



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
CHILDREN'S BOARD, TAMPA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2009
1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER The meeting of the Ryan White Care Council was called to order by Wendell Martin, Chair at 1:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE See attached attendance list.

CHANGES TO AGENDA There were no changes to the agenda.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES The minutes for May 6 were approved (M: Davis, S: Konnerth) with one change in attendance. There were 20 yes votes, 0 no votes and 1 abstention (Szelag).

CHAIR'S REPORT Since this is the last meeting that Wendell will preside over, he took the opportunity to tell everyone that his years serving as the Chair of the Care council had been a rewarding adventure and thanked everyone for their support. He reminded members to stay open-minded and focused on serving the infected community. Wendell will be spending more time working in advocacy.

GRANTEE'S REPORT Aubrey thanked Wendell for his service to the Care Council.

The Grantee's office is preparing to release a bid document for the additional Part A funds once approved at today's meeting. There is also some MAI (Minority AIDS Initiative) funding up for bid. Documents will be posted on the Hillsborough County website and notification sent to those who have requested to be contacted about bid opportunities.

Our Part A funds for FY 08-09 were spent out to 99.7%. The Grantee's office will be requesting the unspent \$28,000 in carryover.

ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program) staff at the Hillsborough County Health Department sent a letter (attachment) to the Grantee with concerns about the eligibility rule being applied to Part A services. Aubrey read the letter and members felt that these issues were considered prior to implementation of the rule, but the Council decided to move forward to streamline human resource needs to effectively run the program, create uniformity among program requirements, and fall in line with what other

areas are doing across the state. Members indicated that once initial eligibility is completed for all clients, the re-determination process should be easily handled by the available staff. Ryan White is not an entitlement program and funds could be taken away at any time.

The Grantee stated that the economy is having an impact on the local Insurance Services Program for unprecedented demand for assistance. There are currently 220 enrolled and over 300 waitlisted clients and 8-10 new applications received daily. Up to this point all expressed need has been met for both enrolled and waitlisted clients, but the heavy demand in both number of clients and dollar amount will create unmet co-pay needs for waitlisted clients in June. The provider recommends reducing the set aside for enrolled clients from \$175 to \$150 so that everyone can get some assistance. This item will be discussed at the next Planning and Evaluation meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Client Services – Bob Reynolds, member

Bob shared that some recent issues shared at the committee meeting were concerns about programs not funded by Ryan White. The committee referred the clients to the proper source and acted as individual advocates to assist them rather than on behalf of the committee.

The committee members discussed the rigidity of the eligibility program which is not accommodating to special needs and unusual circumstances. Janet presented info on the peer support program at both P&E and RPARC meetings. An ad hoc group was created to look at possible local implementation of such a program.

Tampa Hillsborough Action Plan's RESTORE program was discussed. They will be working with individuals being released from jail, but are waiting on SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration) for final approval to proceed.

B. Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) – Jim Roth, Member

The committee discussed concerns regarding the eligibility process as mentioned earlier by the Grantee at this meeting.

The annual primary care provider survey summary was reviewed. The committee also discussed some concerns regarding the length of the data collection period for quality management. All providers present felt that a five month sampling is excessive. The Grantee indicated that this issue is currently being addressed.

C. Membership – Bob Reynolds, Chair

The committee presented a slate of new voting members for the 2009-2012 term. The following motion passed (M: Hasiba, S: Melartin) with 18 yes votes, 0 no votes and 3 abstentions (Getchell, King, Laartz):

THAT THE SLATE OF MEMBERS FOR THE 2009-2012 TERM BE ADOPTED BY THE CARE COUNCIL.

The floor was opened for nominations for the positions of Care Council Chair, Vice-Chair and Parliamentarian. Since no additional nominations were offered and there was only one individual for each position, all three positions were unanimously approved by acclamation.

Dave Konnerth is the new Care Council Chair, Janet Kitchen is the new Vice-Chair and David Hasiba is the Parliamentarian.

The membership committee also presented a bylaw revision to the section on conflict of interest. This will be reviewed until the next business meeting where it will be considered for approval.

D. Minority Advocacy Committee (MAC) –

There was no report given for this committee.

E. Planning and Evaluation (P&E) – Marty Clemmons, Co-Chair

The committee reviewed the minimum standards of care and present revisions to the Care Council for consideration. The minimum standards of care were revised based on input from the Health Services Advisory Committee, providers, consumers, and Grantee monitoring staff. The following motion passed (M: Bundrock, S: Hasiba) with 20 yes votes and 1 no vote:

THAT THE REVISED MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE FOR ALL SERVICES BE ADOPTED BY THE CARE COUNCIL

The committee also heard a presentation on the peer support program and voted in favor of establishing of peer support program locally.

F. Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC) – Dave Konnerth, Chair

The committee heard a presentation on peer support programs and liked what such a program could offer locally. Without more specific details to put into a bid document, they could not allocate funds to such a program at this time, but voted in favor of considering it as a funded service for the fiscal year 2010. Members decided to form an ad hoc committee to review other peer programs across the country and the standards for such programs.

