

Florida Association of County Human Services Administrators

Mid- Year Workshop. February 2, 2011
6021 S. Conway Road, Orlando, Florida

Attendees:

Amy Engelken, Citrus County	Susan Maclean, St. Johns County
Cathy Taylor, Citrus County	Susan Myers, Broward County
Clark Scott, Pinellas County	Alisa Tang Hap, Broward County
Helena Kenny, Pinellas County	Mike Elwell, Broward County
Natalie Jackson, Pinellas County	Maria Vega, Marion County
Cliff Smith, Pinellas County	Nicki Hunter, Marion County
Nancy Deoach, Sarasota County	Cheryl Amey, Marion County
Brooke Baker, Sarasota County	Marcy Krumbine, Collier County, FACHSA Treasurer
Pauline Tracy, Sarasota County, FACHSA President	Dona DeMarsh, Volusia County
Pam Meunier, Sarasota County	Claudia Tuck, Palm Beach County, FACHSA- President -Elect
Margaret Brennan, Orange County	Mary Foy, Highlands County
Randy Lewis, Orange County	Lucy Castillo, Highlands County
John Goodrich, Orange County	Cathy Pearson, Citrus County
Candie Nixon, Alachua County	Heather Wildermuth, FAC, Health and Human Services Lobbyist
Lanard Perry, Alachua County	Maria Henson, Clay County
Elmira K. Warren, Alachua County, FACHSA Secretary	Stefanie Myers, St. Lucie County
Jerry Cameron, St. Johns County	Renee Scott, St. Lucie County
Michele Manor, St. Johns County	

Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. An opening and the welcome was provided by Pauline Tracy.

Getting to Know You: Marcy Krumbine facilitated this activity and requested that all attendees introduce themselves.

Budget Reductions: Marcy Krumbine spoke about declining resources and how more is expected of public servants, even though they have less to work with. The group discussed the resultant impact on staff morale. This led into a sharing of creative ways to support staff and boost morale.

Morale & FACHSA Support – Lanard Perry distributed a list of things the Alachua County Department of Community Support Services does for its employees. It included Golden Ruler Awards, Life Saver Awards, Great Job I Noticed Cards, Monthly Management Team Luncheons, Birthday Cards Given To All Employees, Thanksgiving Luncheons, Winter Holiday Luncheons, Employee Movie Day, etc.

Ideas offered by others included:

Picnics For Employees; *Send Thank You Notes – send York Mints after saying*; Meet and Greets; *Rapid Reward – a day off or a day's pay*; Incentive Leave – 2 hrs to 2 days off - can give up to thirteen days off; Team Building; Keeping Employees Informed and in the know ; Stepped up acknowledgement and expressions of “attaboy” and “atta girl”; Put up a box saying “Ask Marcy Anything” to encourage people to ask questions; Summer Fun Days – lunch at the beach; Western Wear Wednesday; Back to

The Future Celebration; CSI initiative (Challenges, Solutions and Innovations)– 3rd year – gives all employees a voice in county decisions – offered 4-5 times a year - Developed Policies re E-working – includes somebody from every section, etc.

What can we do to help one another? Make greater use of the list serve – it’s good in supporting this group! Plus, meetings like today’s meeting are very helpful.

FACHSA Strategic Planning - Elmira K. Warren led a discussion regarding developing a strategic plan - and getting To Where We Want to Be! She suggested the best way is through written direction and documents. Asked if anyone knows what our Mission is! She also indicated that it’s important that we come together and live our mission. Asked if we as a group have a vision? In general she encouraged us to think about what needs can we satisfy in our counties and throughout Florida...and whatever they are we can do it as an association. The point of the discussion was to get us to start thinking about strategic planning so that we can have greater influence with and on elected officials.

Shared Ten Elements of a Strategic Plan (handout). Shared a copy of Alachua County’s Health and Human Services 10 Year Master Plan; with an attendant Work Plan. Lets pull together and establish a Task Force to develop a strategic plan for FACHSA. Closed with questions: What kind of image do we want to project. How big do we want to be? What’s the priority of services we want to promote? What are the priorities of the organization. Where do we want to be in 5 years? And what do we want to be able to look back over the years and say we accomplished?

Legislative Issues: Heather Wildermuth – passed out the attached handout “ 2011 Legislative Session Preview” (attached to the official copy of the minutes). Reviewed and discussed the Top Three Priorities; **Medicaid Reform, County Health Departments** and **Transportation Disadvantaged**.

Medicaid Reform – the position this year is to support changes with stipulations. Mandatory managed care is coming, so the question becomes how do we make it work? How do you calculate managed care costs under a capitated system? There are more questions than we have answers for right now.

County Health Departments – the governor’s office has suggested that County Health Departments stop providing primary care services. We need to educate local representatives and state legislators of the importance of health departments in their respective areas, and how and why each one is uniquely different because of the needs of their respective communities.

Transportation Disadvantaged – is one of 7 required services to be a Medicaid Program.

The 2nd Tier of issues includes Disposition of Human Remains, Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Homeless Programs and Funding. Heather indicated that nobody spoke up for homeless programs. Heather will be calling asking for stories, information and ideas.

Disposition of Human Remains – this is the new name for this program. The bill will include reference to indigents as noted in the statutes, clarifies that counties are authorized to make final disposition of unclaimed bodies and it remains the responsibility of the counties to notify the Anatomical Board under certain circumstances. Whoever has physical possession of the body must notify the anatomical board. Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity - fire chiefs want to be exempted front the process this year.

Homelessness – Claudia Tuck – the Department of Children and Families Schedule VIII-B Reductions include: deep cuts to homeless programs, elimination of the Challenge Grant and the elimination of the local staffing grant.

