

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

To: Distribution List

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 12, 2006
8:30 a.m.

Place: Cedars Executive Center
Tallahassee, FL

Chairperson: Lou Ogburn

Members Present: Ms. Lou Ogburn, Ms. Renee Llewellyn, Ms. Polly Yates, Ms. Kim Watson, Ms. Sue Loftis, Dr. Mary Riordan, Mr. Fred Radcliffe, Ms. Faith Connelly – Local Advocacy Council Staff, Mr. Bob Woodard – Statewide Advocacy Council, Ms. Sherri McVay – Executive Director, Statewide Advocacy Council

Members Absent: Ms. Laura Newton, Ms. Bernice Stokes, Mr. Jay Starling, Dr. Sally Search, Ms. Candi Nelson

Staff and Guests Present: Ms. Sara Parramore, Ms. Cheryl Smith, Mr. Hilton Akins, Ms. Jill Wyr , Ms. Nilda Barreto, Mr. Mark Hardy

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 changes.

Developmental Disabilities Report: Ms. Smith reported that District 2 is one of the three highest spending districts in the state. Three clients from Sunland have just moved into a new group home. One man had been at Sunland since he was 11 years old. He is non-verbal but does sign. These individuals were in the area of Sunland being made into an autism unit. There is a new web based support program being piloted. This will be used for one month, then evaluated before going statewide.

Transportation: Ms. Smith reported that another rate increase has been requested from APD.

Health Quality Assurance Report: Ms. Ogburn surveyed TDC with minimum findings. Everything has been corrected or is in the process of being corrected.

Monitoring: Ms. Nelson attended a resident meeting at Forest Oaks. The house rules and bill of rights were discussed. There has only been one change since last year in residents.

Ms. Yates has continued to monitor Merrigan Place. The staff will be trained to communicate with the blind and deaf resident.

Easter Seals: A janitor has been hired. Drains were cleaned. Two estimates were received for fixing the roof but both were too high. Ms. Watson, Ms. Loftis, Dr. Riordan, and Ms. Nelson have all been to Easter Seals. Ms. Watson said it was an awkward time when she visited, they were getting ready for break time. Ms. Nelson had a concern that there didn't seem to be many staff people when she visited. There is one hour per day set aside for a discussion of rights. This seemed excessive. Dr. Riordan observed that they were on break for a long time. She asked about starting the discussion on rights fifteen minutes after it was supposed to start. Consumers said they were reading magazines, going for occasional walks. There were still some maintenance issues. Staff has been trained techniques to prevent the consumer from eating soap. A new electronic paper towel dispenser has been installed. Ms. Loftis felt that staff should look into other programs. There is a need for different materials and more staff supervision. The LAC will continue to monitor and help Easter Seals improve.

Presentation: Living Wills. Victoria Heuler gave a presentation on living wills and guardianships. Handouts were given out. The council made a recommendation to do a "role play" of how a guardianship would be set up.

Statewide Advocacy Council Report: Ms. McVay gave the report on SAC. There are several bills going around the capital that SAC is supporting. The Child Abuse Prevention bill was discussed. Ms. McVay thought this was a good bill but SAC has not yet taken a vote. SAC will be reducing their meetings from six per year to one per year with the option to hold more. An update on the bills will be given out to council members. There will be a SAC meeting July 19 through 21, 2006 in Tampa. LAC members are welcome to attend.

Date/Time/Place of next Meeting: May 10, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.
Cedars Executive Center
Building A
2nd Floor Conference Room

Closed Session:

Submitted by: _____

Approved by: _____