

**FAMILY CARE COUNCIL FLORIDA**  
**FRANK CARROLL, CHAIRPERSON**  
Sheraton Suites Orlando Airport  
Orlando, Florida  
July 31, 2010

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Frank Carroll, Chairperson (Area 3)  
Phil Pearson, Vice Chairperson (Area 12)  
Pauline Lipps, Treasurer (SunCoast Region East)  
Patty Houghland, Secretary (Area 1)  
Betty Kay Clements, Past FCCF Chairperson (Area 13)  
Marie Quinones, Area 4  
Nancy Simmons, SunCoast Region West  
Jean Sherman, Area 10  
Isabel S. de Martinez, Area 13  
Lisa McGlone, Area 15  
Donna Rauber, Area 7 (Afternoon only)  
Chris Dugan, Area 7 (AM only)

**GUESTS**

Christina DeCaso Area 13  
Amelia Rauber Area 7  
Ann Graybeal SunCoast E.  
Beverley DeStories SunCoast W.  
Pat Wear

**SPEAKERS**

Rep. Wm. Proctor  
Simone Tetreault, LAC

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Carroll called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone. The contents of the information packet were reviewed and included the following:

- FCCF Agenda
- FCCF May Minutes
- iBudget Florida Brochure
- OPPAGA June 2010 report (Waitlist process)
- Cover page to CMS paper on "Providing Long Term Service and Supports in a Managed Care Delivery System"
- Information sheet on The Affordable Care Act: Making It Work for Florida
- Memorandum from FDOE on House Bill 1073 (Restraint and Seclusion)—There was discussion concerning just what information will be made available and how soon that information will be available. This is a topic that will be watched.

Chair Carroll explained that he would be calling on volunteers to attend various functions on behalf of FCCF. There was discussion concerning the Areas that were not able to attend. It was suggested that a letter of regret be sent to each Council telling them that they were missed and offering assistance if they need it. Betty Kay will take this project on.

**II. BUSINESS**

**Review of Minutes**---Patty makes a motion to accept the minutes as submitted, Maria seconds the motion. The minutes were approved by consensus.

**Budget Report**—Pauline Lipps shared last years (2009-10) FCCF budget information. There was a lengthy discussion concerning the report. It did not accurately show what the Area FCCs know they spent. This is an ongoing issue which Central office is working very hard to correct. Expenditures for Café are a concern. The membership agreed to first work with their local liaison and budget person. If the discrepancy cannot be solved at that level, the local FCC will get in contact with Jennifer Hart at Central office. If that does not resolve the problem, the local FCC will contact FCCF, who in turn will talk with Jenny and after Jenny, her boss and finally if it is not corrected, FCCF will have a discussion with the Director Jim DeBeaugrine.

Treasurer Lipps reminded all Councils to please fill out the survey concerning the supports the various Councils receive or need that was emailed to each Council by Jennifer Hart, Management Review Specialist – SES, Office of the Deputy Director of Budget and Planning, Agency for Persons with Disabilities; (850) 414-8145, [Jennifer.Hart@apd.state.fl.us](mailto:Jennifer.Hart@apd.state.fl.us). There are FCCs in some Areas that have a real problem getting approval for travel or equipment and Ms. Hart was tasked with finding out what works and what does not work and eliminate what doesn't work and put in place for all Area Offices what does work. It is a work in process.

Betty Kay reported that the funds for each FCC are at their area office. Each FCC has \$9,500 and FCCF has \$8,500 with \$1,000 for the 800 number. Treasurer Lipps will have a proposed budget for FCCF at the September meeting.

Chairperson Carroll requested that the Chairs ask their individual Council to make voluntary contributions to FCCF now. It was suggested by a member that Councils look at what they did not spend last year and that may assist the Council in determining what they could send to FCCF. If Councils wait until late in the fiscal year it is hard to move that money and it may not get moved to FCCF in time.

There was discussion concerning FICD being the fiscal agent for all the Family Care Councils. Patty had requested that to happen and again was told that it was not allowed in statute. Patty will do follow up questions to APD Central office on that topic.

