



**AREA 3 STEERING COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP
MEETING MINUTES –WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2006**

Jeb Bush,
Governor

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Shelly Brantley,
Director

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District 3 Office

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Attendance:

Steering Committee Member Present: Joyce Daniels (Positive Images); Fred Pratt (Consumer/Self-Advocate); Jim Smith (APD); Shelley Voelker (FCC Member);

Advisory Members: Brenda Sweat (Service Options)

Absent Members: Corie Chae, Diane Clark, Loretta Clark, John Conneely, Jimi Daniels, Meribeth Larsen, Melinda Morrison, Mick Royal, Terry Smith, Cynthia Tyson, Dick Bradley, Linda Butler, Lucy Degenhardt, Jeffrey Frazier, Mary Habig, Mike Hutley, Peter Johnson, Angela Jones, Bobbie Lake, Jane McFarland, Patrick Mulvihill, Alice Reshard, Larry Smail, Jim Whittaker

Others Present: Vernita Hughes (AQL Leader); Delores Robinson (APD); Sandra Cooper (APD); Stacey Manning (Alachua ARC); Robbie Lumpkins (Self-Advocate); Doreen Houlker (Alachua ARC)

This was the sixteenth meeting of this committee.

Introduction: Mr. Pratt opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and attendees made introductions.

Announcements:

Ms. Hughes informed the committee that several committee members had notified her by email due to other appointments they would not be in attendance at the meeting today.

Received a notification from Eileen O'Brien, Statewide Self-Advocacy Coordinator, regarding three pilot sites in Florida to develop self-advocacy groups. The sites will receive \$4,000 in seed money as well as technical assistance. If interested, see Ms. Hughes for contact information.

Article publication in the RIOT on rules about self-advocate. See Ms. Hughes for additional information.

Upcoming workshops on "Making Wise Choices" sponsored by Florida Developmental Disability Council. The dates/locations of the workshop are: 11/18/06 in Ft. Lauderdale; 12/2/06 in Tampa, Florida and 1/20/07 in Tallahassee.

Steering Committee/Advisory Group Meeting 11-15-06

Page 2

Announcements: (continued)

Social Security and Benefit Planning training sponsored by University of South Florida and Florida Developmental Disability Council scheduled for December 1, 2006. The time of the training is 9:00AM until 4:00PM

2007 Disability Awareness Day – March 13, 2007 in Tallahassee.

14th Annual CARD Conference scheduled for January 19-21, 2007 in Ft. Lauderdale. Brochures distributed.

Mr. Smith provided an update on the changes in the way Fair Hearings are processed.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the October 11, 2006 meeting reviewed. Motion to accept and approve the minutes with no changes.

Website Update: Ms. Hughes provided an update on feedback received from the website. Positive feedback has been received. Area 13 contacted Area 3 to request a representative from the Area 3 Steering Committee to do a presentation in their area on “Rights”.

Ms. Hughes requested that the subcommittee continue to submit website information to Mr. Smith timely.

Kick-Off Event for the Right of the Month: The “Start Your Year Off Right” event is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, 2007. Ms. Hughes will complete the application for reserving the room at Santa Fe Community College for the event and send to Ms. Sparks by the end of the week. Ms. Voelker agreed the Family Care Council would pay for all cost associated with the use of the room for the event.

Ms. Voelker presented 3 draft letters she prepared to send out to providers, participants and community leaders. Committee members reviewed the letters for changes/corrections. Mr. Pratt presented a draft of the media announcement for review. Committee reviewed the letters and media announcement and provided recommended changes.

Steering Committee/Advisory Group Meeting 11-15-06

Page 3

Kick-Off Event for the Right of the Month: (continued): Mr. Pratt will forward the revised copy of the media announcement to Mr. Smith for review by Community Relations person in Tallahassee prior to sending out.

Discussions of potential presenters to invite to participate in the event include:

- 1) Center for Independent Living – Mr. Pratt will contact.
- 2) Clearing House – Mr. Smith will contact
- 3) Florida Development Disability Council - Ms. Voelker will contact.
- 4) Local Advocacy Council – Mr. Smith will contact.
- 5) Bradford ARC/Alachua ARC/Putnam ARC – Ms. Sweat will contact.

Ms. Sweat suggested that the event not be over exposed with community presenters because the focus of the event is for awareness on the rights of the people that we serve. Therefore the event should include some type of testimonial from the people we serve. Committee members agreed.

Additional vendors to contact are:

- 1) Bank of America – Ms. Sweat will contact.
- 2) Gainesville Apartment Association – Ms. Houlker will contact.
- 3) Public Library – Mr. Smith will contact.

A tentative agenda outlined:

- 11:00-11:15 – Open/Welcome
- 11:15-12:30 – Presentations
- 12:30-1:15 – Lunch/Walk-Through
- 1:15-2:00 – Testimonials/Success Stories

Agenda for Next Meeting/Future Meeting Date

The next scheduled Steering Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2006 from 3:00PM until 5:00PM in the APD Conference Room. Agenda item will be “Start Your Year Off Right” event.