



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
CHILDREN'S BOARD, TAMPA  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 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 1:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE** See attached attendance list.

**CHANGES TO AGENDA** There were no changes to the agenda.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for March 4 were approved (M: Clemmons, S: Bundrock) unanimously. The minutes from April 1 were approved (M: Melartin, S: Maldonado) unanimously.

**CHAIR'S REPORT** Members who attended the Florida Ryan White Program Meeting in Orlando last week shared information gained from the conference. Those in attendance agreed that the conference allowed them to gain valuable information. Members attended sessions on the graying of HIV, HIV incidence, eligibility, client level data, funding, peer programs, collaboration and health disparities.

**GRANTEE'S REPORT** Our area received our 2009 Notice of Grant Award for Part A services which began March 1. Our area's total budget is \$9,060,852 which is an increase of around 0.08%, or \$65,884, over the FY 08 funding. RPARC will be looking at allocating these funds at their next meeting.

The HRSA Office of Performance Review completed their site visit on April 20-21 to assess our MAI grant outcomes, management, etc. A status report is expected in the upcoming weeks.

The case management and eligibility training conducted by Suzanne Stephens from the Bureau of HIV/AIDS was helpful and informative to the 100+ attendees. Aubrey thanked ASAP and Hospice of the Florida Suncoast for helping coordinate the event and offering the meeting space.

Congress must take action on the Ryan White legislation before it expires on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Aubrey encouraged individuals to contact their legislators and take advantage of advocacy through the AIDS Institute.

Since the Care Council voted to apply eligibility to Part A services, all

providers and the Grantee's office have been working to get documentation and RWIS (Ryan White Information System) aligned. RWIS will track the eligibility renewal deadline of every six months as well as the annual proof of primary care as conditions to receive services for Part A, B, GR and HOPWA dollars that are administered through Hillsborough County.

There will be no grace period for services and having a scheduled appointment in the future is not sufficient. Clients must have a notice of eligibility on the date they receive services to be compensated for the service. Clients need to be educated to the fact that eligibility notice simply means you are able to apply for other services, but must still meet the criteria for individual programs.

The Grantee's office fiscal staff is now back to full capacity with ten staff members including a new accountant as of April 27<sup>th</sup>. This is very good news in light of current hiring freezes and budget cuts in county government.

The General Revenue holdback for this budget year has been lifted, but the state budget has not been finalized in the current legislative session so there is no word on implications for the new year beginning in July 2009.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Client Services – Janet Kitchen, Chair**

The committee had several clients share concerns regarding their housing service provider which were referred to the HOPWA grantee. The committee reviewed some last minute changes to the newly diagnosed brochure which should soon be printed in English and Spanish. The committee discussed using peers in HIV services and some programs that are successfully implementing the idea. They requested that the Planning and Evaluation committee consider this program for our area. DACCO representatives spoke on their new food card program and how clients can access the service.

### **B. Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) – Brent Laartz, Co-Chair**

The committee did not meet in April.

### **C. Membership – John Melartin, Co-Chair**

The committee presented an applicant for voting membership and one for associate membership. The following motion passed (M: Melartin, S: Baity) with 20 yes votes and 0 no votes:

**THAT THE COUNCIL ACCEPTS THE NOMINATION OF DON METZGAR AS A VOTING MEMBER (2009-2011) AND FORWARD THE NOMINATION TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR**

## **FINAL APPROVAL AND ACCEPT TOM WOOD AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE CARE COUNCIL**

The committee also presented two sets of bylaw revisions that have been under review. The following Motion passed (M: Clemmons, S: Konnerth) with 20 yes votes and 0 no votes:

### **THAT CARE COUNCIL ACCEPTS THE REVISIONS TO THE BYLAWS REGARDING MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

The following motion passed (M: King, S: Maldonado) with 20 yes votes and 0 no votes:

### **THAT CARE COUNCIL ACCEPTS THE REVISIONS TO THE BYLAWS REGARDING MEMBER ORIENTATION**

The floor was opened for nomination for the Care Council Chair and Vice-Chair seats for the term beginning September 1. Dave Konnerth was nominated for Chair and Janet Kitchen was nominated for Vice-Chair. Marty Clemmons was nominated, but later withdrew his name from consideration. Nominations will remain open until voting takes place by paper ballot at the June meeting.

Nominations were accepted for the position of Parliamentarian since our current Parliamentarian has relocated out of the area. David Hasiba agreed to serve as Parliamentarian and Natalie Jackson agreed to serve as back-up.

#### **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 discussed the pros and cons of focus groups. They are considering conducting individual interviews in lieu of focus groups this year. The committee hopes to gain more reliable data from a targeted group of clients who have been in care for 6-12 months. The committee will continue discussing the methodology for this activity at their next meeting along with reviewing the minimum standards of care.

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

The committee did not meet in April. They will be looking at allocation recommendations for the new Part A funds at the May meeting.

#### **G. Rural Issues – Andrew Maldonado, Co-Chair**

The committee is working to build a stronger relationship with the Polk

County Health Department since they are the sole provider in the area. The Health Department staff are considering moving their monthly lunch and learn to coincide with the committee meeting date to encourage collaboration and better participation for each activity.

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

The committee did not meet in April.

#### **I. Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Families (WICY&F) –**

The committee will hold their celebration of mothers this Friday, May 8.

### **PUBLIC POLICY REPORT & COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

Dr. Laartz shared a concern from case workers that patients have to produce proof of status via labs with a detectable viral load. Some patients have been undetectable for years and it can be difficult to obtain lab results from years ago when they did have a detectable viral load. Members stated that a new test can be obtained at the health department for free or sliding fee. Even though it seems like a waste of resources, it is a rule that we must follow.

David Hasiba shared a concern that case managers are still not receiving adequate training and passing along accurate information. He questioned if there are gaps in training, lack of supervision, or lack of implementation of policies, or a breakdown in communication between levels. Members suggested speaking with agency leadership, the Grantee's office and following the grievance procedures. Aubrey stated that we spend lots of time on training and even though there may be some gaps in the system, it works well overall.

### **ANNOUNCE- MENTS**

Members announced upcoming community events.

Wendell stated that the Care Council will meet in June, but will not meet in July.

Eric Gooden from Windmoor Health Care shared information about their facility and programs for mental health and drug addiction. He provided brochures and business cards for referrals. Windmoor accepts all patients regardless of payment ability and gets them stabilized.

National HIV testing is June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Tiffany Strobl shared information from a group of four HIV specialty pharmacies in the area.

**ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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

**ATTENDANCE LIST****May 6, 2009****Care Council Members**

	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Michael Amidei	Ex
Carla Baity	X
Gene Bundrock	X
Barbara Clark-Alexander	X
Martin Clemmons	X
Linnwood Davis	A (Gilbert Cresto)
Laura Dunn	
Tonica Freeman	X
Jean Getchell	X
Lois Hall	
David Hasiba	X
Denis Hayes	A (Edward Ford)
Laureen Husband	A (Nicole Geiger)
Natalie Jackson	X
James King	X
Janet Kitchen	X
David Konnerth	X
Brent Laartz	X
Marshall Lee	A (Bill Thomas)
Andrew Maldonado	X
Wendell Martin	X
John Melartin	X
Anil Pandya	A (Sadiya Sassine)
Donnette Waul-Santiago	X

**Associate Members**

Barbara Szelag	
Bill Thomas	X

**Grantee Staff**

Aubrey Arnold	X
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**Health Councils Staff**

Nicole Brown	
Collette Tomberlin	X