



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
JAN PLATT LIBRARY, TAMPA
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008
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 1:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE See attached attendance list.

CHANGES TO AGENDA There were no changes to the agenda.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES The minutes for July 2 were approved (M: Clemmons, S: Hasiba) with 16 yes votes and 0 no votes.

CHAIR'S REPORT Wendell Martin stated that he attended the HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration) conference in Washington, DC last week with representatives from the Grantee's office and support staff. He stated that he hopes future conferences will have more information that is pertinent to planning council members.

Wendell recognized four members who have had perfect attendance for the past program year.

GRANTEE'S REPORT The Ryan White Information System (RWIS) has data on 5,062 unduplicated clients certified in the system. RWIS will make data more readily available for data analysis, planning and grant application writing. The current challenge is merging the third party administrator for pharmacy services which is required to comply with HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act).

HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration) has finalized the client level data requirements and they will be rolled out in stages beginning in January 2009. Data collection elements will begin with services for primary care and medical case management. The Grantees' office hopes that most of the data can be provided by RWIS without further burden to the providers.

We are currently awaiting written guidance from HRSA regarding the proposed changes to pharmacy programs. Ryan White funds will no longer be allowed to pay for any OTC (over the counter) items. Once written guidance is received, the Health Services Advisory Committee will

update our local formulary and work with the Grantee's office to determine the impact on clients.

The Grantee's office is currently being audited by the Office of the Inspector General for implementation of the Part A core medical services requirement as outlined in the legislation. Our area is in complete compliance with more than 75% of our funds being spent on core medical services.

Suffolk County EMA (Eligible Metropolitan Area) filed a lawsuit in 2007 against HRSA over the loss of formula funding when their status was reduced to a TGA (Transitional Grant Area) due to the number of reported cases. Although the lower court favored HRSA, the appellate court has favored Suffolk County. All areas could be looking at decreased funding next year if this decision is upheld since Suffolk County would be awarded additional funds from the EMA and other lawsuits could follow from areas that were similarly impacted.

Our FY 2009 grant application draft will be ready for review, questions and comments by September 15. Contact Aubrey if you wish to review this document and provide input.

The State eligibility process is being updated with changes expected to be official by the end of the calendar year. The asset limit will be eliminated and the income limit will be raised from 300% federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 400% FPL. As a result of these changes, there will need to be some adjustments made to monthly invoicing and reporting codes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Client Services – Janet Kitchen, Chair

The committee did not meet in August, but in July they worked on the newly diagnosed brochure. They are planning to periodically meet in other counties to hear from clients in other areas. They are encouraging clients to attend the health fair for the homeless at the Harborview Center in Clearwater on Saturday, September 27th from 9AM until 3:30 PM. Medical, dental, and optical services will be available in addition to haircuts, chiropractic adjustments, etc. No one will be denied service.

B. Health Services Advisory Committee (HSAC)– Jim Roth, Co-Chair

The committee reviewed controlled substances expenditures sorted by number of prescriptions, by total cost, and cost per prescription. The committee agreed that all expenditures seemed to fall within the range of acceptability and that there was no obvious misuse or abuse.

Members discussed the draft reports from the most recent Quality Management data collection period which concluded the end of June and were reminded to be aware of the data that they submit to be able to compare with their individual results generated in the QM database.

The committee is looking for members of the Care Council to join their committee and report back to Care Council since Jim is no longer a member of the Care Council.

C. Membership – John Melartin, Co-Chair

The committee presented a new applicant for membership. The following motion passed (M: Melartin, S: Clemmons) with 15 yes votes and 0 no votes:

ACCEPT THE NOMINATION OF LAUREEN HUSBAND AS A VOTING MEMBER REPRESENTING HARDEE COUNTY (2008-2011) AND FORWARD THE NOMINATION TO THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR FINAL APPROVAL

Beginning with the new term on September 1, the Care Council will have 26 voting members. We have one new applicant currently being considered that would fill a mandated seat.

D. Minority Advocacy Committee (MAC) – Georgette King, Chair

MAC's ad-hoc group working to ensure appropriate care for returning HIV positive ex-offenders is looking to improve linkages with local service providers. The group is looking at specific training needed to deal with the issues of this unique population and has asked the National Minority AIDS Council to do some local training.

MAC worked on setting priorities for their work plan and discussed local data. Georgette shared a recent HRSA press release and some local data highlighting the impact of HIV on the minority communities. The committee would like to diversify their membership in the coming year.

