



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL  
CLIENT SERVICES COMMITTEE  
WEST TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER- TAMPA  
MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2007  
2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Janet Kitchen, Chair, at 2:30 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE**  
Members Present: Janet Kitchen, John Melartin, Bob Reynolds  
Members Absent: Natalie Jackson, Ken McCallister, Aritus Miller, Linda Rogers, Bill Thomas  
Guests Present: Vernon Williams  
Grantee Staff Present: Teresa Newgent  
Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown, Tristan Tarantino
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** None.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** There was not a quorum present to adopt the May meeting minutes.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** The Care Council report was waived by committee members.
- MILEAGE** Members reviewed the mileage change recommendation that was sent back to the committee from the Care Council. The Care Council can not raise the mileage reimbursement rate to a rate higher than that paid by Hillsborough County. The argument was made that it is federal funding and should go by the Government Services Administration (GSA) standard but Hillsborough County will not reimburse for the higher amount.
- Members also discussed recommending that the travel reimbursement policy be changed to not only include Care Council members but also committee members. Staff noted that there is currently a cap of \$65.00 per month and a two meeting limit on travel reimbursement that is not enforced. If more members submit for reimbursement, which is a set amount of money, the cap might have to be enforced. The following motion was made and tabled till the July meeting: (**M:** Reynolds **S:**

Melartin)

**MOTION 6/07 - 01**      **THAT THE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT POLICY BE CHANGED TO ALSO INCLUDE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHERE EVER IT REFERS TO CARE COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

Janet asked if the mileage rate was already tied to the Hillsborough County rate. Teresa stated that it was not and if Hillsborough County raised their mileage reimbursement it would not automatically change the Care Council's rate. The following motion was made and tabled till the July meeting: (M: Melartin S: Reynolds)

**MOTION 6/07 - 02**      **THAT THE CARE COUNCIL MILEAGE RATE ALWAYS REFLECTS THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY MILEAGE RATE.**

**NEWLY  
DIAGNOSED  
BROCHURE**

Janet spoke about the brochure for people that are newly diagnosed with HIV. She said that she has not worked on it since the last draft was presented to the committee but that she is now trying to collaborate with Metro Charities. They are hoping that this brochure could be given to people that are on the waiting list so that they would have some information until they are case managed.

**TOWN HALL**

Bob Reynolds and John Melartin attended the June For AIDS Care Today (FACT) Dinner in St. Petersburg as a follow up to the April town hall. Bob and John offered to do the same brief presentation for the town hall at the AIDS Partnership Dinner in July. Bob also suggested that the committee plan a brief presentation for the Pasco County support group meeting in September.

**OTHER  
COMMITTEE  
UPDATES**

Janet spoke about the town hall meeting held in Tampa focusing on the Silence is Death campaign. The presentation at the town hall was made by the state of Florida bureau of HIV.

John gave the Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC) report. He said that the committee recommended that \$348,000 be cut from primary care, drug reimbursement and quality management.

John also shared that the Minority Advocacy Committee passed a motion in support of consumer committee members receiving travel reimbursement.

Bob stated that the Health Services Advisory Committee is still working on the medication formulary and has set up another sub-committee meeting.

**COMMUNITY  
CONCERNS/  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Janet announced that June 27<sup>th</sup> is national testing day.

Janet also stated that Tampa Hillsborough Action Plan (THAP) is accepting non-perishable food and gently used clothing. Bob commented that he feels clients should be referred to other food banks

and not only Ryan White banks. He is concerned food is a vulnerable service to being cut because other places provide it in the community.

Metro Charities is starting a new group for people that are heterosexual and positive.

Bob shared that Francis House is having a bowling fundraiser on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

Bob also shared an article on the importance of companionship in improving survival rates.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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