

**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
JAN PLATT LIBRARY, TAMPA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2005
1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting of the Ryan White Care Council was called to order at 1:35 p.m. by Wayne Bibeault, Co-Chair.
- ATTENDANCE/
INTRODUCTIONS** See attached attendance list.
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** Wayne Bibeault is chairing the meeting in the absence of Mark Mischan.
- APPROVAL OF
MINUTES** The Care Council members voted to approve the minutes from the meeting on September 7, 2005. The Care Council members voted to approve the minutes from the meeting on October 5, 2005 with three corrections in the section on Carryover funds and Reallocations.
- CHAIRPERSON'S
REPORT** Wayne referenced the committee work plans which have been adopted to date. These work plans were sent to members with the meeting materials. Work plans from the Client Services, Planning and Evaluation, Rural Issues, and Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Family committees have been completed. Staff member Susan Josephson requested that the remaining committees do their best to complete their work plans in their November meetings.
- GRANTEE'S REPORT** The Grantee reported that RFA's for Ambulatory Outpatient Care, Drug Reimbursement, Oral Health, and Website Development are due 11/3/05. Free flu shots are available at the USF College of Public Health, 13701 Bruce B. Downs Blvd, Tampa, are available from 8 am to 5 pm on November 4th. A member reminded everyone that veterans can also get flu shots from the VA. Providers and clients can contact the Grantee if they need assistance with payment for flu shots.
- The Quality Management and MAI capacity building projects are progressing. Grantee staff and providers have met with the consultants. The Minority Advocacy Committee will be working on the capacity building project at their meeting on 11/4/05.

The Care Act has not yet been reauthorized by the US Congress. (See also note under Public Policy report.) Two Grantee staff members will be attending a training in Baltimore, MD on 11/14 and 11/15/05 on Care Act Data reports.

The City of Tampa convened a meeting on HOPWA. The initial planning meeting, held in October, involved the consultant on the project, Collaborative Solutions. The overall goals include setting up a planning body from all four EMA counties to identify needs for housing and service gaps. The result will be a plan for meeting those needs and filling the service gaps. The length of the project is 2 years. The Grantee is planning to have information on housing on the Ryan White website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS A. RPARC – Dave Konnerth, Chair

Dave reported that RPARC is considering adopting attendance requirements for membership. At the October meeting, the committee reviewed Title II (FY 2005-06) reallocations and the Grantee Assessment. There was discussion about the methodology used in the Grantee Assessment and Gilda Roman Nay Torres offered to review the methodology used in Orange County. She has provided the committee with written information that will be reviewed at the November RPARC meeting and she will attend the December meeting to answer questions and provide discussion.

Motion to accept RPARC recommendation and reallocate Title II funds as shown below; (**Motion J. Roth; Second M. Merida**). There was a question as to why dollars were reallocated from Pinellas County for case management, then listed for reallocation to the same service in Pinellas County and the Grantee explained that the funds were reallocated to a different provider. Motion passed with 22 YES votes, 0 NO votes, and no abstentions.

MOTION 11/05-01

THAT TITLE II (FY 2005-06) FUNDS BE REALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

Reallocations from: Case management (Pinellas) \$28,000; Case management (Polk) \$42,000; TOTAL \$70,000.

Reallocations to: Ambulatory/Outpatient Care (Polk) \$15,000; Case management (Pinellas) \$7,500; Health insurance (TSA) \$35,000; Oral health (Pinellas) \$12,500; TOTAL \$70,000.

Motion to approve the Grantee Assessment for FY 2005. (Motion J. Lewis; Second R. Bouplon.) Motion passed with 22 YES votes, 0 NO votes, and no abstentions.

MOTION 11/05-02

THAT THE CARE COUNCIL APPROVES THE FY2005 GRANTEE ASSESSMENT.

Next RPARC meeting scheduled for Tues 11/15/05, 1:30 to 3:30 pm at Pinellas Park Station.

