

**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
CLIENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
WEST TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER -TAMPA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2005
2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by John Melartin, Chair at 2:30 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Wayne Bibeault, Janet Kitchen, John Melartin, Bob Reynolds, Linda Rogers
Members Absent: Rogelio Capo
Guests Present: Mac McDougle, Mark Mischon, Dixie Morgese, Gregory Ruffin, Gilda Roman Nay Torres
Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold, Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** No changes were made.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on July 18, 2005 were adopted.
- COMMUNITY CONCERNS** The difficulty in finding affordable housing, especially for single males was brought up. Some of the requirements, such as a background and credit check are prohibiting clients from receiving housing assistance. Housing was discussed at the September Care Council meeting and it is not just the HIV/AIDS community that is affected. Committee members are encouraged to attend community housing meetings to represent the Ryan White community.
- Transportation for clients was also raised as a community concern. Medicaid has made a change and is no longer giving out monthly bus passes but rather daily passes for appointments. Aubrey Arnold shared that Ryan White funding is being used to purchase discounted monthly bus passes but that there is not enough funding to provide for everyone. This is a service that is currently only being provided in Hillsborough County.
- Bob Reynolds inquired about rural transportation and Aubrey Arnold said there is no money in Title II for transportation. It was mentioned that as of September 1st there is a bus that runs in Bartow, Winter Haven and Fort Mead. There are also a

couple of churches that sponsor transportation to medical appointments.

The committee wished to look further into the concerns raised on housing and transportation. Realizing that the Planning and Evaluation Committee deals with evaluating data and identifying unmet needs the Client Services Committee is requesting they look into these issues.

MOTION 05/09-1

The following motion was passed: (5 yes)

THAT THE PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE EVALUATE THE GUIDANCE, DATA SHOWING NEED, THE AVERAGE WAITING LIST AND THE CRISIS INTERVENTION SYSTEM FOR BOTH HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION.

**ELECTIONS/
MEETING DATE,
TIME & LOCATION**

Janet Kitchen was elected chair and John Melartin was elected co-chair. There was no decision made to change the meeting date, time or location. Bob Reynolds suggested that committee members attend other public meetings in our service area. He will gather information on other community meetings and share the information with committee members.

**CARE COUNCIL
REPORT**

John Melartin gave the Care Council report. Two new members were approved by the Care Council and will be sent to the BOCC for final approval. Housing as a community issue was discussed and the Care Council talked about inviting someone to come and do a presentation on the current housing problem. The Ryan White community was encouraged to work with other housing groups to raise issues.

WORK PLAN

The work plan was discussed and the second activity under Goal 4 was changed to "Better communication of clients needs with planning and evaluation. Meet with clients throughout the Ryan White service area to update committee services and establish a web site and pocket guide."

MOTION 05/09-02

The following motion was passed: (5 yes)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THAT THE WORK PLAN BE ACCEPTED AS AMMENDED.

The new date for the AIDS park dedication has been set for Monday, November 14th at 6:00pm.

The FACT dinner will be held the 1st Tuesday and the AIDS Partnership dinner is the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come to the Committee, meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.