

**FAMILY CARE COUNCIL FLORIDA  
FRANK CARROLL, CHAIRPERSON  
Sheraton Suites Orlando Airport  
Orlando, Florida  
September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Frank Carroll, Chairperson (Area 3)  
Phil Pearson, Vice Chairperson (Area 12)  
Pauline Lipps, Treasurer (SunCoast Region East)  
Betty Kay Clements, Past FCCF Chairperson (Area 13)  
Melinda Willaford, Area 4  
Donna Rauber, Area 7  
Jean Malacko, Area 9  
Don Taylor, Area 13  
Many Champavannarath, Area 14  
Lisa McGlone, Area 15**

**GUESTS:**

**Stephanie Rogers, APD  
Virginia Taylor, Area 13  
Diane Ciccarelli, Area 15  
Amelia Rauber, Area 7  
Stephanie Willaford, Area 4**

**SPEAKERS:**

**Hilary Brazzell, APD  
Denise Arnold, APD via phone  
Liesl Ramos, APD via phone  
David Jones, FDOA**

**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 include the following:

- FCCF Agenda
- FCCF July Minutes
- FCCF Newsletter, Volume 1, Issue 1, September, 2010
- Notice of Proposed Rule – DD Waiver Waitlist Prioritization
- Notice of Change/Withdrawal – DD Waiver Waitlist Prioritization (3 documents)
- National ARC convention registration and schedule
- iBudget Powerpoint presentation (copy)
- List of area chair/representative e-mail addresses
- List of Managed Care Terminology
- APD-AmeriCorps Summary
- 2010 CDC+ Annual Participant List
- Florida ARF Agenda – Managed Care Educational Seminar
- Florida ARF Medicaid Outlook Powerpoint presentation (copy)
- Summary of HB7223 and HB7225 document
- Lighting the Way to Guardianship Manual (FDDC)

**II. BUSINESS**

**Review of Minutes** – Phil makes a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Melinda seconds the motion. The minutes were approved by consensus.

**Budget Report** – Pauline shared the beginning budget totals 7,500.00 (\$500 per area). Total expenses to date equal \$1,662.07 leaving a balance of \$5,837.93. Pauline reminded everyone that each area should consider transferring an additional \$500.00 to FCCF. Phil suggested again that FCCF consider asking areas that don't spend their monies to approve additional monies to FCCF at the beginning of the fiscal year. Each area FCC is allotted \$10,000 with an automatic reduction of \$500 to FCCF leaving each area with a beginning balance of \$9,500.

**FCCF Website** – Chair Carroll suggested area councils consider providing Phil with local meeting information that can be posted on the FCCF website, area homepage.

### **III. iBUDGET FLORIDA, Hilary Brazzell, APD Central Office**

Chair Carroll introduced Hilary to the audience. Her official title is the Supervisor of the Data and Policy Analysis unit in the APD Chief of Staff office. Hilary provided copies of her Powerpoint Presentation. She mentioned how pleased she is to be presenting in person for the first time. She provided some background information which includes her working for Developmental Disabilities program prior to becoming APD. She has also worked for the state legislature in both the policy side and appropriations side. She has a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. She shared it's a dream job that she is in now to work on creating positive change for people with disabilities and their families.

#### **Why do iBudgets?**

- Status quo is not anything people are happy with
- Options that raise concerns – Managed Care, Greater Institutionalization, Continued deficits
- Legislature passed a law requiring APD to implement iBudget

#### **How did APD make iBudget plan?**

- Did a lot of research
- Got a lot of stakeholder input
- Got help from consultants
- Listened to consumers, families, and providers in public meetings and website

Hilary saw herself more as the facilitator, helping people think through the issues and give APD their recommendations and ideas.

#### **Overview of Proposed System:**

Hilary gave a basic overview of the system.

- Budget determined through a formula known as an Algorithm
- Developed through statistical analysis
- Revised services to allow for more flexibility
- Waiver Support Coordination emphasis more on family needs
- Eliminate current Prior Service Authorization system
- System will be consumer/family friendly with trainings and on-line system to include visibility into their budgets
- Create policies limiting risks of overspending
- Process for determining budgets for consumers with extraordinary needs
- Improve Electronic/automated system with new online tool for creating and tracking budgets
- System will be phased in over a reasonable time frame

#### **Status Update:**

- AHCA has submitted waiver application – Approval could take up to six months or longer
- Initial Phase in area announced – Area 2B (Tallahassee & some surrounding counties) includes 1000 people – letters were sent to consumers, support coordinators and area providers – 3 public hearings were held for attendees
- Online iBudget Florida system well into development
- Communication materials developed including a brochure and video
- Developing rules and procedures
- Area 2A (remaining counties) will follow in about 6 months. This will represent another 1,000 people
- Wider phase in will begin in late 2011 or early 2012

Hilary mentioned she has been the lead since the beginning. They have added Art Barndt to their staff. He will be leading the on the ground implementation. He will be arranging outreach to the families and communicating with support coordinators in the initial phase I.

