



**RYAN WHITE CARE COUNCIL
CLIENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
WEST TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER- TAMPA
MONDAY, JULY 21, 2008
2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Janet Kitchen, Chair, at 2:05 p.m.
- ATTENDANCE** Members Present: Martin Clemmons, Janet Kitchen, John Melartin, Aritus Miller, Bob Reynolds, Bill Thomas
Members Absent: Armando Carrasco, Michele Carrasco, David Hasiba, Natalie Jackson
Guests Present:
Grantee Staff Present: Aubrey Arnold
Health Councils Staff Present: Nicole Brown
- CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** Members tabled a discussion of the newly diagnosed brochure.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** The minutes for June 16, 2008 were approved (**M:** Melartin, **S:** Clemmons) with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.
- CARE COUNCIL REPORT** The following motion was passed: (**M:** Reynolds **S:** Clemmons, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions).
- MOTION 7/08 - 01** **THAT THE CARE COUNCIL REPORT BE WAIVED.**
- OUTREACH EFFORTS** The committee discussed visiting Hernando County. Members expressed an interest in continuing to visit each of the EMA (Eligible Metropolitan Area) counties to hear concerns about funding and services. This is also a chance for the committee to provide community education about Ryan White programs.
- OTHER COMMITTEE** John Melartin reported that the Planning and Evaluation (P&E) Committee is forwarding the Epidemiology and Demographics Report onto the Care Council.

UPDATES

He also stated that our EMA did a great job of spending down last year's Part A and B funding. RPARC (Resource Prioritization and Allocation Recommendations Committee) will be allocating carryover funds in August.

The Minority Advocacy Committee (MAC) gave an update about their linking ex-offenders ad hoc to the Care Council in July. This working group is advocating for a single point of entry system for people with HIV returning to our area from a state prison.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

John raised a concern about the list of documents needed in addition to eligibility in order to receive dental services in Hillsborough County. Janet also raised a concern about clients needing to bring there proof of status for the new Ryan White Information System (RWIS). She said that it is discouraging to people who try to get care but receive misinformation and then are turned away.

There will be a free event on September 27th at the Harborview center in Clearwater from 9:00am – 3:30pm. Food, medical and dental services, acupuncture, glasses, HIV and Hepatitis testing, hair cuts and clothing will be available to attendees. He said that this event is open to all needy in the area.

There was a concern about case management raised. Members wondered if case mangers are held accountable for giving out misinformation. The grantee stated that case mangers performance outcomes were monitored.

It was announced that the state is looking at changing the eligibility process so that clients would only have to be requalified every year as opposed to every six months. There is also word that they are looking at changing the income cap.

Bill raised a concern about clients being denied food stamps. He said that he has had a couple of clients that have had increased need but have had their benefits reduced as opposed to increased.

Janet will be holding an Advocacy Training at Metro Charities. This training is to help clients advocate for themselves.

There will be free computer training in Tampa at the Greater Mt. Carmel AME Church.

ASAP (AIDS Services Association of Pinellas) will be holding their AIDS fundraising walk in September.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.