

OUTSTANDING ISSUES ADVOCATED BY THE STATEWIDE AND LOCAL ADVOCACY COUNCILS

1. The Home and Community-Based Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled Application

New Providers wishing to enroll in the Home and Community-Based Waiver Developmentally Disabled Medicaid Program are still experiencing difficulty due to numerous reviews and delays which appear to be more cumbersome than the traditional Medicaid provider process. This process needs to be streamlined.

2. Access to Clients' Records at state agencies

SAC is still working with the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) and Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to obtain a data sharing agreement that will allow SAC and LACs full access to Medicaid client data.

3. Continued Monitoring/Review

Continue monitoring/review of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) program's assurances by the DCF to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Florida Legislature.

4. Crisis Stabilization Units/Children

The SAC is conducting a follow-up review on its earlier study on children's admission to CSU's. The hurricanes during the summer of 2004 have delayed this study.

5. Adoption

The SAC is reviewing the process by which foster children whose parents have had their parental rights terminated by the court and the child is in the custody of DCF and becomes pregnant have their child placed up for adoption.

6. Florida Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) Teams

The SAC continues its review of the FACT Teams implementation. The analysis of the survey has been completed in FY 2003-3004 along with the preliminary findings. The final report will be issued in FY 2004-2005.

7. Death of Clients

The SAC continues to have difficulty in reviewing the death of clients in the care of the State. The council and the appropriate state agencies are still pursuing this matter.

8. Dental Services for the Developmentally Disabled

The SAC is still very concerned about the lack of good dental care providers for this population and is working with DOC, DOH, AHCA and DCF to secure additional Medicaid providers.

9. SAFE Program

The SAC will complete its review of the SAFE Program in FY 2004-2005. This is an alcohol and substance abuse treatment program that is modeled after the 12-step program used by Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous along with the use of host homes.

10. Foster Children on Psychotropic Medication

The SAC is conducting a follow-up to their 2003 report on the use of psychotropics on children in State foster care.

11. Inpatient Care

The SAC continues to be concerned about the availability of community inpatient care for the severe, chronic and persistently mentally ill with the limited number of civil commitment beds at the State hospitals.

12. Home and Community Based Care

The SAC continues to be concerned about the number of clients on the Home and Community Based Care for the Developmentally Disabled waiting list. It has 17,000 clients waiting for care.