

**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
CLIENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
WEST TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER- TAMPA
MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2007
2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by John Melartin, Co-Chair, at 2:17 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Natalie Jackson, John Melartin, Aritus Miller, Bob Reynolds, Bill Thomas
Members Absent: Janet Kitchen, Ken McCallister, Linda Rogers
Guests Present:
Grantee Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold
Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** There were no changes to the agenda.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The January meeting minutes were approved as written.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** The Care Council report was waived by the committee.
- TOWN HALL PREPARATION** It was announced that Janet Kitchen has set up the first Client Services Committee town hall during the April FACT (For AIDS Care Today) dinner. Janet will be doing an overview of the committee's purpose and then taking questions. Members were encouraged to attend the dinner being held at 6:30 p.m. on April 3rd at the St. Peter's Episcopal Church in St. Petersburg. Janet has contacted AIDS Partnership to set up a town hall in conjunction with their dinner but no date has been set.
- OTHER COMMITTEE UPDATES** Bob Reynolds gave an update on the Planning and Evaluation Committee. He reported that the Planning and Evaluation Committee is recommending to the Care Council that they remove the service cap that allows no more than 25% of a total primary care contract to be used for patient education. He said the decision made by the committee was more to prevent the unintended consequence of the

service cap on Pinellas County Medicaid patients. Private clinics receive less money for treating a Medicaid patient than local health departments, therefore patient education funds have been used to supplement services provided to HIV/AIDS Medicaid clients. Aubrey Arnold stated that the health department receives more money for a Medicaid visit because of a waiver and that the amounts paid to all providers could be the same in the future.

The Anonymous Needs Assessment Survey that was developed by the state was also discussed at the Planning and Evaluation Committee meeting. This survey will be available on paper and on the web. The state is looking for a 20% response from all HIV+ people living in our total service area (TSA).

Bob also stated that the Health Services Advisory Committee is reviewing the data from their provider survey. They are also in the process of reviewing the medication formulary.

The Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee (RPARC) discussed using carryover funds to provide bridge funding for Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) funded programs from March through July.

NEW BUSINESS

Aubrey announced that RNT & Associates is currently tabulating the results from the client satisfaction survey. When the final report is ready Aubrey will bring it to the Client Services Committee for review.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Thomas said that the City of Tampa HIV/AIDS Housing Consortium survey results should be finalized and given to the members on March 28th.

John Melartin shared that there will be an educational presentation on April 14th from 9:00am-3:00pm sponsored by Trinity Charities. Contact John for more information.

John also announced that the Create Your Sacred Space Retreat will be held April 12th – 15th in Umatilla, Florida. Contact AIDS Services Association of Pinellas (ASAP) for a flyer with more information.

John said that Dr. Brown is retiring and will no longer provide dental care at the Hillsborough County Health Department. They have not yet found a replacement.

Bob announced that Hewlett Packard currently has a small grant available to do HIV prevention and risk reduction for youth.

Bob also shared that POZ magazine is doing a story on longtime survivors of AIDS. The magazine is still looking for people to profile in the article.

Bill shared some concern about the new eligibility guidelines for Part B. He said that the paperwork is very time consuming and requires clients

to provide more documentation than in the past.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.