The 2011 Homeless Point in Time Count should have been completed by all Continuums during the last ten days in January. Key focus areas this year were:

- definitive national count of homeless veterans
- unaccompanied homeless children
- chronically homeless families
- precariously housed persons for local planning purposes, not reported to HUD this year

Homeless Emergency Assistance And Rapid Transition To Housing Act (HEARTH ACT)

- New definition includes four broad categories of homelessness which were reviewed in detail.
- Changes under HEARTH related to the funding process include the following:
The former Lead Entity will be known as a **Collaborative Applicant**.
HUD may designate a Collaborative Applicant as a **Unified Funding Agency**
- ESG is renamed the "Emergency Solutions Grant" changes reviewed include:

Adding rapid re-housing (RRH) activities

At least 40 percent of ESG funds are to be dedicated to prevention and re-housing activities

Increases administration cap from 5% to 7.5%

CHOOSE Life Program – unused funds need to be reported and returned to the state? Counties have been taken out of the equation.

Video newsletter on FAC website.

Medicaid – it's important for us to establish a position so that our thoughts about Medicaid reform are known. Consequently, we need to understand the complexities of the issues and articulate our concerns. IGT fee for service into Medicaid is an issue. HCRA and inpatient costs went up 60% last year. Heather is requesting that HCRA increases be sent to her. The fear is that we will be hurt with a mandated cost if we don't pay attention to what's going on. There is no way that Health Departments will be the same in each county. They are designed to respond to the needs that exist in their respective counties.

Heather asked that related costs, services and increases be referred to her.

Medicaid/HCRA billing is complex and problematic in that it contains lots of billing errors.

Susan Meyers raised an issue regarding shared portion of billings and asked..." How do we validate claims for Medicaid? Pinellas County offered that it validates by residency and noted that it doesn't "reject billings" but instead "questions them". It amounts to the same thing, but is accepted better than when billings are "rejected".

Broward County has issues validating bills and services for children. It's hard to tell by the bills if the patients are children and or residents of the County.

Orange County validates by using AcuCheck System and/or The Property Appraisers records . Pinellas County uses APEX...Marion goes through the department of health to see that they're not being billed for deceased persons. Marion rejects 30-40% of their bills.

Reject homeless shelters; rejects living facility addresses.

Susan Myers uses APEX to determine appropriateness of billings.

Heather will email us ---re the Medicaid billing issue.

It's hard to plan a Medicaid budget because of the these kinds of issues!

Input to Heather – form a smaller group and come up with some proposed ideas. Go back and ask staff for ideas on how to improve the system. Methodology for ACHA work group and NACO Report. . \$200 million last year and maybe \$300 million this year.

Pauline will send something out by the end of the month soliciting ideas.

Prescription Drug Abuse – Brooke Baker. Sarasota County launched an initiative to address issues with prescription drug abuse & pain management clinics through a grassroots approach and one funded F.T.E. position.

It started in 2007 when a parent went to the Health Department and reported that 'she'd lost her son due to an overdose. The Health Department (HD) looked into it and ultimately determined that Sarasota County was 6th in the state for overdose deaths; 4 x the state rate for ages 20 – 24 deaths. That led to an initiative to do something about it...and they developed a strategic plan that other counties have been able to duplicate.

They now have a Pain Clinic Ordinance that enacted a one year Moratorium on establishing new pain clinics.

February 18th – Marcy Krumbine, Collier County, reported that she is organizing a round table discussion with seniors and the Executive Director of the Office on National Drug Policy vi from the White House.

HUD will soon be evaluating Palm Beach County's unified funding agency application as well as others across the State. Sources provided for additional information.

Sheriff – Safe Harbor - low security jail. People sleep on floor.

Poverty Reduction; Half in Ten Campaign – Elmira K. Warren. The goal of the program is to cut poverty in half in ten years in the United States. Campaign objectives are to: influence the Obama administration to build the goal into its economic recovery and planning, win passage of improved anti-poverty policies, expand the constituency for taking action to fight poverty, increase and demonstrate public support for specific anti-poverty policies

It was agreed to place this item on the agenda for the annual meeting as a consideration for FACHSA's work plan.

In the mid 90s Documentary Housing Stamps were created and funds were used to fund housing initiatives for the poor. Lobbying for SHIP to get the funding. Will three consecutive years of not being funded be the death of the program?

The direction is moving toward the establishment of Neighbor Stabilization Programs and various other housing agencies.

FACHSA Survey Update –Claudia Tuck reported that 14 responses have been received so far, still waiting for others to submit. Claudia will resend the survey for those who may not have received it. Please complete the survey and get it back to Palm Beach County.

Medicaid Substance Abuse Local Match Program – Donna Wyche. Nobody in the room is involved with this program.

It's more about purchasing and rehabbing. Spend \$50.00 and get 50% back. Met with Center for Drug Free Living. Lots of the population that falls into this group can't use the system because they don't meet the Medicaid criteria. So, they're shifting to juvenile population; peer to peer; aftercare.

If there's someone who is successfully doing this have them attend the next meeting to share what they're doing.

DJJ Detention Centers – Susan Myers. Broward County has been in cost share since 2004. The County pays for pre sentence stays at \$ 260/per day and state pays for post sentence stays at \$130 per day. There are seven Counties involved around the state.

The more counties that run programs themselves, the higher the cost share is for the counties who participate in county cost share.

Arrestee Medical Expenses – Susan Myers- The related bill was re-filed at Medicare rate, as some counties were getting better rates than the initial bill proposed, like Broward County.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be the annual meeting and will be held June 21st – 24th at Hilton Bonnet Creek Orlando.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elmira K. Warren, FACHSA Secretary

Pauline Tracy, FACHSA President

Claudia Tuck, President Elect

Marcy Krumbine, Treasurer