IRSC Ft. Pierce Campus from 6 - 8 p.m.

Waitlist and waiver individuals will be notified by email by APD and their Support Coordinators. APD will present on current waitlist issues and a representative from Florida Rural Legal Services will discuss guardianship.

N. Moody suggested that Dixie Sansom from ARC FL attend to discuss how families can work with their legislators to increase their understanding of disability issues and the needs of the disability community.

The FCC District 15 will have an information table at the waitlist meeting with FCC brochures and a preliminary application for membership to encourage new members. N. Moody was able to get donations for door prizes including a \$40. gift certificate from Target, \$25. and bottled water from ~~Walmart~~ <sup>Greens</sup> which Lisa M. will pick up.

The FCC 15 website urgently needs updating. N. Moody agreed to contact Phil Pearson to see that new members and meeting info are added.

### **FCC of Florida Meeting - November 20-21, 2010 in Orlando**

Ruth Wingate attended the meeting and took extensive minutes. They were presented at the FCC 15 meeting and available for member review.

Discussion ensued regarding some of the FCC of FL meeting highlights including pending HB 81 on Restraints.

Some were not comfortable with the Bill, feeling it does not go far enough to protect children and young people from abusive intervention. Reference was made to a current situation in IRC that involved excessive use of restraints.

Several present felt that the IRCS District had been using coercive behavior techniques and have been unresponsive to parent concerns. There was discussion regarding forming a parent group to attempt to approach the IRCSD in order to get them to discuss and reconsider the use of restraints and physical intervention in the ESE classrooms.

Delmarva was reviewed and their contract was renewed. APD revealed that beginning Jan. 15, 2010 that client records would be automated. Electronic Central Records will contain all case notes and can be accessed by WSC and parents through a password protected system. I-Budget is progressing through hearings and it is anticipated it will be available and offer a flexible budget to consumers with a menu of 27 services. Tiers have failed. QSI assessments will be phased in. I-Budget meetings will be held around the State in January and February.

CDC+ received 2,100 applications for the new openings. Some WSC are reluctant to participate in CDC+. Rebasement requests are being reviewed and WSC will be notified shortly who will be eligible for a review Hearing. Consumers will have ten days to appeal.

It was noted that the FCC FL is having financial difficulties. Several local Councils have not sent in their money. FCC of FL is undergoing a routine audit

Woodberry Medical Supply is donating incontinent supplies to 50 families of consumers in District 15.

S. Bielecki will attend the next FCC of FL meeting January 21, 22. L. McGlone may also attend. If Sonja can't go, B. Boulaharis would like to attend. N. Moody made the motion to send S. Bielecki to the meeting, seconded by S. Bielecki. Passed.

#### **APD - Mary Edwards / Waitlist Meeting**

Mary Edwards joined the meeting to answer questions and give details about the upcoming waitlist meeting. She will be sending out the notice through WSC's next week. She will acknowledge the door prize donors in the meeting notice. APD will probably use about an hour of the meeting time, leaving the remaining 45 minutes to the FCC to fill with a speaker.

#### **Expenses + FCC Budget**

N. Moody asked B. Dejoie if it would be possible to get FCC budget updates more often than quarterly, preferably prior to our meetings. It was suggested that N. Moody discuss this with Ron Delevan of APD, but it is not likely, due to the bookkeeping setup of APD.

#### **Walk Now for Autism Speaks, AUTISM WALK, April 17, 2010**

The autism walk will be held Saturday, April 17, 2010 at Sherman Library Green, Nova Southeastern University, FL. Registration opens at 8:30am and the walk is at 10:00am.

N. Moody wants the FCC District 15 to be represented with an information booth.

*Jensen  
Beach  
is  
local  
walk*

**FCC 15 Meeting adjourned 12:05 p.m.**