Hilary shared the video which was developed in house by the APD communications staff. Everyone thought the video was well done.

Hilary summarized the next steps which include testing of online iBudget system, begin rule making process, develop trainings, set up new procedures and train area staff, help transition providers, promulgate new iBudget handbook, and develop new cost plans.

Hilary's presentation included examples of what is different between current system and iBudget Florida, Features of iBudget Florida and characteristics used to determine Algorithm which includes consumer age, living setting, QSI questions and scores. Her vision is to make this program one that consumers like, families like, providers can work with and meet the legislature's test of not running in deficit.

## Services:

### Design of service array will change to include:

- Services grouped in 8 service families – can switch among services within service family usually with minimal or no outside service review
- Easier to meet changing needs over time
- Broader services – Personal support and day activities, one worker can do a broader set of tasks, allow to meet changing needs day-to-day. It provides more flexibility.
- Additional services have been added to include, Family and Guardian Training (an example, someone wanting some training on how to better coordinate services), Person Centered Planning (an example, someone wanting to do something more in depth than what the SC normally does who can help explore the persons dreams and goals to come up with some more innovative supports).
- Broaden day activity service by combining Supported Employment, Adult Day Training, and Companion

### iBudget tool:

Included in the presentation are slides of the actual iBudget tool screens. Hilary provided a summary of each screen.

### CDC+ and iBudget Florida:

- CDC+ option will continue
- CDC+ participants will have funding determined through their iBudget
- CDC+ participants will “spend” iBudgets according to CDC+ policies

Hilary answered questions from the audience. Concerns expressed to Hilary were that families will have a difficult time promoting the iBudget when they don't know the individual's projected budget amount. Hilary provided a number of reasons why a projected budget amount cannot be determined at this time. Unknown appropriations, unknown extraordinary needs, unknown reserve funds, the algorithm can change, data received from Area 2 can result in changes and areas will be phased in over a two year period allowing for changes within an individuals life. Part of the challenge is they don't have all the information yet. Hilary suggested going on line to the APD website. There is a link to iBudgets on the right of the homepage.

Chair Carroll thanked Hilary for presenting, especially in person. Everyone agreed with their applause.

## IV. FLORIDA DISABLED OUTDOORS ASSOCIATION - David Jones, President

Chair Carroll introduced David to the audience. David began by sharing how the association came about as a result of a severe accident he sustained which left him with a severe brain injury, many months in a rehab hospital, another year of outpatient therapy progressing from complete paralysis on one side, loss of speech and vision, confused state of mind, no mobility, and no use of his left arm. Through his rehabilitation process he was fortunate in learning about people with disabilities. He provided a Powerpoint presentation which included a video. David shared his organization has become a community based provider of active leisure for individuals with disabilities. Their mission is: FDOA enriches lives through accessible inclusive recreation and active leisure for all. David shared how his involvement with disabled people interested in various different recreation activities led to the creation of an event in 1990 titled Sportsability Expo. Over the years the Sportsability Expo has grown into a popular event attended by many children and adults with disabilities and supported by many organizations/providers within the area. It's a free two day event with one day being indoor sports/activities and the other day being outdoor sports. The next event will be in Ocala in October. Therapeutic recreation uses treatment, education and recreational opportunities to benefit people with disabilities. They offer a variety of indoor and outdoor recreational and leisure activities. David shared FDOA has been working with APD to incorporate some of their services and programs into services for APD consumers and wait list people. He provided everyone with some brochures. For more information visit their website at [www.fdoa.org](http://www.fdoa.org) or call 850-201-2944.

## V. APD UPDATES - Denise Arnold and Liesl Ramos – Conference Call

APD-AmeriCorps - A handout was supplied to the audience. Denise began by sharing APD received an AmeriCorps grant which started September 1<sup>st</sup>. It's a 12 month grant and renewable for up to 2 years after that. The focus is to serve people on the wait list by engaging AmeriCorps members to assist in helping people to receive services or opportunities to achieve greater community access through training and mentoring, volunteer opportunities, job placement and recreational opportunities and respite in the community.