B. Client Services – Janet Kitchen, Co-Chair

Janet reported that the Client Services Committee had discussed housing, Medicare Part D, advocacy and other issues at the October meeting. They also discussed matching funds, thinking that matching funds are required for Ryan White services. Aubrey Arnold clarified that HRSA does not require “matching funds” for providers receiving funds. HRSA does require Maintenance of Effort (MOE) contributions from the area and all four counties in the EMA provide those funds now. Jim Roth clarified that the State requires a \$1 match for every \$2 in Title II funding received and that this requirement is met by General Revenue funds. The advantages and disadvantages of matching funds were discussed and there was a question as to where (within the Care Council/Committee structure) this type of discussion should take place.

Janet also reported that the Client Services Committee had discussed the lack of simple, unified information being given to individuals newly diagnosed with HIV. While there are many services available, it can be frustrating and difficult for a newly diagnosed person to know what initial steps to take in receiving care. Various members contributed their experience in working with people initially diagnosed and identified possible problems in the system of care such as care being offered by a wide variety of providers, the mental health crisis that occurs at diagnosis and a person’s coping mechanisms, literacy levels and the possible preference of the option of receiving information from peers or someone who has been through the experience themselves, and providers advocating and even making initial calls on a client’s behalf. There was agreement that this is a very important issue and that it deserves considerable attention. John Melartin is the area representative to the state patient care committee and he said he will raise the issue at their next meeting.

Wayne Bibeault will report these issues to Mark Mischan for further consideration.

Next Client Services meeting scheduled for Mon 11/21/05, 2:00 to 3:30 pm at the West Tampa Care Center.

C. Health Services Advisory - Jim Roth, Co-Chair

Jim reported on the September and October Health Services meetings. Don Kurtyka was elected Chair and Jim Roth was elected Co-Chair. The committee decided to continue monthly meetings because they continue to have issues to deal with each month. The committee requested the Body Mass Index (BMI) be put on each prescription for nutritional supplements. The committee adopted pharmacy standards from the Florida Administrative Code since the group they had initially referenced for those standards was no longer in existence. There is an on-going discussion of the benefits of fish oil supplements.

Next Health Services Advisory meeting scheduled for Thurs 11/17/05, 2:00 to 3:30 pm at the Hillsborough County Health Department.

D. Membership – Janet Kitchen, Co-Chair

Discussed approval of Associate Members and in-person interviews for new Care Council members. The committee will be working on revision of the Bylaws so please review the bylaws and provide feedback to a committee member before their next meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for Mon 11/21/05, 12:30 to 2:00 pm at the West Tampa Care Center.

E. Minority Advocacy – David Stubbs, Co-Chair

The committee discussed the Parity, Inclusion and Representation report and the MAI capacity building project and quality management project. The committee is surveying potential members to consider having some evening meetings.

Next meeting scheduled for Fri 11/4/05, 11 am to 1 pm at Spring Oaks.

F. Planning and Evaluation – Jim McGarvey, Chair

The committee approved their work plan and the needs assessment work plan. They also received a report from Jimmy Baumgartner and Aubrey Arnold on the use of mental health counseling and referral. 100% of clients receiving a mental health assessment were referred for counseling but only 30% followed through on the referral. The committee discussed ways for case managers to facilitate and track follow-through. Jimmy Baumgartner will attend the WICYF Town Hall meeting on 11/18/05 to discuss mental health counseling.

The committee also formed an Ad-Hoc committee on transportation.

There are two sessions scheduled for consumer input on the Comprehensive Plan. They will be on Wed 11/16/05 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm at Metro Center, 3170 3rd Ave. North, St. Petersburg and Thur 11/17/05 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at Spring Oaks, 1500 E. Humphrey St., Tampa. There are flyers available and the committee would appreciate all members encouraging consumers to attend.

Next meeting scheduled for Tues 11/15/05, 10:00 to 11:30 am at Pinellas County Social Services.

G. Rural Issues – Deborah Robinson, Chair

The committee is working on re-organizing and revitalizing the group. They have moved their meeting to the third Wed of the month to coincide with a support group in the hopes of getting some of those members to attend. They are planning an Open House on 12/20/05 and will be working on invitations at the November meeting. They are also willing to move the meeting to surrounding counties.

Next meeting scheduled for Wed 11/16/05, 12:30 to 2:00 pm at the Specialty Clinic in Bartow.

H. SIOC – Mark Mischan, Chair

No report. The committee did not meet in October but the idea of holding some regular meetings was introduced at the Chair and Co-chair training.

