

AREA 2 FAMILY CARE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 5, 2010

Members Present: Kristina Holmen-Mohr
Tracy Stewart (via phone)

Members Absent: Lou Ogburn
Janet Graham
Nan Whitfield
Jennifer Morgan-Byrd

Others in Attendance: Beth Burr
Lynne Daw

Due to the lack of a quorum, last month's minutes could not be approved. We will approve them via e-mail.

Tracy reminded us of the FCC meeting in Orlando May 14-15. She cannot make it and neither could anyone else in attendance. She will send us all the agenda, and if anyone can call in for a session they're interested in, they are encouraged to do so.

Lynne reported that APD's IT person says a notebook computer is too small capacity-wise. He's getting info about a laptop to her, as it must be ordered by 5/6/10.

Lynne reported that the May waitlist meeting at Gretchen Everhart School was a huge success, and they want to partner with us every time, because the feedback was so positive. This waitlist meeting included various community groups that can provide services to people on the waitlist. Each group gave a brief presentation and then manned a table so that the visitors could come by each table to discuss specific questions and to get more specific information. Gretchen Everhart PTA provided refreshments and also staffed the gym for kids who attended the meeting with their parents to have supervised play during the meeting. There were also waitlist meetings in Panama City and Marianna. At the Panama City meeting, a representative from AmeriCorps attended and talked about their program. AmeriCorps also attended the waitlist meetings in Marianna along with a staff person from Sunland Center in Marianna which manages Rish Park. At this meeting, Lynne asked specific questions about the availability of the facility for day trips and it was confirmed that, at this time, the person does have to call to make sure space is available even to come for a day. A discussion ensued about how we can help them figure out a way around that, as it's too constrictive. There are some ideas being tossed around, for more flexibility. We have many questions! Rish Park falls under the jurisdiction of Sunland Marianna and they have a new director, so maybe we can make some progress. The park is already rented for a large part of the summer through various community groups such as the Muscular Dystrophy Association and that, also, precludes

others from enjoying the park. Tracy will compose an email to express some of our concerns about the pre-registering, fees, etc. One suggestion was to hold an upcoming FCC meeting at the park, to introduce it to more folks.

For future waitlist meetings, Area 2 is working with David Jones of the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association about having a quarterly waitlist meeting at Miracle Field and use this as a social opportunity with sports and a cookout. This would be an excellent opportunity for FCC to also network more with waitlist families.

In late Fall, the Area 2 Steering Committee is going to sponsor a Health Fair with the FSU School of Nursing and the FAMU Pharmacy School along with other local health groups. This would be open to individuals served both on the waitlist and the waiver and would be another great opportunity for FCC to be involved.

Tracy advised us that Jennifer's Father passed away unexpectedly over the weekend. Members present expressed their condolences .

Tracy announced that the Local Advisory Committee has disbanded. Two current members of that group, Sue Loftis and Alison Leatzow, expressed interest in joining FCC. They were unable to be considered as members previously as the LAC was also a Governor appointed committee.

Tracy is advising the Governor's office that we approved Danny and Beth's application, and that we did not approve Eldalee Cook's application.

Lynne gave the final report on the Legislative Session. One concern of note was the potential for APD to fall under a managed care system. This concept was floated late in the session but did not pass. There are strong indications that this will be proposed again next year. The Legislature did fully support the iBudget proposal and plans are actively underway to develop the pilot of the iBudget proposal.

Within the Legislative language is a proposed cap on Tier 1 of \$150,000. This will not affect people who are currently residing in licensed homes that are at an intensive behavioral level nor people in special medical home care arrangements.

There had been proposed language on a change to the waitlist prioritization. The reprioritizations was not taken up this legislative session.

There is a proposed 2.5% provider rate cut, and a 2.5% reduction in caps on Tiers Two, Three and Four. The exception to provider rate cuts are for the services of personal care assistance, transportation, support coordination, consumable supplies and environmental modifications.

Beginning July 1, 2010, due process hearings will be handled through the Department of Children and Families in lieu of DOAH hearings. This should be a more family friendly process.

There have also been substantive changes in background screening laws which will now require that the results of background screening must be in place and reviewed prior to the person having any direct client contact. Current laws allow that providers may begin providing services as long as they are in the presence of an already screened person.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at 4:30 PM Eastern.

Notes taken by Kristina Holmen-Mohr