

District 7 Family Care Council Meeting

January 21st, 2009 Minutes

Mark Street Senior Center

I. Welcome and Introductions: Donna Rauber, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Greetings and introductions followed.

Attendees: Amy Cordrey, Chris Drummond, Chris Dugan*, Jay Dyer, Don Faller*, Jeannie Forthuber*, Ginger Henson, Linda Herring*, Patti Jarrell, Eugene and Lila Klausman, Rosalind Murvin-King, Donna Rauber*, Karen Rogers, Steve Roth, Lois Smith*, Simone Tetreault, Maryann Sarra, and Laura Lee Wright.

* Denotes Gubernatorial Appointed FCC Members.

A Quorum was present. Maryann Sarra and Lila Klausman have completed the application process and await appointment.

II. FCC Business

- **Minutes:** The November 19th, 2008 minutes were reviewed. An error to the Rebasing implementation date (should have read: December 31st, 2008) was noted. Linda Herring made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted correction. Lois Smith seconded the motion and Council members then voted unanimously for approval.

- **Treasurer's Report:** Linda Herring reported that she was unable to obtain an up-to-date balance. Expenditures have been submitted, but the actual to-date deductions from the account are unknown. Taking everything into consideration, Donna Rauber stated that the remaining funds approximate \$7,600.

Motions to Approve FCC Funding Dollars

(1) Lois Smith made a motion to allocate FCC funds for Karen Rogers to attend Transportation Disadvantage Day in Tallahassee in April. Rosiland Murvin-King seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Donna handed out expense forms to Karen and Linda.

(2) Jeannie Forthuber made a motion to approve FCC funds for Jay Dyer, Lila and Gene Klausman, and Rosiland Murvin-King to attend Developmental Disabilities Day (DD-Day) in Tallahassee in April. Lois Smith seconded the motion and it, too, was passed unanimously.

III. APD Update – Steve Roth, APD District 7 Administrator

Steve activated the call-in line.

- **Implementation of the Tier System:** Steve shared that the tiers are being implemented as instructed. Any individual, or his/her guardian, who has *not* filed for an appeal has been assigned to a Tier designated by the criteria set forth by the legislature. Over 7,500 appeals have been filed state-wide. APD Attorneys are individually reviewing each appeal and then referring those who meet the criteria to the Department of Administrative Hearings. If an appeal is questionable, it is being referred back to the APD Central Office staff to determine if there is a way to adjust the Tier assignment without having an Administrative Hearing. The goal is to forward 100 appeals per week for scheduling. While an appeal is in process the individual's current cost plan will remain in place until 15 to 30 days after the final order is issued by the Hearing Officer.

- **Rebasing:** The Legislature directed to cap cost plans at the 2007-2008 fiscal year expenditure level plus 5%. The target date (12-31-2008) for implementation was *not* met due to the legal challenges posed to the Tier System. Rebasing legislation did not allow cost data to be pulled until after October 31st, 2008. This date provided individuals with 3 full months to submit any outstanding invoices. The first data pulled was around mid-November. It was not accurate primarily due to the fiscal intermediary change that took place (i.e.: coding some expenditures to other waivers). Although it put the Agency out of compliance, the decision was made to put the Rebasing process on hold until accurate data could be collected. AHCA ran additional data. Districts 2 and 7 were asked to run tests and to verify the information furnished by AHCA. In turn, the new set of numbers was re-verified against the data maintained by APD. This time, the figures were very close. So, the decision was made to move forward with the Rebasing process. Support Coordinators were sent a list of those individuals who would be affected by a cost reduction, along with the exact dollar amount. Individuals and/or Guardians were notified of the new Rebasing figure. A second letter was sent out to individuals and/or guardians that included the expenditures submitted during the previous fiscal year. Appeal Notice and other pertinent information were also included in this mail out. By January 6th, 2009 Support Coordinators were to forward the amended cost plans to the District. The District had until January 15th to input the data. There are still outstanding cost plans. Follow-up is in progress. Issue: Support Coordinators who are not inputting up-dated information (i.e.: an individual's current address) into the ABC system. The ABC system, itself, has been updated and now Support Coordinators are required to log-in and certify on a quarterly basis. Steve concluded this

portion of the APD Update by saying that Rebasing appeals are still being accepted.

