Quality Committee Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2007, 10:00 a.m.
15506 County Line Road, Suite 104
Spring Hill, FL 34610

Coalition Members Present: Sister Roberta Bailey, Patty Wisman, Jim Cook, Denise Gill, Irvin Homer, Steven Kanakis, Lydia Pinkowski, Toni Watkins

Coalition Members Excused: Maria Crosby, Elaine Wooten

Coalition Staff Present: Jo-Ann Kay Fuller, Debbie Antioco, Anne McHugh

Others Present: None

Jim Cook called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. All members introduced themselves. The committee reviewed the draft minutes from the March 14, 2007 meeting. All members reached a consensus that no revisions and/or additions were necessary.

While awaiting the arrival of Lydia Pinkowski, the group continued a discussion that occurred during the Strategic Planning Workshop regarding grant writing. Jo-Ann Kay Fuller, Executive Director, mentioned that the new Inclusion Behavior Specialist has the expertise in grant writing and will be working collaboratively with Anne McHugh and other individuals to successfully do so. Discussion followed regarding a grant writer contract and Board Members referring someone to assist in this process. The group reached a consensus that the grant writer would need to receive a grant to sustain their position and salary within the Coalition. The group would like to present this issue to the Board at the next Board Meeting. Jo-Ann stated that she will be contacting Pam Alverez to support the grant writing efforts, furthermore, the Administrative Assistant will email all Board Members of this discussion to ask for their input regarding grant writer referrals.

Discussion also followed regarding Board Meeting cancellations/rescheduling.

The following information was discussed and reviewed during this meeting:

Committee Chair Nomination

The group reached a consensus to nominate Steven Kanakis as the Quality Committee Chair. Duties were explained to Steven Kanakis and he accepted this responsibility.

Infant/Toddler Update

Jo-Ann gave a brief update regarding the approval or disapproval from the Agency for Workforce Innovation/Office of Early Learning regarding the infant/toddler increases for Pasco County. Jo-Ann explained that one of AWI/OEL's concerns is if the Coalition would be able to sustain this increase throughout the next Fiscal Year. Another concern

is how one service area can receive an increase when the other still has children on the waitlist. Further clarification was discussed regarding this infant/toddler increase and how attrition affects provider services. Should AWI/OEL not approve the amendment for provider increase, Jo-Ann mentioned that in lieu of this increase, the Coalition would like to consider an initiative/incentive of age-appropriate materials to these providers. The Coalition would contact providers to see what materials are needed and have the Central Agency collaborate with this initiative. The Committee suggested creating a master list of approved AWI/OEL materials that providers can review and select. The Committee will be making a recommendation to the Board that if AWI/OEL does not approve the rate increase, the Coalition will utilize those funds ($20,150) to purchase infant/toddler age-appropriate materials for Pasco providers.

Dental Health Screenings Update

Jo-Ann mentioned that Connie Porter, Coalition VPK Specialist, continues to contact clinics to provide dental screenings. Jo-Ann stated that the Health Department prepared their contract for West Pasco in the amount of $10,500 and is currently being reviewed internally before it is provided to the Coalition. In addition, Jo-Ann further stated that for East Pasco, the Coalition prepared a contract for Premier Community Healthcare Group and the Coalition is awaiting their approval. Regarding Pasco Hernando Community College, the Coalition still awaits their decision but will contact them at the beginning of the next Fiscal Year for these contracted services.

The PLAN Review

Jo-Ann provided copies of the PLAN to the Committee for their review. Jo-Ann explained that the Committee needs to review the Quality section of this PLAN to assure that all initiatives have been implemented. Copies of the PLAN are available on the Coalition's website.

Future Meetings Schedule

The next two Quality Initiative Meetings are scheduled for May 2, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. and on June 6, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment/Further Discussion

Toni Watkins mentioned that she attended a Department of Children and Families licensing meeting in Tampa that was not very productive or positive. She stated that she would like the Quality Committee to work collaboratively with providers to better assist with licensing.

Without any further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Maryrose Wersan
Administrative Assistant