- They are looking to enroll, as AmeriCorps members, five full time people.
- An additional 50 members will be part time members located statewide in area offices. Their job will be out and about in the community and helping people on the wait list get some opportunities for community participation, job placement, etc.

- AmeriCorps members, in addition to the tasks APD has asked of them, will recruit other people to volunteer.
- AmeriCorps members will receive both AmeriCorps and APD training which will include background checks.
- AmeriCorps members will engage the use of existing community resources such as support coordinators, Family Care Councils, local APD steering committees, provider networks and existing volunteer structures to more specifically tailor available resources to meet local needs of people on the wait list.
- AmeriCorps members will seek to engage new community partners and resources by making presentations at local civic groups and organizations.
- AmeriCorps members can include people on the wait list interested in participating in the volunteer program either as a volunteer or as a recipient of volunteer assistance.

Denise answered questions from the audience. She recommended each area council contact their area FCC liaison to see how they can get involved.

**Wait List Prioritization Update** – Denise reported there were three notices of change to the rule. The rule should be filed within a month. Once the rule is filed, APD will send official notice to families advising of the category they will be placed in. She was asked if data has been compiled indicating how many people in each category. Denise advised they are working on that and will be able to share soon.

**Waiver Additions** - Denise reported the Tier Cap reduction of 2.5% approved by the legislature last session has been sent to CMS for approval. Also, the new flexible service category titled Community Guide has been sent to CMS for approval.

**CDC+ Update** – A handout was supplied to the audience. Liesl reviewed the handout chart titled: 2010 CDC+ Annual Participant List Totals by Month. As of September 2010, there are a total of 631 new participants in the program. Trainings took place last December and January in every area. They have been working on an on-line training module because of budget limitations in traveling. The refresher training for current CDC+ consumers and consultants is expected to go on-line within the next couple of months followed by the training for new consumers. Liesl answered questions from the audience.

Betty Kay thanked Denise and Liesl for taking the time to call in.

## **VI. WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

**FCCF Newsletter** – A copy of the first FCCF newsletter is in the information packet. Phil, the Editor, is asking for input to include: how often per year, topics to write about, consider writing an article, and feedback on tone of content. It will be sent electronically.

**FCCF Meetings** – Chair Carroll mentioned at last meeting it was decided to have Betty Kay send a letter to area FCC chairs who didn't attend the meeting. Betty Kay sent 5 and received a reply from 2. It's so important that all area FCC's work together. Chair Carroll asked Betty Kay to send emails to Area FCC chairs who had not advised their Area FCC would not be represented this month.

**Legislative Agenda** – Chair Carroll turned the meeting over to Phil, FCCF Legislative Chair.

Phil mentioned the need to get involved in legislative issues, managed care being important. Everyone needs to make an appointment to visit their legislators. We need a consistent voice. That needs to include supporting APD, maintaining health and safety, and working on the wait list. Also, they need to hear that we don't understand how managed care will affect our DD population. Families need to be involved in figuring it out. FCCF needs to create a consistent message to include a slogan. His suggestion would be "What happens to my kid when I die?" It affects all families whether on the waiver or wait list. Send any ideas for the legislative platform to Phil.

Phil reminded everyone that Rep. Proctor is holding a bill slot for FCCF. First priority would be the lottery bill. Due to the economic situation, it would be difficult to pass this bill. He suggested as an alternative a policy bill. An example could be that FCCF be an advisory committee to the legislature. Another example, FCCF be recognized in statute as an organization. Phil asked suggestions be sent to him.

Phil is asking for legislative monitors, people who will follow legislative bills on a daily basis through the website and alert everyone if there is a need to contact your legislators.

**Managed Care Discussion** – Chair Carroll mentioned it is the councils understanding that Carol Gormley from the State House of Representatives office, will be participating in the November meeting either in person or via conference call. In the information packet are copies of a summary of last years managed care bills and the Powerpoint presentation on managed care given at the FARF Seminar on 8/24/10. It does include Home and Community Based Services. The unknowns are how and by whom the services will be rendered, what happens to the individual when parents die, what happens to APD? What needs to be explained to legislators is the iBudget is the DD population's managed care. A question was asked if anyone knows the percentage of APD

**Medicaid dollars compared to the total state Medicaid dollars. That information could be of help in advocating with legislators.**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Phil would like to allocate up to \$1,000 to purchase a projector that could be mailed to different councils to give presentations. They want one with a hard case for mailing purposes. Stephanie will notify purchasing dept. staff and advise council of choices available and cost.**

**Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Rauber, Substitute Transcriber**

**Next meeting: November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010**