

# CFAC Meeting Minutes

## December 14, 2006

**Present:** Leslie, Chris, Allen, Marcus, Bradley, Ken, Steve, Heather, Cheryl, Pam, Megan, Edward, Rhonda, Janet, Gwyn, Ellen, Virginia, Dan, Michael B. and Michael N.

**Guest:** Edward Smith (GACPD)

**Minutes:** The minutes of the November meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

### REPORTS

**Update from CFAC Chair:** No updates this evening.

**Update from OPC CFAC Liaison:** Michael N. discussed the development of the updated OPC Local Business Plan. The deadline for submission to the Division is in March of 2007, so the timeline for completing various tasks is much shorter than when the original Local Business Plan was developed. One of the important tasks OPC needs to undertake is soliciting input from stakeholders in the community, especially consumers and family members. A few years ago we did this by holding public forums in various community settings in all three counties. However, many of these were poorly attended and the process of scheduling the forums was lengthy. Therefore, OPC developed a survey this year, which is available online and in hard copy. Michael distributed copies to everyone present and asked them to be sure to complete the survey. Members were also encouraged to ask their friends, family members, and anyone else who may be interested to complete the survey. Michael distributed self-addressed, postage-paid envelopes for members who requested them. Michael also indicated that copies of the survey had been sent to advocacy groups throughout the OPC catchment area. Ellen commented that she received one for R.A.N.E., but expressed concern that it was too complicated for their members to understand.

Michael also mentioned that the Area Quality Improvement Committee is seeking a consumer/family member representative and asked whether any CFAC members would be interested in serving. Both Pam and Rhonda indicated their interest, and Ellen offered to serve if there is a need for DD representation. Michael agreed to take this back to AQIC and follow up with members at the January meeting.

**Update from State CFAC Liaison:** Michael B. reviewed Implementation Update #19, which deals with reimbursement for services provided to consumers in the CAP-MR/DD Waiver. Specifically, Implementation Update #19 deals with reimbursement of services provided by family members. First of all, some specific conditions must exist for family members to be approved as paid service providers. When the conditions are met, family members will be limited to providing no more than 40 hours of service in a week. If the consumer needs more services than 40 hours weekly, someone else must be hired to provide the balance of the services required. This applies only to the parent or legally responsible person of an *adult*. Parents of minors (under the age of 18) or spouses of adults may never be reimbursed through CAP for providing services for their children/spouses.

### New Business:

*Edward Smith, from GACPD, spoke about an initiative known as "Money Follows the Person."* A bill has been proposed in the U.S. Congress to provide community-based alternatives to nursing homes and institutions for people living with disabilities. The Medicaid Community Attendant Services and Supports Act (MiCASSA) is also known as "Money Follows the Person." N.C. does not have such a bill at present, but GACPD is helping RANE get signatures on a petition in support of Money Follows the Person. The basic premise is that if people living in institutions could find their own housing in the community, the money that was paying for their

institutional care would follow them into their new housing situation. It would be used to pay for the supports needed for independent living. Edward stated that too often, people with disabilities are "stuck" in adult care facilities because that is where the funding has been placed by the legislature. Under Money Follows the Person, when someone moves out of an institution, the money that paid for their stay at that facility goes with them. This would require a good assessment of the person's ability to manage money, as well as the supports they need to live in their own homes. Money Follows the Person specifically targets people living with DD. It is important not only because it is a more cost-effective way to provide support, but because it provides a better quality of life for persons with disabilities. The federal government has \$176 million available in demonstration grant funds for this purpose. North Carolina has applied for some of this available grant money. 2000 signatures had been obtained on the petition RANE is circulating as of the TASH Conference. The petition is important because the lobby for adult care facilities in N.C. is very strong, so it is crucial that politicians hear from "the people." GACPD is also meeting with members of this lobby to try to point out the increased risk and liability they are facing by accepting people who may be inappropriately placed in their facilities.

*Inclusive Theater Group DVD*

During a break for dinner, members watched a DVD documentary on the Inclusive Theater Group on Megan's laptop computer. It was moving and very well done.

*PSI Workshop Budget Proposal*

Allen proposed creating a new line item in the CFAC budget for the 2007 PSI Workshop. The proposal includes shifting \$500 from the "Reserved Monies (Miscellaneous)" line into the new line item, which will cover stipends for members of the PSI Sub-committee. A more detailed budget for the remaining workshop expenditures will be presented in January. A motion was made and seconded to add this new line item and shift \$500 into it, then passed by the members present.

**Old Business:**

*Election of officers* - Dan will be stepping down as CFAC Chair and Virginia is willing to serve as Chair. Both Allen and Pam are willing to continue as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Edward and Rhonda, who served as the nominating committee, reported that both Leslie and Gwyn had agreed to be nominated for the position of vice-chair. During the meeting, Bradley added his name to the list of nominees. A vote was taken by secret ballot, and Leslie was elected Vice-Chair of the CFAC. The new officers are:

Chair.....Virginia  
Vice-Chair.....Leslie  
Treasurer.....Allen  
Secretary.....Pam

**Proposed Agenda for January Meeting:**

Outside of the PSI budget proposal, there were no specific items were suggested for the January agenda during the meeting this evening.