

SUNCOAST REGION QUALITY  
STEERING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2009

**Attendance:** Betty Beauchaine (FCC), Carl Littlefield (APD), Rebecca Vasey (Consumer of Service), Deborah Morgan, (Provider/Support for Ms. Vasey), Dierdra Walker (Provider), Marcia DiGrazia (AQL),

**Guest:** Judith Redding (APD), Anne Hendon (APD), Gary Hartsfield (Provider).

**Not in Attendance:** Karlton Ballard (Transition), Deborah Davis (Transition), Stepanie Engley (Medicaid), David Hawthorne (Provider), Patty Rendon (WSC), Joanna H. Rydzewski (Parent), Patricia Hayston (Family member), Jennifer Stone (Provider), Tom Nurse (Parent), Delmarva representative.

Meeting: The meeting started at 10:10 a.m.  
Minutes approved with correction.

**By-laws** – Revisions were approved.

Health and Safety issues during rebasing and Tier adjustment:

Marcia spoke with Denise Oetinger regarding the request for more information on consumer's health and safety. Rebasing is continuing as planned.

Per discussion with Denise, any asking for what they needed for medical necessity has been approved. Any returns were typically returned for rewording.

Due process hearings for rebasing have not yet begun (approximately 800)

Tier's due process hearings due to be completed by the end of March. Then rebasing due process hearings will begin.

If there were a health and safety need above their assigned tier it would to go through due process via liaison, to their supervisor, Michael Rao to Tallahassee. Denise was not aware of any individual needing adaptive equipment or home modification that met the medical necessity definition that was turned down.

LENS Conference: Learning, Education, Networking and Strategizing.

- 2½ day workshop Hosted by steering committee members, Patti Rendon (WSC) and another provider, Friends and Families Support Center Inc. The purpose was to learning how to: 1) determine resources available in St. Petersburg, 2) access resources and learning, if citizens know about the resources and how to access the resources and 3) Strategizing how providers and the participants could become partners with St. Petersburg. It was attended by 5 family members, 11 people served by APD, 24 providers and 6 WSC's. 12 community experts including (Guardian proxy advocate-211-Creative Clay-Transportation Disadvantage-Abilities-USF-Vocational Rehabilitation-PSTA) attended as resource for participants to interview as part of the information gathering process. Marcia thanked PARC, Colleen Wilkinson and Goodwill for purchasing refreshments and assisting with set ups.

- Outcome of workshop: 1) development of a letter to PSTA indentifying community needs and offer to participate in meeting to seek solutions, 2) creation of a website of resources as part of “Yahoo groups” then enter “Pinellasresources”. People can become members to enter information and to receive updates and for citizens to look for resource information
- Providers should and could take more time to learn about their communities AND compile what they know, what information they collect into an accessible format and to disseminate the information. (This looks like a step in the right direction to making resource information more readily and easily accessible).
- CARL: Here is the problem: People are not being offered an option or an array of options in working towards their goals of fulfilling their needs. Why do we have the problem in the first place? Do you hire people who know their community?
- MARCIA: Sometimes you don’t know what you know until you know it.
- APD may need to revisit consideration of need for APD to bridge to schools to disseminate information regarding APD and the Med Waiver.

**Quality Indicators: (Delmarva Data:** What are the different reports that could come out of the Data Bank in order to access how well systems are working in the Sun coast Area? What do we want to know? (Delmarva indentifies trends) Currently the SunCoast has an Access data program that logs in the following:

- Complaint reporting
- Incident reporting
- Focus and Intensive homes are going to have more reporting
- Look at Delmarva quality reports

Carl asked why the members would want this information. Every time the SunCoast sees a problem, the SunCoast works at trying to fix it.

The purpose of the steering committee is to look at the systems and how the systems are doing. It was recommended to come up with a list of areas to discuss each month. From the discussions, the members would have questions for Carl to obtain answers for the follow-up meeting of invite a person in charge to attend and give a report.

### **Regional Update-CARL**

- There is a push by APD towards CDC+ 200/1000 in Sun coast (20%). Sun coast thinks it could increase to 1500 people. APD has taken over the pay system.
- NO Crisis has been put into the waiver since November. Individuals have been identified but there is no funding being allotted. Sun coast is using General Revenue to provide a little relief.
  - This committee voted to direct a question to Director De Beaugrune.
    - ✓ Why has there been no funding for individuals with crisis situations since November?
    - ✓ The plan was to take crisis application and to act on those applications on a monthly basis.
- QSI’s - On course to finish QSI by March 31, 2009.

- Tier implementation completed and due process fair hearings are in process
- There is a new monthly residential licensing inspection tool. It takes longer. It has an impact on the workload of inspectors and the number an inspector needing to accomplish. Unoccupied homes are inspected quarterly.

Any agenda items please send to Marcia or Dierdra.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be on March 9, 2009 at the DD Center, 1201 102 nd Ave. N., St. Petersburg. From 10 – 12.