

FAMILY CARE COUNCIL FLORIDA

Mary Smith, Chairperson
March 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes
Embassy Suites, Orlando Airport

Members:

Mary Smith, FCCF Chair, FCC4
Patty Houghland, FCCF Vice Chair, FCC1
Pauline Lipps, FCCF Past Chair, Suncoast East
Ruth Wingate, FCCF Secretary
Mary Ellen Ottman, FCCF Treasurer, FCC12
Betsy Hill, FCC3
Paula James, Suncoast West
Dan Bayley, FCC7
Patricia Oglesby, FCC8
Martha Stuart, FCC9
Gilda Pacheco, FCC10
Sandy Ames, FCC11
Karen Huscher, FCC13
Lisa Miller, FCC14
Lisa Lupi, FCC15

Speakers:

Clarence Lewis, APD, Central Region Operations Manager with Michael Sauve, APD
Tom Buddington, Waiver Support Coordinator and Laura Mohesky, CDC+ Consultant
Stephanie Love, Manager, Community Outreach, Step Up For Students

Meeting called to order at 8:40 a.m.

COUNCIL ACTION / COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Moved by Patty Houghland, seconded by Paula James to approve the January 20, 2017 FCCF meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Moved by Patricia Oglesby, seconded by Sandy Ames to approve the January 21, 2017 FCCF meeting minutes as presented with spelling correction of Marty Norris' name. Motion passed.

Moved by Patty Houghland, seconded by Pauline Lipps to approve the February 16, 2017 FCCF conference call meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Moved by Mary Ellen Ottman, seconded by Patty Houghland to approve the March 7, 2017 conference call meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Moved by Gilda Pacheco, seconded by Betsy Hill to approve a bylaws language change under the Article V: Officers 2/f. Language will now read "The Chairperson shall appoint all Committee Chairs except the Nominating Committee, which should be elected by the FCCF membership." Motion passed with one abstention.

Guests:

Susan and Hannah Moore
Diane Ciccarelli
Debora Extein
Howard Fetes
Connie Stuart
Patricia Bell Kennealy
Stephanie Weis
David Alexander

By Phone:

Tony Mancuso
Suzanne Lane
Adrienne Dissis

FCCF APD Liaison:

Stephanie Rogers

CAFE Presentation Committee: Chair Mary Ellen Ottman, with volunteers Patricia Oglesby, Gilda Pacheco, Sandy Ames, Joanna Rydzewski and Dina Justice.

Waiver Support Coordinator Committee: Chair Gilda Pacheco, with volunteers Adrienne Dissis, Diane Ciccarelli, Sandy Ames, Dan Bayley, Tom Buddington and Laura Mohesky.

Nominating Committee: Co-Chairs Pauline Lipps and Karen Huscher. Ms. Lipps reported the committee's recommendation for FCCF 2017-2018 slate as: Mary Smith, Chairperson, Patricia Houghland, Vice Chair, Mary Ellen Ottman, Treasurer and Ruth Wingate, Secretary. Election to be held May 20, 2017, with nominations taken from the floor prior to vote.

MEMBER ACTION

1. Members to review and make suggestions on the Foster Family recruitment project handouts to msmithfccf@gmail.com.
2. Members to review and make suggestions on the 15 Guidelines of Facebook Group engagement to msmithfccf@gmail.com.
3. [Members asked to send suggestions for speakers at future meetings.](#)

AGENDA ITEMS

Treasurer's Report:

Mary Ellen Ottman reported that after expending a total of \$8,483.87 to date, the FCCF retains a balance of 6,516.13.

SPEAKERS

Clarence Lewis, APD Regional Operations Manager, Central Region

- Discussed APD's Legislative Budget Request, Comparison of Old and New Algorithm, Waitlist Priority Categories, Waitlist Phase, Waitlist to Waiver Update, and AIMS process. **PowerPoint will be distributed by the FCCF Chair to members.**
- APD requested \$36.9 million with \$14.2 million from General Revenue to continue to comply with the U.S. Department of Labor provider rates, requested \$3.4 million with \$1.3 million of G.R. for increased waiver rates for nursing services to bring them to the same level as Medicaid State Plan rates, requested \$4.6 million with \$1.8 million G.R. for implementation of new waiver intensive behavior models, requested \$4.7 million with \$2.8 million of G.R. for staff augmentation, requested \$4 million total that was approved for enhanced Medicaid matching funds for APD's Client Data Management System for client records and electronic visit verification, requested \$3.3 million G.R. for Employment and Internship Supports for waiver waitlist clients and requested \$7.5 million total, with \$2.9 million of GR to transition 700 individuals with critical needs to the waiver. This request represents half of anticipated funding need because data indicates clients do not use their entire cost plan for the first year.
- No new Comprehensive Transitional Education Programs will be licensed after July, 2017 and no renewal of any CTEP licenses after December 31, 2019. APD can take over a CTEP to operate it to preserve health/safety of residents if the CTEP decides to stop operating the facility.

