

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
WORKSHOP
Apalachee Center, Inc.
February 23, 2010
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

The Board of County Commissioners met for a Workshop on the Apalachee Center, Inc. in the Commission Chambers on Tuesday, February 23, 2010.

Present were: Chairman Bob Rackleff and Commissioners John Dailey, Bryan Desloge, Jane Sauls, Cliff Thaele, and Akin Akinyemi; Commissioner Bill Proctor was absent. Also present were County Administrator Parwez Alam, County Attorney Herb Thiele, and Board Secretary Rebecca Vause.

Chairman Rackleff called the Workshop to order at 12:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Candice Wilson, Health and Human Services Director

Ms. Wilson provided an overview of the Workshop stating that particular reference and detail would be given to those services funded by Leon County. She introduced Dr. Jay Reeve, Chief Executive Officer, Apalachee Center, Inc., who in-turn introduced Center staff: Melany Kearley, Chief Operating Officer; Virginia Kelly Chief Financial Officer; Ute Gazioch, In-Patient Services Director, and Jeannie Pope, Forensic Services Director.

Dr. Reeve expressed appreciation to Commissioners Desloge and Thaele for their individual visits to the facility and renewed his invitation to Board members to come by and learn more about the facility.

Dr. Reeve utilized a power point presentation to provide an overview of the Center's services, how funding works, and the population served. Highlights of the presentation included:

- History of Apalachee Center
 - Organized in 1948 and expanded in 1971 to serve the seven surrounding counties
 - Served approximately 6,000 persons last year
- Corporate Governance
 - 501(c)3, not for profit organization
 - Employs over 400 employees (268 reside in Leon County)
 - Leon County business constitutes approximately ½ of overall out-patient business
- Mission, Vision, Treatment Philosophy
 - Serve clients suffering from difficulties linked to mental illness and substance abuse (children and adults)

At this time, testimonials were given by individuals who benefit from the services and programs provided by Apalachee Center, Inc. Chairman Rackleff thanked those who spoke and assured them that the Board was listening and the comments would help further the County's partnership with the Center.

- Inpatient Services
 - 64 total inpatient beds available
 - 24-hour crisis evaluation & admissions; employs 10 FTEs
- Residential Services
 - Available in Leon, Gadsden and Madison Counties
 - 68 total residential beds

- Outpatient Services
 - Available in all eight counties
- New Services
 - Expanded Eastside Psychiatric Hospital from 24 to 46 beds in 2009
 - Full renovation of Crisis Stabilization Unit & Evaluation and Admissions Unit
 - Expansions made possible through low-interest loan secured through Leon County
- Partnership with Law Enforcement
 - Helped initiate Crisis Intervention Training
 - Provides assessment and psychiatric services to Leon County Jail
 - Liaison between Florida State Hospital and Courts
 - Partnered with Leon County to secure funding for Leon County Mental Health Court
- Partnership with Physical Health Care
 - Joined Leon County Health Department to provide psychiatric coverage and benefits restoration in Bond and Neighborhood Health Clinics
- Partnerships with Other Community Providers
- Funding & Utilization of Apalachee Emergency Services by Leon County
 - FY 08/09 total funding: \$4.491 million - \$973,057; of which Leon County funded \$614,857 (14% or 63% of local match)
 - 08/09 Leon County Resident Admissions: 1,630 (67%)
 - Total 08/09 Revenue: \$21.784 million

Dr. Reeve stated that should the Board desire, more budget detail can be provided. It was noted that the Board's Workshop packet contained this written material.

Commissioner Discussion:

Commissioner Dailey thanked Dr. Reeve for the information and acknowledged that he has served on the Apalachee Board and is very familiar with its operations. He congratulated Dr. Reeve on being awarded with the National Council for Community Mental Health's Visionary Leadership Award for 2010. In addition, Commissioner Dailey invited fellow Commissioners to visit the campus.

Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge, to approve Option 1: Accept the update on Apalachee Center, Inc.

Commissioner Thaele expressed pride to live in a community that places a priority on funding the types of services available through the Center. He established with Dr. Reeve that two-three indigent clients are served daily by Eastside Hospital. Commissioner Thaele discussed the adverse effects the anticipated cut in state funding would have on the Center. *He suggested that the motion include a position by the Board to oppose any budget cuts for the region. The suggestion was accepted by Commissioner for inclusion in the motion.*

Commissioner Thaele continued discussions with Dr. Reeve on need for additional residential beds and stated that this was a gap in the system that the community should address. He shared that \$300,000 would be available next year through the County's involvement with the Medicaid Substance Abuse Waiver Program and was assured by Dr. Reeve that Apalachee would welcome an opportunity to partner with the County in this endeavor.

Commissioner Akinyemi inquired about the Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and asked Dr. Reeve to provide comment on this program. Dr. Reeve stated that he was a supporter of the CIT program and favored its expansion. He committed Apalachee's resources to assist in this effort. Commissioner Akinyemi expressed a concern regarding the services available for individuals upon their release from jail. Dr. Reeve responded that the "woeful lack of housing in the community" hampered efforts to assist these individuals to integrate into the community.

Commissioner Desloge expressed his appreciation for a better understanding of how the County's resources were being used and acknowledged the great community partnerships forged by Apalachee.

Commissioner Sauls voiced appreciation for the services provided to the community by Apalachee, and was especially encouraged to hear the testimonials.

Chairman Rackleff offered his support for the programs and conveyed his personal family experiences with Apalachee services.

The motion as amended carried 6-0 (Commissioner Proctor absent).

The Workshop was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

BY: _____
Bob Rackleff, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

BY: _____
Bob Inzer, Clerk of the Court
Leon County, Florida