- **APD Budget Cuts:** Steve's quick overview generated several questions, corresponding answers and much discussion. Bottom line: Governor Crist has the power to line-order veto. FCC participants can have an impact: contact Governor Crist and ask him to please veto the 5% provider reduction rate.
- **APD Personnel Changes:** Steve shared the re-organization changes that are taking place at the Central Office level and will forward a list of names/positions to Donna.
- **National Core Indicators:** The State Directors Association established a set of core indicators to determine how well services are being utilized. The same indicators are used in each state thus allowing nation-wide comparisons.
- **QSI:** About 78% are completed. On target to meet the March 31st deadline for completion. Between November and December 105 Support Intensity Scale (SIS) evaluations were conducted in District 7. Purpose: is the QSI a valid tool?
- **Quarterly Forums:** Steve agreed to participate in quarterly outreach FCC evening meetings.

VI. Announcements:

Developmental Disabilities Day: Linda Herring encouraged those who will be traveling to Tallahassee for DD Day to attend the DD Council dinner. Linda shared that it is an excellent opportunity for gaining knowledge and for networking. Chris Drummond (DD Council member) will forward all needed information to Donna to be passed along.

Northland's Access Ministries: Laura Lee extended an invitation to attend their Parent Support Group meeting tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m. Location: Northland Church. Jim Hukill, Guest Speaker, will be sharing his life experiences as an individual challenged by disabilities.

FND Heart and Hope Conference: February 7th, 2009 at UCF (Classroom Building), 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Registration and parking is free. There will be several breakout sessions covering numerous topics to empower parents with the knowledge needed to advocate for their child/children with disabilities.

Rule Development Workshop: February 11th, 2009, 10:00 a.m. – noon, at 400 W. Robinson St., South Tower (Conference Rooms A and B). Purpose: review the revised Medicaid DD Waiver Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook.

Chapter 419.001: Lila Klausman reported that an amendment to Chapter 419.001 to exempt planned residential communities from the 1000 foot rule is being sponsored this session in both the Senate (by Senator Thad Altman) and the House of Representatives (by Representative Kelli Stargel). Copies of: AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 419 F.S. were made available. Lila pointed out that the talking points can be changed but the language is official.

Florida DD Council: Chris Drummond reported that the January 27th, 2009 meeting will address: Life After School.

VII. FCCFlorida Update – Donna Rauber – Legislative Issues

Donna shared that Rep. Proctor, Guest Speaker, responded to a question by saying that he has had virtually no contact from constituents regarding DD issues. He recommended that each FCC form a legislative committee and begin personally making contact on a regular basis with their local Legislators to educate them on DD issues. Also, FCCFlorida has determined its legislative platform: (1) End the Wait List, (2) Protect Health and Safety, and (3) Maintain APD as its own Agency. It is hoped that FCC's throughout the state will adopt and actively support/promote the platform.

VIII. FCC Membership Drive – Don Faller

Don announced that the first set of letters explaining the purpose/focus of FCC will be sent out to 100 randomly selected individuals taken from the FCC mailing list. Don repeated his request for each attendee to provide him with the names of 2 individuals and/or organizations that he can contact in hopes of expanding FCC participation.

IX. FCC Presentation Update – Jeannie Forthuber

Jeannie shared that she met with committee members prior to the FCC meeting to review the material to be included in the power point presentation at the FND Conference. Thoughts and suggestions were noted. Jeannie will pull things together and then email the presentation to committee members for final input. She asked for a co-presenter (11:00 a.m. to noon).

Donna Rauber adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