E. Planning and Evaluation (P&E) – Jim McGarvey, Chair

The committee approved the Demographics and Epidemiology Report. The MAC committee has requested that the data be further analyzed by subpopulations and include rate and disparity data. An addendum will be forwarded once this work is done. The following motion passed (M: Clemmons, S: Davis) with 15 yes votes and 0 no votes:

THAT THE CARE COUNCIL ADOPTS THE FY 2008 DEMOGRAPHICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY REPORT WITH AN ADDENDUM TO FOLLOW

The committee also reviewed the Funding Stream Analysis and presents it to the Care Council for adoption. The following motion passed (M: Konnerth, S: King) with 15 yes votes and 0 no votes:

THAT THE CARE COUNCIL ADOPT THE FY 2008 FUNDING STREAM ANALYSIS

The committee also worked the past two months to set service priorities based on data from client and expert/case manager surveys, utilization of services, expenditure rates and availability of other funding sources. These will be presented in the forthcoming Executive Summary Report.

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

After expending 99.5% of the funds, Part A is eligible for \$34,227.37 in Carry Over funds from FY07 to be utilized in FY 2008. These dollars are not recurring. The General Revenue funding stream has been affected by Florida’s budget changes which have resulted in a 4% ‘holdback’ on General Revenue funds totaling \$36,034. To absorb this funding loss with minimal impact to contracted providers, the Grantee’s office has eliminated the Direct Client Services Fund and some administrative dollars, but had to reduce Insurance Services by \$18,434. RPARC recommends that the Carry Over dollars be used to cover this loss to Insurance Services and provide additional needed funds for Oral Health. The following motion passed (M: Hasiba, S: Clemmons) with 15 yes votes and 0 no votes:

THAT THE CARE COUNCIL ADOPT THE FY 2008/09 PART A ALLOCATION OF CARRY-OVER FUNDS AS FOLLOWS:

Service	County	Current Allocation	FY 07 Carry Over	Revised Allocation
Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing	EMA	\$447,500	\$20,000	\$467,500
Oral Health	Hillsborough	\$226,721	\$14,227.37	\$240,948.37
Totals			\$34,227.37	

The committee also presented an informational item to Care Council showing the final MAI reallocations made by the Grantee’s office in the final days of the grant period.

G. Rural Issues – Linnwood Davis, Chair

The committee planned some outreach efforts for the local community and decided to start with small groups so that individuals could get comfortable with each other before planning a larger event that would bring all of the groups together. The committee would like to expand this model into other rural counties and hold meetings in other areas to hear concerns specific to those areas.

H. Standards, Issues and Operations (SIOC) – Wendell Martin, Co-Chair

Wendell reported that the committee met Tuesday to clear up some

communication between committees and to promote a more collegial working environment to improve effectiveness and efficiency. MAC and P&E will work on refining data points to show disparities in the service area.

Wendell reminded everyone that Carla is the Chair of SIOC and should be the first point of contact for that committee.

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

The committee did not meet in July or August, but will meet on September 25 at Spring Oaks.

**PUBLIC
POLICY
REPORT &
COMMUNITY
CONCERNS**

Bob Reynolds stated that there have been some changes in Medicaid and Medicare Part D programs. Everyone needs to assist clients with getting their medications with the least amount of difficulty.

**ANNOUNCE-
MENTS**

Members announced upcoming community events.

Amanda Schall from the YES and Connect to Protect programs announced that they have received an expansion grant from HRSA for primary care and psychiatric care.

Janet Kitchen announced that a new advocacy training class will soon begin at Metropolitan Charities in addition to a support group for women.

Wendell asked the guests who are in attendance to consider becoming more involved with the Care Council and committee work.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

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

ATTENDANCE LIST

September 3, 2008

Care Council Members**Present**

Michael Amidei	
Carla Baity	
Robbie Bouplon	
Armando Carrasco	
Barbara Clark-Alexander	
Martin Clemmons	X
Linnwood Davis	X
Laura Dunn	X
Juanita Escobedo	X
Luis Figueroa	X
Tonica Freeman	
Jean Getchell	
Lois Hall	X
David Hasiba	X
Natalie Jackson	A (Jim McGarvey)
James King	X
Janet Kitchen	X
David Konnerth	X
Brent Laartz	
Andrew Maldonado	X
Wendell Martin	X
John Melartin	X
Aritus Miller	X
Patti Nagel	
Tina Van Doren-Ruppell	
Donnette Waul-Santiago	X

Associate Members

Laura DeMars	
William Miller	
Barbara Szelag	X
Bill Thomas	X

Grantee Staff

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

Health Councils Staff

Nicole Brown	X
Collette Tomberlin	X