**Old Business**—None

### **III. WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

**Legislative Committee**—Phil identified the following as members of the committee: Phil, Patty, Tracy and Sharon. We would like more volunteers for this committee. Phil gave a brief summary of what passed and not passed that the committee worked on. The Wait List Prioritization Bill stays the same as how it passed last year. There was an effort to change the start date of that bill but it was defeated. ARC Florida in partnership with FCCF sent out a questionnaire to the Legislative candidates running for office. The results so far were compiled and shared with the membership. Phil will get the results on FCCF web site for easy access. Everyone was strongly encouraged to visit their legislators NOW.

All Councils are to check the equipment list for their Area Council that was distributed by Betty Kay and make the necessary additions or deletions. Betty Kay acknowledged that they are not correct so make them correct. She reported that JR will be asking for an end of the year report and also the updated inventory report.

The idea of having a FCCF newsletter that can be posted on the web site and also act as a template for the local FCCs was discussed and Phil has agreed to take the lead on this project. The members discussed that the newsletter will be another avenue of letting the local Councils understand where their donations go and what is accomplished by the FCCF. Patty will have a discussion with the appropriate parties at APD Central office and determine what will work to help FCCF have the funds necessary to operate and after the meeting with APD Central Office Patty will report back to the FCCF through the Chair.

### **IV. REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM PROCTOR**

Representative Proctor had several main points which are:

- Revenue is increasing but very, very slowly while mandatory expenses are going up at a much sharper angle
- There are main drivers of the budget which are Human Services which will take 40.5% and Education will take 32%. Medicaid will take 26% of the 40.5% in Human Services.
- There will be a large shortfall in the K-12 system because of the devaluation of property.
- The oil spill will play into revenue short fall but it is not known at this point how significant it is going to be.
- His advice for FCCF is that we would have a better chance going for a policy issue rather than a money one.
- His suggestion is to focus on policy issues and key legislators such as House Speaker and the House designated speaker and Senate President and President Pro Tempore.
- He encouraged the membership to work with their local legislators
- House has only six slots to file a bill so it is important to get to those individuals before September because they will most likely already have the bills they are going to file by September. Senate can file as many bills as they want.

- After any visits with a legislator acknowledge that visit in writing back to the legislator.
- Agency head support is critical if we want a major policy change because that Agency head will have to testify before a committee.
- It may take several years in order to get a bill passed. If a bill gets referred to 2 or 3 committees it has a chance. If leadership wishes to kill a bill it will be referred to 4 or 5 committees
- By the time a bill gets to the floor you need to have the votes for passing. Most of the floor debates are for the media.
- Testifying before the committee is good but you need a person who speaks well and has a well organized presentation. Have some fact and numbers and not only emotions.
- Don't forget to talk with staff. Staff will be there longer than the legislator.

MEDICAID: Budget is going to drive the session. If we can hold flat the budget we have now, that will be successful because it is going to be a very tough session.

These are some of the things with Medicaid that were pointed out by Representative Proctor:

- Representative Proctor believes the state will be divided into 6 Regions. That there will be competition criteria established for HMOs and PNS. The hope would be to have a major hospital on board as a core center of a provider network services. He believes that the concept of the Medical Home will be criteria that will give the HMO and PSN a leg up in the evaluation. The legislature believes that if you can have routine supervision of your chronic cases and stop them from becoming acute cases you can do a lot of reduction in medical cost. The state recognizes that they are going to have to have a rigorous regulatory structure to make sure the HMO/PNS do what they say they are doing. It will not reduce Medicaid cost but believe it will constrain the rate of increase. He was not encouraging about carve out from the HMO. Must educate and continue to educate your legislature.

## **V. APD UPDATES—cancelled due to illness**

## **VI. STATEWIDE AND LOCAL ADVOCACY COUNCILS**

Simone Tetreault, LAC member explained the status of the SAC/LAC. They are still in statute but there is no funding for them to operate. There is great concern that there is not an independent 3rd party mechanism for protecting the rights of clients within program or facilities operated, funded, or contracted by any state agency that provides client services. Her hope is to change that this legislative session. She shared a power point presentation that gave some statistics concerning abuse and individuals disabilities.

## **VII. New Business—none**

## **VIII. CITIZENS TIME**

Pat Wear shared information about a Federal Grant, Money Follows the Person and shared information on a service called Rest Assured. Printed information was shared on both subjects. Mr. Wear will be glad to return and do an official presentation on the Rest Assured service that could be added to the menu of waiver services if APD would agree.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Patty Houghland, FCCF Secretary**

**The next meeting is:**

**September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

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