



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
WEST TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, TAMPA  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 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 1:35 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE** See attached attendance list.

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

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for February 6 were approved (M: Davis, S: Roth) with 23 yes votes, 0 no votes and 1 abstention (Hall).

**CHAIR'S REPORT** Wendell recently attended an awards ceremony in New Orleans that was very enjoyable. He also participated in a midnight outreach program that goes to clubs after midnight to pass out condoms. Male prostitution is a big problem in New Orleans that they are currently trying to find ways to deal with.

**GRANTEE'S REPORT** Aubrey announced the notification of grant award has been received for FY08 Part A program which begins March 1. Our EMA (Eligible Metropolitan Area) was awarded a 3.6% increase or an additional \$312,000. Our total grant award amount is close to \$9 million. Aubrey noted that the entire increase came from our supplemental award since the formula award is exactly the same as last year. This means our competitive grant application was reviewed favorably.

We also received notice that our MAI (Minority AIDS Initiative) funding received an increase of \$12,000 with the total award amount being \$537,059.

Aubrey indicated that refresher training for the Ryan White Information System (RWIS) was provided to all users through the month of February while client level data was being loaded into the system. They are currently working to ensure the accuracy of the client level data loaded into the system.

All contracts are in place for the FY08 Part A and B programs. An exciting new addition is a contract for both oral health and primary care at the

Hardee County Health Department. The State Department of Health has transferred unspent Polk County HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS) funds to the EMA. This HUD (Housing and Urban Development) funding may be used for emergency rent, mortgage and utility payments. HUD limits clients to \$1000 per calendar year for all payments combined.

The maintenance of the Care Council website ([www.thecarecouncil.org](http://www.thecarecouncil.org)) was included with the support staff contract for the upcoming year. The grantee's office is expecting to see positive changes that will make the website more useful to the community and to the planning body.

The Grantee and support staff have been collecting bylaw information from other EMAs to forward to the Membership Committee regarding disruptive meeting behavior and allowable consequences.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

The committee is working on a layout for the newly diagnosed brochure, trying to be more involved in community outreach projects, and working to make committee meeting more client friendly by eliminating acronyms and loosely following Roberts Rules of Order. The committee is interested in creating an 800 number to list resources, services and community events. Robbie suggested they check with the State to determine if community events could be added to their HIV hotline that already includes community services and resources.

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

The committee reviewed the draft of the Primary Care Provider survey prior to dissemination. They made several adjustments to the survey to collect more current information. They also reviewed the draft of the new quality management measurement tool. The committee received an update on case management – waiting lists still exist but critical needs are being helped first and clients are being taught to self access many support services.

The committee is currently reviewing a request to change the eligibility for the ISP (Insurance Services Program) to reflect the recent changes to the AICP (AIDS Insurance Continuation Program) eligibility requirements which now allow asymptomatic clients to receive the service. Once committee approval is received, the issue will be forwarded to the Care Council members for an e-mail or phone vote to expedite this service.

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

The committee reviewed recent attendance and removed two members who have not attended any meetings since their membership approval.

The committee presented a new applicant for approval, and the following motion passed unanimously:

**THAT THE CARE COUNCIL ACCEPTS THE NOMINATION OF TONICIA FREEMAN AS A VOTING MEMBER REPRESENTING PINELLAS COUNTY (2008-2010) AND FORWARD THE NOMINATION TO THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR FINAL APPROVAL**

The committee also discussed topics for the April retreat and ideas for the annual recruitment campaign.

**D. Minority Advocacy Committee (MAC) – Laura Dunn, Member**

The committee held an ad-hoc meeting to address the issue of linking HIV positive ex-offenders to services in the local communities once they are released from prison. Service agencies requested that inmates be released with prescriptions rather than a medication list to expedite refills. Department of Correction staff noted that inmates are released with presumptive eligibility since certain eligibility requirements have been waived for them. Attendees worked on community goals and an action plan to move forward. The committee will meet at 9AM prior to the MAC meetings each month on the second Friday.

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

The committee reviewed the draft of the Anonymous Needs Survey and requested that the data be provided for each county. The review of that data will take place at the next meeting. The committee was informed that the comprehensive plan guidance was expected from the state in the next few days (which has now been received and will be discussed at the next meeting).

The committee decided to hold off on making any decisions about eligibility alignment until the close of the grant year to see how effectively we spend our funding. The committee does not want to make a decision that will make it more difficult to spend our grant award at the required 98%.

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

The committee did not meet in February, but will hold a March meeting to begin making decisions about our additional funding.

**G. Rural Issues – Linnwood Davis, Chair**

The speaker for the meeting was unable to attend so the committee discussed community events and issues that were concerning the rural areas.

## **H. Standards, Issues and Operations (SIOC)**

The committee did not meet in February.

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

The committee is planning their Mother of the Year event on May 9. They are designing a short, simple survey for clients to determine what topics would interest them for Town Hall events and to discover barriers to attendance at these events. The committee is also reviewing and discussing data on HIV in the over 50 age group.

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

There were no community concerns shared nor any report on current public policy.

### **ANNOUNCE- MENTS**

Janet announced that Monday is HIV Awareness Day for Women and Girls.

Wendell attended a very successful event for Black HIV Awareness Day in Manatee County.

Members announced other upcoming community events.

Lois Hall requested clarification on the Expert/Case Manager survey that was mailed this week. Staff indicated that all members of the Care Council and its committees were being asked to complete one survey for each county they may represent. They are completing the survey from the broad perspective of the clients they interact with. This survey is used as another part of our Needs Assessment process and will help guide decisions about services and funding allocations.

**ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

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

**ATTENDANCE LIST**

March 5, 2008

**Care Council Members****Present**

Michael Amidei	X
Carla Baity	
Ramon Benitez	Ex
Robbie Bouplon	X
Armando Carrasco	A (Michele Carrasco)
Barbara Clark-Alexander	A (Barbara Szelag)
Martin Clemmons	X
Linnwood Davis	X
Laura Dunn	X
Juanita Escobedo	X
Jean Getchell	X
Lois Hall	X
David Hasiba	X
Natalie Jackson	X
James King	X
Janet Kitchen	X
David Konnerth	X
Brent Laartz	
Wendell Martin	X
John Melartin	X
Aritus Miller	X
Patti Nagel	
Andrew Paquette	X
Priya Poulimas	X
Deborah Robinson	X
Jim Roth	X
Tina Van Doren-Ruppell	X
Donnette Waul-Santiago	X
Vernon Williams	

**Associate Members**

Laura DeMars	
William Miller	
Barbara Szelag	
Bill Thomas	X

**Grantee Staff**

Aubrey Arnold	X
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**Health Councils Staff**

Nicole Brown	X
Collette Tomberlin	X