



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
CLIENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
METRO CENTER - TAMPA
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2009
2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Janet Kitchen, Chair, at 2:12 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: David Hasiba, Denis Hayes, Natalie Jackson, Janet Kitchen, Marshall Lee, John Melartin, Andrew Paquette, Bob Reynolds, Bill Thomas
Members Absent: Darlene Smith, Tyrone Stamps
Guests Present: Shirley Bejarano, Randy Masters, Anil Pandya, Bridgett Williams, Cynthia Williams, Loreha Weaver
Grantee Staff Present: Teresa Newgent
Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** None.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for March 16, 2009 were approved as written (**M:** Melartin, **S:** Jackson). There were 9 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- CONSUMER INPUT** Three clients shared their concerns about Mercy House, a local housing program. Members listened to their concerns and advised them to discuss these issues with the Grantee of HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS) and the local HIV housing group.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** The Care Council approved Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) funding reallocations and there was a members' retreat held.
- NEWLY DIAGNOSED BROCHURE** A copy of the final brochure for those that are newly diagnosed was sent to the Grantees office to be printed. Before printing the Grantee had a question as to why the general health department numbers are

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listed in addition to the specialty HIV care numbers. Members stated that this was done because clients may need to call the general health department for ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program) services or for general services before they are referred to specialty care. When reviewing the brochure a couple of phone numbers were noted as incorrect. Janet offered to make the corrections and to send the final version of both the English and Spanish brochure to staff and the grantees office for publication.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Janet stated that there are several HIV awareness days that are coming up in the next several months that are an opportunity for the committee to do community outreach.

Janet also shared information on the PEER (Peer Education and Evaluation Resource) Center. She would like to see a peer support program created in our area and Bob suggested asking the Planning and Evaluation Committee to review the issue. After discussion the following motion was passed (**M**: Reynolds, **S**: Paquette) with 9 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions:

MOTION 4/09 – 01

WE RECOMMEND THAT THE CARE COUNCIL CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A PEER SUPPORT SYSTEM (ADVOCATES) PARTICULARLY TO ASSIST CLIENTS WITH THEIR SPECIAL NEEDS.

OTHER COMMITTEE UPDATES

There were no other committee updates shared.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anil and Shirley shared information on the Ryan White food program that is run through DACCO (Drug Abuse Comprehensive Coordinating Office) in Hillsborough County. This program provides a \$20.00 Publix gift card to eligible clients and does not require a case manager to access.

Bob shared information on upcoming Kathy Castor events in our area. He also shared an article on the National AIDS Strategy that was in POZ magazine.

A fact sheet about what is new in 2009 with the Social Security Administration was also shared.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.