I. WICYF – Amy Mock, Co-Chair

The focus of the group continues to be on increasing consumer participation. The committee adopted its work plan and decided to alternate monthly meetings between Hillsborough and Pinellas counties. The next meeting will be the semi-annual Town Hall Meeting on Friday, 11/18/05 from 11 am to 1 pm at Francis House. Jimmy Baumgartner is scheduled to speak on mental health services and Marie Dolphin is scheduled to speak on housing. Lunch and childcare will be provided. There are flyers available and the committee would appreciate help in encouraging attendance by consumers.

There will be no WICYF meeting in December so the next meeting after the Town Hall will be on Friday 1/27/06 at Ed's Place in St. Petersburg.

PUBLIC POLICY

Andrew Paquette reported that the state Medicaid Reform initiative continues and will be implemented beginning in July 2006. This is a move to a managed care model and it will be implemented by several counties at a time until every county has made the change. Andrew let everyone know that 53% of Floridians with AIDS have Medicaid.

There doesn't appear to be any additional information available on Medicare Part D. The St. Petersburg Times recently published a guide that contains the same information as the Medicare website. There are 19 companies offering a total of 43 different plans.

The information Andrew found on the Ryan White Care Act indicated that it might be passed by Congress before Thanksgiving. There are other proposed changes to the Act

Aubrey Arnold volunteered to do the Public Policy Report next month.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Michael Amidei passed on some information about hurricane and cold weather shelters for individuals with special needs. The Pinellas Co. Emergency Operations Center can be reached at 727.543-2600 and they maintain information about shelters that will be opened. Aubrey also reported that there is an automated line for Hillsborough County Ryan White, 813.272.5555.

Aubrey reported that regarding Medicare Part D, there had previously been information released saying that a 3 month supply of medication would be available as the change took place but this is not going to be possible for individuals receiving medication through Medicaid.

Robbie Bouplon announced that there will be a World AIDS Day activity on December 1 at Williams Park in St. Petersburg from noon to 4 pm. Providers can provide information, there will be free testing and other activities. There is a planning meeting at the Health Dept. on 11/9/05 at 2:30 pm, 205 Dr. ML King St. North, Room 106, second floor.

The AIDS Park in Tampa will be dedicated on 11/14/05 at 6:00 p.m. The park is on the corner of Bayshore Blvd. and Platt St. The PWA Coalition will read the names of individuals lost to AIDS beginning at 5 pm.

The PWA Coalition will be stressing the need for housing for PLWHA. They are attending the Homeless Coalition meeting on 11/3/05 at 9 a.m. at the Stetson University campus in Tampa.

Phyllis Coney is working with a faith-based counseling and support group effort in Pinellas County. They offer one on one counseling at no charge. Call Phyllis at 727.547-8557 for more information.

Elizabeth Rugg from the Health Councils announced an initiative in Pinellas County to help families obtain Healthy Kids enrollment. There is funding for the Health Councils to pay the \$20 enrollment fee for families that need assistance. There will be five sites with staff to help families enroll.

Other announcement materials were available for members to take.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Care Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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

ATTENDANCE LIST

Care Council Members

Present

Wayne Bibeault	X
Robbie Bouplon	X
Rogelio Capo	
Barbara Clark-Alexander	A (Marylin Merida)
Candi Clark	X
Marie Dolphin	X
Carla Foster	
Lois Hall	X
Natalie Jackson	X
Craig Kelley	Ex
Janet Kitchen	X
David Konnerth	X
Jeannie Lewis	X
Kyle Lidge	X
Wendell Martin	X
Aritus Miller	
Mark Mischan	Ex
Amy Mock	X
Jan Neeson	
Andrew Paquette	X
Priya Poulimas	X
Gail Prichard	
Bob Reynolds	X
Deborah Robinson	X
Jim Roth	X
David Stubbs	X
Crystal Underwood	X
Donnette Waul-Santiago	X

Associate Members

Michael Amidei	X
Keith Edwards	
Debbie Langhorne	
John Melartin	X
Robert Tate	
Bill Thomas	X

Staff

Present

Aubrey Arnold	X	Nicole Brown	X
Susan Josephson	X	Teresa Kelly	X
Valetta Rhinehart	X		