

## COOPERATION AGREEMENT/ MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Cooperation Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding, hereinafter referred to as "Agreement/MoU", is entered into by and between seven participating agencies: First Step of Sarasota, Inc., Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, Jewish Family and Children's Service, Suncoast Workforce Board/Jobs ETC, The Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation, School Board of Sarasota County through Sarasota County Technical Institute (SCTI), and Sarasota County Health Department as members of the COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSERS.

### RECITALS:

WHEREAS, the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Stakeholders Consortium and the Criminal Justice Commission of Sarasota County have a common objective to promote, directly or indirectly a continuum of accessible and quality substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment services for low income and homeless individuals that does not now exist in Sarasota County. Accordingly, the Consortium and Commission have established the 'COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSERS (each member of which is referred to as a "Party" and collectively as "Parties") to address the issues of substance abuse and addiction, lack of employment, homelessness and family problems.

WHEREAS, the Parties to the COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSERS determined that there exists a large number of Marchman Act detentions and a lack of appropriate treatment resources for the repeat offenders, and that Sarasota County needs a program that provides medically safe detoxification from drugs and alcohol and a structured treatment alternative that could address the issues, the Parties have developed a three phase program: 1. Development of a secure adult addiction's receiving facility to provide detoxification, evaluation and assessment services; 2. Expansion of existing residential treatment services to address chronic addiction, mental health issues and employment skills; 3. Expansion of transitional housing to provide continued support and stabilization for reentry into the community.

WHEREAS, it was determined that "Phase 2" of the COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSERS (expansion of expanded residential treatment capacity) would require a collaborative partnership involving seven community service providers, each of whom would contribute in their area of expertise.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals and the conventions and conditions hereinafter set forth, First Step of Sarasota, Inc., Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, Jewish Family and Children's Service, Suncoast Workforce Board/Jobs ETC, The Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation, School Board of Sarasota County through SCTI, and Sarasota County Health Department hereby agree as follows:

### INTRODUCTION:

1. The goal of this Agreement/MoU is to promote the collaborative effort of the seven participants, each of whom would contribute in their respective areas of expertise:

- a. The Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation, to provide rehabilitation, case management and residential services.
  - b. First Step of Sarasota, Inc. to provide substance abuse treatment and case management.
  - c. Jewish Family and Children's Service to provide family therapy.
  - d. Suncoast Workforce Board/Jobs ETC to provide job training and workforce preparedness.
  - e. Coastal Behavioral Healthcare to provide psychiatric services and medication management.
  - f. School Board of Sarasota County through SCTI to provide on site services through the Jobs ETC/SWB Mobile Career Opportunity Center. Outcome data is required to be provided as noted in Exhibit A, attached hereto.
  - g. Sarasota County Health Department to provide initial medical assessment and subsequent primary care.
2. Each organization operates according to its own respective rules and procedures. The Parties desire through this Agreement/MoU to establish specific guidelines regarding the sharing of labor and resources in order to achieve the goals established for Phase 2 of the Community Alternatives Program for Substance Abusers.

## ELEMENTS OF PHASE 2

1. The VIP Program of The Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation, is to be expanded from 15 to 45 slots (30 treatment slots and 15 pretreatment slots) and the substance abuse treatment component is to be significantly strengthened and intensified from 10 to 20 hours per week, enabling the program to be licensed by DCF as a "Day/night treatment program".
2. The expanded VIP Program is to offer needed services by program participants to rehabilitate their lives:
  - a. Mental health services
  - b. Medication management
  - c. Family counseling
  - d. Job training
  - e. Substance abuse treatment
3. Case management services would be provided to integrate the services provided and to connect the client with other services available in the community after leaving the program.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS:

1. The Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation, at its facility on 10<sup>th</sup> Street, has an existing VIP program which presently provides a voluntary 10 week residential substance abuse treatment program consisting of 15 slots. The Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation, provides rehabilitation, case management and residential services for the program participants. The program is funded by The Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation, through its donations, and First Step subsidizes a portion of the cost of the substance abuse treatment services it provides. Clients are not charged a fee for participating. The Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation, agrees to expand the existing VIP program from 15 to 45 slots (30 treatment slots and 15 and pretreatment slots).
2. The seven participating agencies would comprise a project management team to oversee and administer the VIP program. First Step of Sarasota will serve as the fiscal agent. The evaluation of the effectiveness of the collaborative aspect of the program and the treatment outcomes will be contracted through the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute (FMHI) at the University of South Florida.
3. The projected annual operating budget for Phase 2 of the COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSERS is estimated to be \$902,119. The seven partnering parties have made in kind and cash commitments to the project totaling \$205,586, leaving an unfunded balance of \$696,533 to be funded by the Sarasota County Government.

#### GOALS OF PHASE 2

1. Expand the VIP program with five 10-week classes. The projected program will serve approximately 270 clients per year with mental health services, medication management, family counseling, job training and substance abuse treatment.
2. Prepare clients of the program to enter Phase 3 (expanded transitional housing) of the COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSERS.

#### TERM

This Agreement shall be effective October 1, 2006, and shall remain in effect through September 30, 2007, unless any party hereto shall cancel it by giving to the other parties a notice thirty (30) days in advance of the desired date of cancellation.

ACKNOWLEDGED, AGREED AND ACCEPTED:  
COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSERS

First Step of Sarasota, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Beesley, MPH  
President/CEO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

School Board of Sarasota County through Sarasota County Technical Institute

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved for Legal Content  
March 26, 2007, by Matthews, Eastmoore,  
Hardy, Crauwels & Garcia, Attorneys for  
The School Board of Sarasota County, Florida  
Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ASH\_\_\_\_\_

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SCTIMOU1106

Exhibit A  
Outcome Data

Sarasota County Technical Institute

Performance Measure:	Indicator/Targets	Responsible Party and Method of Data Collection
Participants are satisfied with the services provided by the program.	80% of participants indicate that they are satisfied or very satisfied with the services provided by the program.	Seven-part satisfaction survey.