

Subject: Meeting Minutes of the Local Advocacy Council for Developmental Disabilities/Service Area 3

To: Distribution List

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 8, 2006
8:30 a.m.

Place: Cedars Executive Center
Tallahassee, FL

Chairperson: Lou Ogburn

Members Present: Ms. Lou Ogburn, Dr. Sally Search, Ms. Renee Llewellyn, Ms. Polly Yates, Ms. Kim Watson, Ms. Candi Nelson, Ms. Laura Newton, Mr. Jay Starling, Ms. Sue Loftis, Dr. Mary Riordan, Ms. Faith Connelly – Local Advocacy Council Staff, Mr. Bob Woodard – Statewide Advocacy Council

Members Absent: Ms. Betsy Stone, Ms. Bernice Stokes

Staff and Guests Present: Ms. Sara Parramore, Ms. Celeste Rosenau, Ms. Cheryl Smith, Mr. Steve Girton

Call to Order and Introductions: Ms. Ogburn called the meeting to order and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were approved with one change. Dr. Riordan was in attendance.

Developmental Disabilities Report: Ms. Smith reported that there will be two provider fairs this month, one in Madison and one in Tallahassee. Psych and dental providers are still low and it is taking three to four months to enroll.

Transportation: No report.

Health Quality Assurance Report: No report.

Monitoring: Dr. Riordan reported that she went to L&J. She feels she has a conflict and Ms. Ogburn will assign this facility to another council member. There are three residents at the facility with two bedrooms. Their license is for five residents. There were some repair issues such as duct tape on floorboards and the walls were not painted all the way to the floor. The smoke alarm was not functioning at the time. The facility was not very wheelchair friendly. The residents were clean and well taken care of. The caretakers take the residents everywhere.

Ms. Ogburn and Ms. Nelson visited Country Lane and Lantern Lane homes. The Country Lane house was immaculate, the food smelled good and the clients were bathed and clean. There seemed to be nothing amiss.

At Lantern Lane the staff did not seem knowledgeable about diabetic conditions (one resident has diabetes). There was no menu for the day (staff had prepared a 30 day menu and the visit was on the 31st). They were having corn dogs. There was not another food option for the diabetic resident.

Dr. Riordan visited the Betty King Group home. There are five residents and one respite. The residents were appropriately dressed. Two of the residents don't go anywhere during the day. Dr. Riordan said that one of the men would like to do something during the day. Ms. King said it was difficult to find staff. She is planning on retiring in the Spring and thinks she has someone to run the house.

Membership: As soon as Mr. Radcliffe is appointed, there will be twelve members of the council.

Statewide Advocacy Council Report: Ms. Ogburn discussed the letters that were sent between SAC and the Governor's office. Below are her comments.

"I have with me two very strongly worded letters concerning SAC. One is from the Office of Policy and Budget to Carolyn Shell, Chairman of SAC, written in response to a letter from her to the Governor's office. The second letter is from Mrs. Shell back to the Policy office.

Each letter accuses the other of wrong doings some of which are:

- limiting access to client records
- hindering the work of SAC
- using up all budgeted monies by overspending on travel and meetings
- making unauthorized prior commitments.

It is my opinion that both sides have lost sight of the real purpose of SAC and especially of the Local Advocacy Councils who are charged with the protection of developmentally disabled citizens of our state by providing oversight. When I first became a member of this LAC we seemed to have an excellent relationship with the state. Now I have seen these cooperative relationships change in some areas— it's like some of us are on different

pages. This is a volunteer organization and getting those who are willing to serve can be difficult and will be more so unless the attitudes change and we all are willing to cooperate with each other. This change needs to start now.”

The council asked that Ms. Ogburn send this in letter form to Carolyn Shell and the Governor.

Date/Time/Place of next Meeting: March 8, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.
Cedars Executive Center
Building A
2nd Floor Conference Room

Closed Session:

Submitted by: _____

Approved by: _____