The committee considered allocation recommendations for the new Part A funds. Due to increased need and cost of lab services, the committee decided to recommend the increase be put toward outpatient/ambulatory medical care in Pinellas County. The following motion passed (M:

Clemmons, S: Hasiba) with 17 yes votes, 1 no vote and 3 abstentions(Hall, Laartz, Pandya):

THAT THE CARE COUNCIL ADOPT THE FY 2009/10 PART A ALLOCATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

Service	County	Current Allocation	Increase	Revised Allocation
Outpatient/Ambulatory Medical Care	Pinellas	\$846,898*	\$65,884	\$912,782
Total			\$65,884	

*Amount represents combined Outpatient/Ambulatory Medical Care allocation in Pinellas County as of May 7, 2009 excluding the allocations for WIC/Pediatrics.

G. Rural Issues – Linnwood Davis, Chair

The committee did not meet in May.

H. Standards, Issues and Operations (SIOC) – Carla Baity, Chair

The committee did not meet in May.

I. Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Families (WICY&F) – Barbara Szelag, Chair

The committee held their celebration of mothers and had around 50 people in attendance with a great guest speaker and a wonderful meal.

**PUBLIC
POLICY
REPORT &
COMMUNITY
CONCERNS**

John Melartin stated that clients may wait months to hear a response once they apply to a case management agency.

**ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

Members announced upcoming community events.

Bob Reynolds reminded members that we still need to recruit Care Council members from Manatee, Highlands and minorities in Hillsborough.

Wendell announced that June 27th is National HIV testing Day with lots of events happening in the local communities.

Vicki Kenyon stated that Gilead has a program for treatment naïve clients and are looking for individuals to join. She also announced that there are currently co-pay assistance cards for almost all HIV drug programs.

Don Metzgar announced that St. Pete Pride will be held June 27th.

Staff presented certificates of appreciation to Wendell Martin, Carla Baity and Barbara Clark – Alexander for their service to the Care Council.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Note: A tape recording of the meeting is available for review at The Health Councils.

ATTENDANCE LIST

June 3, 2009

Care Council Members**Present**

Michael Amidei	Ex
Carla Baity	X
Gene Bundrock	X
Barbara Clark-Alexander	A (Barbara Szelag)
Martin Clemmons	X
Linnwood Davis	X
Laura Dunn	
Tonica Freeman	
Jean Getchell	X
Lois Hall	X
David Hasiba	X
Denis Hayes	X
Laureen Husband	A (Nicole Geiger)
Natalie Jackson	X
James King	X
Janet Kitchen	
David Konnerth	X
Brent Laartz	X
Marshall Lee	X
Andrew Maldonado	A (Jim Roth)
Wendell Martin	X
John Melartin	X
Don Metzgar	X
Anil Pandya	X
Donnette Waul-Santiago	X

Associate Members

Barbara Szelag	X
Bill Thomas	X
Tom Wood	X

Grantee Staff

Aubrey Arnold	X
---------------	---

Health Councils Staff

Nicole Brown	
Collette Tomberlin	X

Aubrey

I would like to address with Care Council with their adoption of Part A funding following the same criteria for eligibility as Part B funding. With the current stance of the Department with the eligibility rule, allowing no grace period beyond the 6-month rule, we will be impacting client care and treatment.

Clinic Impact:

- Will not be able to see clients until they are determined as eligible.
- Will be expected to return funding if they do see and service a client whose eligibility has lapsed or expired, even if it was the day prior. Services could include services from a provider, nurse, lab work drawn, medications, mental health care & dental care.

Client Impact:

- Loss of services for medical care, pharmaceuticals, mental health care and dental care.
- Loss of Part A case management funded services.
- Break in continuity of care.

Prior to this, the clinic and pharmacy services for clients could be offset with Part A funding for clients who:

- Needed emergency services.
- New releases from one of the hospitals that needed immediate fill of Ryan White medications.
- Clients released from jail that needed a temporary fill of medications for assistance while they worked to complete eligibility.
- Assist clients who had sudden issues with Medicare, Medicaid, Private Insurances until they were resolved.
- Clinics could see clients regardless of eligibility status.
- Dental Services could be utilized regardless of eligibility status.

I have concerns that we are building barriers for HIV+ clients to access services and that we seem to be acting more as an entitlement than a Federal Emergency Fund to provide care. Currently in Hillsborough County we have 4 ADAP and 2 eligibility specialists to determine 3000+ clients for services. ADAP enrollment as of today in Hillsborough is 670 clients. Keep in mind there is no system in place to alert clients they are coming due for redetermination, no notifications etc.

Frank A. Didiano
Human Services Program Manager
Hillsborough County Health Department, ADAP
Phone: (813) 307-8015 ext 7213
Fax: (813) 272-5993