- The involuntary commitment process for clients committed to APD is being revised to make the process clearer for all involved, protecting the rights of those committed and clearing up inconsistencies and clarifying the roles of the Court and APD.
- APD has 54,390 clients, 33,829 in Medicaid waivers including the 2,811 in CDC+ and 20,561 on the waitlist. Individuals declining waiver offers are retained on the waitlist. Central Region created and shared documents with all Regions for tracking waitlist to waiver activity.
- APD is providing additional training to Waiver Support Coordinators regarding iBudget. This training will be posted online in March and will be shown at WSC meetings, and includes rule requirements and the self-advocate perspective.

Michael Sauve, APD Deputy Regional Operations Manager, Central Region

- Reviewed the distributed document “Comparison of Old and New Algorithm”.
- The Medicaid complaint line is accessed online at ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid or the office of Dietra Cole, manager, at 1-877-254-1055.

Tom Buddington, WSC and Laura Mohesky, CDC+ Consultant, members of Support Coordination Association of Florida

- Coordinators/Consultants primary focus is case management, know the family and their preferences, write a good support plan, build a good cost plan, have organizational skills, interact with all relevant agencies, show medical necessity and identify and justify needs comprehensively to get the plan approved.
- **Will send the Chair a 6-page “What Makes a Good Support Coordinator” presentation and Chair will also send list of Region’s Workstream.**
- Created a chart identifying the science of support coordination combined with the art of support coordination. Mentoring could also be mandated for new hires like an internship. Training modules could be created by specific subject for coordinators to improve their expertise, but must be self-motivated. Working on this model for statewide application.
- Created a list of questions for families to use when interviewing coordinators and consultants including identifying specialty of experience, understanding of on-call status, policy on returning calls, paperwork expertise, what geographic area do you serve, how long have you done this, how do you keep track of things, how do you handle service refusals, what is your role in family member’s life, supported living and group home experience, and experience in forensics.
- Discussed process of how to become a support coordinator.
- They suggested partnering with the Council to create a brochure to assist families.

Stephanie Love, Manager, Community Outreach – Step Up For Students

- Gardiner Scholarships are geared to home schooling and private schools, used to customize education for special needs students through scholarship funds. These funds are used for a combination of approved programs and providers. Serves 7,000 students.
- To qualify, students need an IEP or formal diagnosis by physician or psychologist and can be received from age 3-22, until graduation or return to public school.
- Average scholarship in 2016-2017 is \$10,000, with the state factoring in cost-of-living for each county. Funds can be rolled over from year to year. When the student graduates, remaining funds can be used for post-secondary education, and ends after 4 years of account inactivity. Can also be used for transition services and job coaching.
- Applications and further information online at www.stepupforstudents.org/PLSA, and awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

CHAIR REMARKS

- Reviewed the Legislative Platform and an overview of Developmental Disability Day. Initiated CAFE committee and Waiver Support Coordinator Committee.

AREA UPDATES

- Area 8 had a provider fair with 33 providers including Special Olympics and dentist.
- Area 14 will have a speaker from Noah's Ark, and had a school board member attend their FCC meeting for the first time. Working to acquire waitlist family contact information, potentially through a scanned letter created by FCC and emailed by APD to protect confidentiality or posting on Facebook with contact information for FCC. Recurring concern with hospital staff not trained to interact with individuals with disabilities, and are exploring a partnership with CARD to address training issues.
- FCC13 noted that Mr. Lewis and Mr. Sauve spoke at their FCC about the iBudget algorithm and will present in other counties in their area before year end.
- FCC11 is combining Broward and Dade County training. They are providing information to private schools about the waiver.
- FCC12 is sending out a survey and received approval for supplies, will have an ADA night at the ballpark, and will attend the Jacksonville event "Connect the Dots".
- FCC7 members are attending all high school transition fairs, attended the Autism Walk, and will coordinate FCCF CAFÉ table volunteers, and have a new member.
- FCC3 is working on membership and is still meeting at the CARD center.
- FCC8 will hold a resource fair in September, partnering with Special Olympics and the school board, with Kaiser University providing the venue. Mr. Budding will speak.
- FCC10 noted their Universities are holding a symposium to address behavior and mental health. Continuing to encourage new membership. **Coral Springs is training law enforcement staff, and information about this project will be forwarded by Ms. Rogers to members.**
- Suncoast East's Chair Pauline Lipps will attend the Florida Lifespan Respite Alliance Summit on Thursday, June 15 in Largo with Paula James of Suncoast West.
- FCC15 has created their link to the FCCF website, and members are asked to visit.
- FCC4 is holding a "Connect the Dots" conference with participants Picasso-Einstein, APD, FND, Dual Diagnosis and ABLE Act.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Ciccarelli identified challenges in holding the Agency for Persons with Disabilities accountable for expenditures and participation data regarding jobs and internships. Ms. Lupi made a verbal request to APD for information without success.

Ms. Moore asked how IDEA would impact HR610 regarding vouchers, the 1% cap on administrative costs and allocation equally for the number of children in private schools.

Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Wingate, FCCF Secretary

FCCF will next meet May 19, 20, 2017